

**NEW**



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**The paper for today**

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MONDAY  
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Valet for money  
**20p**

**Thank God it's Monday: *i* is back**

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**Goodbye, Dame Maggie**  
 Downton Abbey ends on a high



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**Hola, Fernando Torres**  
 Spaniard's double sinks Chelsea



Topshop group among retail giants which used underpaid workers in squalid factories

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**Sir Philip: we sold goods made in British sweatshop**

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 The top titles this Christmas



**Fashion**  
 Winter's must-haves

**Leave the cougars alone!**





### ← THE MODERN BLOUSE

Belgian designer Ann Demeulemeester is known for peppering formal tailoring with ingenious structural details; this blouse owes more to a biker jacket than it does to a shirt. Vibrant crimsons were a big trend on the autumn catwalks, and this is the perfect way to introduce it to your wardrobe.

£565.  
Ann Demeulemeester,  
[www.brownsfashion.com](http://www.brownsfashion.com)



### ↑ THE BAG

There's no quicker way to date your look than to cling on to your brassy, blinged-up handbag. The champion this season is the humble box bag, as pioneered by Phoebe Philo at Céline, a framed affair with a subtle clasp. Roomy they ain't, so leave the kitchen sink at home.

£75, Urban Outfitters,  
[www.urbanoutfitters.com](http://www.urbanoutfitters.com)



### ↑ THE COAT

This powder blue cocoon from COS is brilliantly minimal without being too stark – the soft shade brightens things up a little and the geometric yoke detail adds some interest to lift any tired and grey winter wardrobe.

£129, COS,  
[www.cosstores.com](http://www.cosstores.com)



### ↓ THE HEELS

The chatter from the shows was all about flat shoes, but nothing beats a pair of high heels for special occasions. These manage to combine sophisticated understatement with a trendy, graphic shape – and they're reliably sturdy too.

£255, Elizabeth and James,  
[www.net-a-porter.com](http://www.net-a-porter.com)

### → THE A-LINE SKIRT

Longer-length midi skirts and voluptuous A-line silhouettes, as seen at Louis Vuitton, Marc Jacobs and Prada, are one of the strongest looks of the season and range from Fifties prom queen prettiness to more demure Seventies-inspired numbers. Wear with the chunkiest, over-the-knee socks you can find – rolled down to reveal an inch or two of leg. It's the latest take on ladylike.

£45, Topshop,  
[www.topshop.com](http://www.topshop.com)



### ↑ THE PENCIL SKIRT

The narrow cut skirt is a timeless classic, but this season's updates come in autumnal shades of khaki and tobacco. The Whistles version also helpfully comes with a bit of stretch in it too, so you won't have any trouble climbing stairs or sitting down.

£85, Whistles,  
[www.whistles.co.uk](http://www.whistles.co.uk)

# i\*buy

## A kitchen appliance fit for a king



How much did you spend on your last kitchen revamp? Well, if the latest consumer survey from LV is to be believed, your struggle to create a culinary temple fit for Jamie Oliver or Nigella Lawson could set you back as much as £4,000 – think pizza ovens, copper-bottom pans and peanut-butter makers. But if you

really want to pimp your pantry, (and blow the budget in the process) Iranian designer Zaha Hadid's tap for Triflow is a must, says Paul Little, director of London's high-end interior designers Wrothams. "It's only £6,779, and is, you know, curved". Take that Nigella.  
JAMIE MERRILL

## Put the boot into good taste

At first there were Ronaldinho's purple ones. Then came Bendtner's rosy pink pair. Now the ultimate pitch-side peacock, Cristiano Ronaldo, is to step out in a pair of glossy animal-print football boots. Nike calls them Mercurial Safari – easy listening French electro springs to mind. Leave it to Ronaldo to rush in where even the most reconstructed male fears to tread. His fans are sure to follow.  
SUSANNAH FRANKEL



## Tom Ford's not big in fashion

Tom Ford has been accused of being fatter this week, after telling plump billionaire businessman Jean Pigozzi that "I don't want big fat guys like you in my shop." So in the spirit of solidarity with the stout of frame, we made some inquiries for Pigozzi at one of Savile Row's finest tailors, Ede and Ravenscroft. Could they accommodate our friend's ample torso? "Certainly, sir, we've made much larger suits in the past." We say, that's big of them.  
SAMUEL MUSTON

## Rhodri Marsden's Daily Download



Skype 5 [www.skype.com](http://www.skype.com)  
Apple's FaceTime feature for the iPhone 4 aimed to make us feel more comfortable with video calling. But the launch of the fifth version of Skype (available in its final version for PC, and now a beta version for Mac) brings free, group video conferencing onto our desktops, laptops and netbooks. The stability of the thing is really down to the reliability of your internet connection, but when it's working it feels decidedly futuristic.