

Fashion Police



Kellie Rouse

# Step into spring with sandals

As Spring Break is quickly approaching and warm vacation spots are in mind, one can only wonder what kind of shoes to wear in the warm sun, which is far away from northern Illinois.

Sandals are big this spring, as every spring. From strapped to buckled, leather to cork, flip-flops to clogs, sandals will be very prevalent come springtime.

**Flip-Flops**

The ever-popular flip-flop is always a good choice for the warm weather. Flip flops can be worn with just about any outfit—jeans, shorts, skirts or dresses.

While some flip-flops range from around \$3-\$6, others can be quite expensive. Just keep in mind exactly how long this sandal will be worn, and how often.

Don't go overboard with a shoe that can only be worn with one outfit.

Instead go for a simple, basic colored flip-flop that can be worn to the beach, on a date, to school or even to church.

**Cork Sandals**

Cork sandals are making a comeback this spring as well. Being a big fashion trend of the 1970's, cork sandals are some of the most comfortable sandals out there. They can be thick soled or almost flat, but either way, the cork lends almost a cushion to the foot that most sandals do not. Cork sandals can have a thong toe or a strap across the foot.

If flip-flops are a pain, opt for the strapped cork sandal. These types of sandals are perfect with little sundresses or even with capris. They are very versatile when it comes to outfits, much like flip-flops.

**Leather Sandals**

Leather sandals tend to be much like cork sandals, except for the fact that leather sandals usually have hard soles, being less

comfortable than the cork.

Leather sandals can come in practically any color imagined—black, brown, red, and white—making it quite easy to accessorize them into one's outfit and wardrobe.

Again, much like cork sandals, leather sandals can have a thong toe or a strap.

Sometimes, though, the thong between the toes can be quite stiff, so be sure to wear that pair

of sandals in before they are worn out for a long period of time.

**Buckled Sandals**

Buckled sandals are more the type of sandals that are worn with shorts or jeans—casual clothes.

Buckled sandals are usually brown leather, with thick, rubber soles. There is usually a metal buckle near the top of the foot, which keeps the sandal

There is also usually a strap around the ankle.

**Strapped Sandals**

Strapped sandals are those that usually have an open back and a few straps across the top of the foot to hold them on.

These sandals, again, as in the others, are quite flexible, and can be worn with just about any outfit.

They might dress up jeans or shorts, or can be the perfect fit for a dressy outfit. Some strapped sandals can be plain colored, black or brown, or they can be more fancy, with colors that may have some shimmer or sparkles.

While the cool weather is still around, and the spring has not yet come, winter shoes are great. Boots with three-inch heels are still in style.

These boots extend up past the ankle and can be worn with jeans, dress pants or even skirts.

They are perfect for those chilly days with it's just not warm enough to expose the feet to the cool air.

When shopping for spring sandals, keep mind that sandals don't usually last as long as other shoes do; so don't overspend on a pair of shoes that won't be worth the money. Be a smart shopper.



Photo montage by Kellie Rouse

# 'Friends': quit while you're ahead

For the past seven years the NBC's single-person-reality *Friends* has been a cornerstone of American popular culture, and, you know what?...it will be for at least one more season.

That's right, the same six "friends" who couldn't get paid enough even if Bill Gate's life savings was divided equally among them two years ago have decided (rather quickly) that they still want to work.

Don't get me wrong here—I love *Friends*. But recently the show has gone downhill. Ever since Chandler (Matthew Perry) and Monica (Courtney Cox-Arquette) were married and the whole nation was "shocked" that it was Rachel (Jennifer Aniston) who was pregnant. (C'mon! Anyone who saw the season finale last May could tell that close-up on her with that happy-but-sad look on her face was a dead giveaway.)



Photo courtesy of amazon.com

Two down, four to go. Since the suspense and excitement of Monica and Chandler's relationship kept viewers' TV's set on channel five every Thursday night, the writers got the bright idea to hook two more friends up together—the only two who *haven't* gotten close to hooking up (besides Ross [David Schwimmer] and Monica, for obvious reasons)—Joey (Matt LeBlanc) and Rachel. This is what *Friends* has come to after a great six seasons—a bonafide soap opera, but with jokes. Right now America is currently watching *The Ongoing Saga of Joey and Rachel*, Chandler and Monica having petty little problems every week, and Ross and Phoebe (Lisa Kudrow)...well...just making idiots of themselves.

For a show that's supposed to be about singles culture *Friends* is really

failing. Now, two of them are married, and another is secretly in love. Worst of all, this has killed the mojos of the two most immature characters (Chandler and Joey), which provided half of the entertainment. What *Friends* is relying on now is the personalities of the more straight-edged characters, most prominently, Ross.

The whole point of the show since it first aired was to focus on a group of adults who didn't want to grow up. Now that everyone on the show is maturing and committing, it's losing its bite.

However, I must say, the Monica-Chandler situation (pre-marriage) was a lot better written than this new Rachel-Joey situation. The reason is because, like so much of the show, the relationship between Monica and Chandler was so unexpected, and the writers stretched it to its limit (remember the episode where Monica and Chandler didn't know that everyone knew about their relationship?). Joey and Rachel, on the other hand were bound to happen, and now, the writers are just going through the motions.

My advice: watch the reruns on WGN and decide when you want the series to end.

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Jeff Danna

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