

COUNTRY FASHION - **High Ho Silver, the Sloane Ranger is back**

**W**ith most of the younger generation wanting to become either a cadet in the Jack Wills army or even a full blown Sloane Ranger, you will have noticed fashion's return to posh: a Barbour shop in Soho, Hunters at Glastonbury and rappers in tweed; all signs that country style is back.

This isn't a super smart look either, think stealth-wealth, your clothes should say 'I may not look as smart as you town folk, but my clothes are of good old fashioned quality and the fact that I am wearing them means I have a rambling estate and a pony or two...sniff!' Do avoid cat hair and mucky-fingered children, however, as this could take you from 'rah' to 'rough' quite quickly.

Coco Chanel was the first designer to bring women 'sportswear,' utilising men's tweed jackets and riding clothes for fashion. This is exactly what the look is about right now, anything you might wear to partake in a countryside pursuit goes.

For brands think Polistas, Aubin and Wills and Hollister; for style think Kirstie Allsopp and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall. In fact, anyone who might have gone to boarding school will do. Pour yourself a cup of tea, butter a nice crumpet and have a look through Horse and Hound for some inspiration. You don't have to pay country set prices either, high street brands like M & S and Sainsbury's have caught on. If you



are more urban than upper-class, just look at Jay-Z in his tweeds - you could put a hip-hop slant on the whole affair; try rolling the top down on one of your Wellingtons.

So, what you are trying to achieve is a fantastic, effortless look that eschews fashion and exudes style. Be warned though, take on this feat with caution; a layer too many or a pattern too gaudy (think Ma from The Darling Buds of May) and you'll just look like a batty old Englishwoman.

**Jessica "Parker"-Nam**