# Royal fashion showdown: how Kate and Meghan's styles signal diverging influence strategies in 2025



The Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Sussex continue to captivate public and media attention with their distinctive approaches to fashion, reflecting not only their personal identities but also their diverging paths and roles within and outside the Royal Family. This autumn, their styles offer a fresh take on what might be described as a modern fashion rivalry—one that eschews the traditional glamour of ball gowns and statement hats for sleek trouser suits and sophisticated casual wear.

Princess Kate has embraced a business-chic aesthetic characterised by sharper, more refined tailoring that projects authority and timeless elegance. Her wardrobe this season leans heavily into British heritage fashion, with an emphasis on craftsmanship. Rich textures such as tweed, earthy tones including moss green, charcoal, and camel, and structured outerwear signal a quiet yet confident nod to classic British style. Celebrity stylist Ciara Russell told the Daily Express that Kate’s wardrobe “feels distinctly British — the greys, greens and navies have that countryside elegance,” highlighting her seamless blend of heritage dressing with modern tailoring. This sartorial direction suggests a purposeful projection of professionalism and substance, aligning with Kate’s role and image as the Princess of Wales.

In contrast, Meghan Markle favours minimalist luxury with a palette of neutral tones and precision tailoring that echoes her Californian roots. Her recent public appearances underscore this preference for simplicity as a power move. At the Fortune Most Powerful Women Summit in Washington, D.C. in October 2025, Meghan wore an all-ivory ensemble featuring a cream vegan leather pencil skirt by Brochu Walker paired with a silk blouse, exemplifying refined business-casual elegance. During the event, she discussed her busy schedule comprising engagements in Paris and New York, and emphasised the operational side of her lifestyle brand ‘As Ever,’ reflecting a merging of creative passion and business acumen. Meghan’s style choices, including her appearances at mental health events and gala dinners, often showcase sleek power suits from elite fashion houses such as Saint Laurent, Balenciaga, and Chanel, reinforcing her polished Hollywood-inspired aesthetic.

Despite these style divergences, there is interplay and occasional crossover between their wardrobes. Both women share an affinity for the French brand Sézane, known for its chic cashmere knits and timeless basics. Meghan incorporated Sézane pieces like the Sami Jumper and Naelle Skirt into her Netflix series 'With Love, Meghan,' while Kate and her sister Pippa Middleton have also been noted fans of the label, favouring its coordinated knit sets and premium suede outerwear. This shared brand preference hints at underlying common fashion threads amid their individually curated images.

There have been several noted instances where Meghan’s and Kate’s outfits have mirrored each other’s looks, sparking public discussion on whether their fashion choices influence each other or signal a shared royal wardrobe sensibility. For example, Meghan has recently worn suits closely resembling those worn earlier by Kate, which some fans have observed with keen interest. Conversely, Kate has been seen adopting styles reminiscent of Meghan's earlier signature looks, including long camel coats paired with turtlenecks, suggesting a mutual appreciation or parallel evolution in their style narratives over time.

Ultimately, their wardrobes convey more than mere aesthetics; they serve as visual statements of their roles and priorities. Kate’s embrace of heritage with modern tailoring suggests a deliberate alignment with tradition and national identity, projecting calm authority rooted in British elegance. Meanwhile, Meghan’s minimalist and polished style underlines a transatlantic modernity and an emphasis on simplicity and impact, befitting her post-royal career and entrepreneurial ventures. Together, these fashion choices represent two distinct visions of influence, authority, and personal branding in 2025, each rewriting what it means to dress with purpose in the contemporary royal and celebrity sphere.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2122242/Princess-Kate-Meghan-Markle-fashion-rivalry-copy), [[4]](https://dresslikeaduchess.com/2023/04/25-times-meghan-markle-and-kate-middleton-dressed-alike/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2122242/Princess-Kate-Meghan-Markle-fashion-rivalry-copy), [[2]](https://www.marieclaire.com/celebrity/royals/meghan-markle-leather-ivory-pencil-skirt-fortune-summit/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2122242/Princess-Kate-Meghan-Markle-fashion-rivalry-copy), [[3]](https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/celebrity-style/sezane-outfits-celebrities/), [[6]](https://www.marieclaire.com/celebrity/royals/meghan-markle-twinning-kate-middleton-sezane-sweater-with-love-season-2/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2122242/Princess-Kate-Meghan-Markle-fashion-rivalry-copy), [[4]](https://dresslikeaduchess.com/2023/04/25-times-meghan-markle-and-kate-middleton-dressed-alike/), [[5]](https://www.the-express.com/entertainment/celebrity-news/169844/meghan-markle-suit-copies-kate-middleton-fans), [[7]](https://www.shefinds.com/collections/kate-middleton-copied-meghan-markle-style/amp/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2122242/Princess-Kate-Meghan-Markle-fashion-rivalry-copy), [[2]](https://www.marieclaire.com/celebrity/royals/meghan-markle-leather-ivory-pencil-skirt-fortune-summit/), [[3]](https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/celebrity-style/sezane-outfits-celebrities/)

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2122242/Princess-Kate-Meghan-Markle-fashion-rivalry-copy> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.marieclaire.com/celebrity/royals/meghan-markle-leather-ivory-pencil-skirt-fortune-summit/> - In October 2025, Meghan Markle attended the Fortune Most Powerful Women Summit in Washington, D.C., wearing a sophisticated all-ivory outfit comprising a cream vegan leather pencil skirt by Brochu Walker and a matching silk blouse. She accessorised with nude strappy heels, gold stud earrings, and a unique diamond ring that draped across three fingers. During a session titled 'Next Level Influence' with Fortune's editor-in-chief Alyson Shontell, Meghan discussed her packed travel schedule, which included events in Paris and New York, and revealed she flew home to California briefly to see her children, Prince Archie and Princess Lilibet. She also spoke about her lifestyle brand 'As Ever,' emphasising both her creative passion and the importance of the operational side of the business. Meghan's recent appearances included the Project Healthy Minds Gala and Mental Health Day festival, where she opted for refined business-casual and power suit looks, respectively. Throughout her NYC visit, she showcased various stylish autumnal ensembles, including pieces from YSL, Max Mara, and Chanel.
3. <https://www.marieclaire.com/fashion/celebrity-style/sezane-outfits-celebrities/> - The article from Marie Claire highlights the growing celebrity admiration for French fashion brand Sézane, once a hidden gem among Parisian style enthusiasts. The label is now popular globally and boasts an A-list clientele, including Meghan Markle, Taylor Swift, Anne Hathaway, Princess Kate, and more. Known for its chic cashmere knits, timeless basics, footwear, and accessories, Sézane pieces have become staples in celebrity wardrobes—both on-screen and off. Meghan Markle wore Sézane outfits like the Sami Jumper and Naelle Skirt in her Netflix series 'With Love, Meghan,' endorsing their refined, cosy aesthetic. Taylor Swift incorporated Sézane's Markus derby loafers into her creative process for her 'Life of a Showgirl' project, while Anne Hathaway wore their Mary Janes on the set of 'The Devil Wears Prada 2.' Royal family members, including Princess and Pippa Middleton, are also consistent fans, with Kate favouring coordinated knit sets and Pippa opting for premium suede outerwear. The brand has also been spotted in rom-com productions and street style moments, with celebrities like Meghann Fahy and Sienna Miller carrying its popular bags. Sézane’s blend of quality, style, and affordability continues to make it a sought-after label among fashion insiders.
4. <https://dresslikeaduchess.com/2023/04/25-times-meghan-markle-and-kate-middleton-dressed-alike/> - This article highlights 25 instances where Meghan Markle and Kate Middleton have worn similar outfits, showcasing their shared fashion sensibilities. Examples include both wearing fitted pencil skirts, pink tropical dresses, and off-the-shoulder gowns. The piece also notes their coordinated appearances in similar casual chic ensembles, color-blocked dresses, and coordinated knit sets. The article underscores how both royals have occasionally mirrored each other's styles, leading to discussions about their fashion choices and potential influences on each other's wardrobes.
5. <https://www.the-express.com/entertainment/celebrity-news/169844/meghan-markle-suit-copies-kate-middleton-fans> - In this article, Meghan Markle is noted to have worn a suit that closely resembles one previously worn by Princess Kate. The piece discusses the similarities between the two outfits and includes reactions from fans who observed the resemblance. Some fans commented on the similarities between Meghan's and Kate's suits, with one user noting that Kate's suit was 'correctly ironed.' The article also highlights previous instances where Meghan's fashion choices have been compared to Kate's, suggesting a pattern of similar styles between the two.
6. <https://www.marieclaire.com/celebrity/royals/meghan-markle-twinning-kate-middleton-sezane-sweater-with-love-season-2/> - In a style crossover, Meghan Markle appears to take fashion cues from Kate Middleton by wearing the same $145 Sézane Merino wool sweater in a different shade for the second season of her Netflix series 'With Love, Meghan.' Previously, Kate Middleton wore the sweater in a neutral tone during a 2023 university visit, while Meghan showcased it in burgundy in the show's trailer, aligning with the series' cosy, autumnal aesthetic. Season 2 of the lifestyle and culinary show features Meghan in stylish pieces from brands like Veronica Beard, Carolina Herrera, and Heidi Merrick, along with Saint Laurent 'Tribute' mules. The series, which highlights Meghan’s personal style and home life, is also set to include a holiday special later in 2025.
7. <https://www.shefinds.com/collections/kate-middleton-copied-meghan-markle-style/amp/> - This article discusses instances where Kate Middleton has been noted to have worn styles similar to those previously worn by Meghan Markle. One notable shared style moment is highlighted, where both royals wore long camel coats paired with turtlenecks, creating a monochromatic, neutral look. The piece also mentions other occasions where Kate's fashion choices have mirrored Meghan's, leading to discussions about their shared style sensibilities and potential influences on each other's wardrobes.