

Play Up Your Shape!

Find Your Perfect SWIMSUIT!

Follow these steps to choose hot styles and colors that will look great on your body

Shop Your Shape!

The foolproof trick to buying a flattering suit: Look for specific features that suit your body type. Colors, prints, ruffles and embellishments can enhance, play down or balance proportions

IF YOU'RE CURVY OR BUSTY...

Go for... Support and coverage. Halter styles, medium to thick straps, and underwire cups all work, says Sara Rogers, a trend specialist for Mall of America. Solid-colored one-pieces in

sturdy fabrics streamline you. **Avoid...** Any suit that's flimsy or very small—it won't have the structure you need, says Rogers. Skimpy triangle tops won't work well either.

TRY THESE!



The top gives plenty of coverage but still looks sleek

Swim by Arden B Nylon-spandex bikini top, \$39, and bottom, \$29; ardenb.com

gold rings play up hips



super-structured so it stays up

Ruching and a vertical ruffle slim and elongate you

Miraclesuit "Camilla" nylon-Lycra suit, \$156; lordandtaylor.com



the cups go up to size FF

An all-over print with a darker background minimizes

Freya "Calypso Bandless Halter Top" in nylon-polyamide blend, \$56, and "Classic Brief," \$40; bestswimwear.com



beaded straps add support

The hidden underwire fits up to a DDD cup

Shoshanna "Bamboo Stripe Bead Bandeau" in nylon-Lycra, \$143, and "Bead Brief," \$114; Olive and Bettes, 212-579-2178



Audrina Patridge in L.A.

An underwire gives stylish support, and the simple bottom is balancing

Get Your Best Fit!

Once you're in the dressing room, do these quick checks to make sure you get the right suit for you

Start by trying on suits in several sizes: "Swimsuits tend to run one size above your dress size," notes Rogers. "Be sure to sit down, stretch and move around in the suit. That way, you can tell if it's going to ride up on you when you're on-the-go."

SHOULDERS

Even if the suit's strapless, raise and lower your arms to make sure the top stays put

BUST

After the top's on, lean forward and adjust your chest to ensure a comfy, no-gap fit

SIDES

Watch out for skin spilling over—a sign your suit is too small

BACK

Look for a snug but not tight feel

BUTT

Wrinkles or sagging mean the bottom's too big



Julianne Hough in a Despi suit.

Think Twice About These Styles!

Monokinis and barely-there string bikinis are two of the trickiest styles to pull off. Sure, celebs will go there, but with so many other choices in stores, proceed with caution!



Denise Richards



Bar Refaeli

Crazy Cutouts

Super-tiny



a sexy one-piece in rich brown

MORE FLATTERING COLORS!

- ✓ pink
- ✓ deep green
- ✓ sapphire blue

Inca "Cameron" nylon-spandex suit, \$275; Reibex, 305-758-2300

Shop These Sites!

These online resources make it easy to find a suit that's ideal for your figure

***Fx4boutique.com**

Browse a wide range of suits from more than 40 American and international designers, all organized by body type.

***Theorchidboutique.com**

This site has hundreds of suits from trendy designers like Badgley Mischka, with plenty of plus-size options. Check out videos of models in each style so you can really see how it fits.

***Swimoutlet.com**

You'll find a major selection of brands discounted up to 50 percent off—and the site price matches! Also great: You can chat with a fit pro for instant guidance.

Try a Universally Flattering Color!

Many women think black is the most slimming shade, but deep hues like amethyst, navy, and chocolate brown are just as shape-flattering—and they complement all skin tones too