# The rise of the sneakerina: where ballet flats meet sneakers



The latest addition to the ever-evolving landscape of fashion trends is the ‘sneakerina’, a striking hybrid of the traditional ballet flat and the contemporary sneaker. This innovative footwear style combines the comfort and practicality of a padded rubber sole with the chic, rounded satin toe commonly associated with ballerina pumps. Some variations even feature decorative elements like ribbon ankle lacing and bows, catering to a wide spectrum of aesthetic preferences.

Influencer Cartia Mallan articulated the trend's appeal, stating, “Together they just make sense. The sneakerina itself really matches this boho mixed with Y2K resurgence that we are seeing a lot of right now.” The blending of styles has garnered attention not just from fashion enthusiasts, but also from celebrities like Dua Lipa and Chloe Sevigny, who have sported the footwear, thereby enhancing its visibility within popular culture.

The sneakerina has recently gained prominence on runways, particularly during Fashion Month. Notably, Irish designer Simone Rocha introduced satin ballet trainers in her 2021 collection, and major brands have since begun to explore variations of this style. At Copenhagen Fashion Week, Puma showcased a ballet flat inspired by its popular Speedcat model, while luxury fashion house Louis Vuitton is anticipated to release its version of the sneakerina in April, featuring the brand’s iconic monogram logo.

Ami Charlize, a fashion-oriented content creator, commented on the trend, emphasising the practicality of the sneakerina. “Since we wear sneakers every day, I suspect evolving the style of shoe into a new product will further its popularity and remain relevant. For me, I think blending the ballet flat with a sneaker adds a chic, feminine take on an otherwise athletics-only shoe,” she said.

Fashion expert Karine Laudort also weighed in on the sneakerina's appeal, explaining that the balance of comfort and chicness extends its potential longevity in a fickle fashion market. “However, its ultimate longevity will depend on consumers’ buying behaviour with this product and how seamlessly it can integrate into everyday wardrobes,” she noted.

Styling the sneakerina presents unique challenges due to its hybrid nature. Laudort suggests embracing its feminine elements by pairing them with a midi skirt and a tucked-in shirt to create a balanced outfit. Mallan also advocates for mixing traditional styles, such as combining the sneakerina with a lace maxi skirt and an oversized plain white tee. She further advises against overly formal attire and suggests steering clear of bulky clothing to maintain the sleek silhouette that the sneakerina offers.

For those looking to experiment with this new trend without appearing overly fashionable, Mallan recommends simplicity in outfit choices. “I would recommend keeping the outfit simple to really emphasise the sneakerina, so maybe a long dress or pair of jeans,” she said. Charlize echoed this advice, suggesting that pairing sneakerinas with flowy maxi skirts or light-blue denim can create a stylish yet casual look.

As the fashion world reflects on the potential longevity of the sneakerina trend, MediaVision’s Annabelle Sacher offered insight into future footwear possibilities. She highlighted the continuing popularity of ballet flats, noting a 25% increase in search demand over the past year, with over 43,000 searches in just the last month, indicating that classic styles remain relevant.

The ongoing evolution and blending of styles in the fashion industry suggests that while sneakerinas may join the ranks of transient trends, they also hold the potential to carve out a lasting niche. As new styles emerge, individuals within the fashion community are closely observing how these innovations might interact with enduring classics and adapt to individual expressions of style.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://wearandchill.com/blogs/fashion-news/discover-the-sneakerina-the-bizarre-shoe-hybrid-shaking-up-the-fashion-world> - This article discusses the 'sneakerina,' a hybrid shoe trend combining elements of ballerina flats and sneakers, highlighting its popularity and appearance in recent fashion collections.
* <https://www.the-independent.co.uk/life-style/fashion> - The Independent covers fashion trends, including how to style various types of footwear like the 'sneakerina,' which mixes ballet flat and sneaker styles.
* <https://www.vogue.com/fashion-shows/designer/simone-rocha> - Simone Rocha's fashion collections have featured ballet-inspired trainers, which contributed to the popularity of the sneakerina trend, blending ballet and sneaker styles.
* <https://fashionplusternn.info/dua-lipa-fashion> - Dua Lipa, among other celebrities, has worn sneakers and other fashionable items, potentially influencing trends like the sneakerina.
* <https://copenhagenfashionweek.com/en> - Copenhagen Fashion Week has showcased various fashion trends, including Puma's ballet-inspired Speedcat model, which aligns with the sneakerina trend.
* <https://www.louisvuitton.com/> - Louis Vuitton is known for integrating its iconic monogram into various fashion items. Although not directly mentioning the sneakerina, the brand's approach to fashion could apply to the trend's integration of different styles.