

Ermenegildo Zegna

SPRING-SUMMER 2005 COLLECTIONS

Ermenegildo Zegna continues to design collections that constantly search for the ideal proportions. The Spring-Summer 2005 collections see the revival of a taste for refined and exclusive tailoring. Formal lines are reassessed, becoming more supple and close-fitting, yet at the same time heading towards a new, wider horizon of casual dressing, that is both exclusive and elegant in the "upper casual" theme. The portrait of the new Ermenegildo Zegna man is outlined.

The *Couture* line consists of fabrics made from precious materials in unusual colours, these exclusive fabrics are often discovered in the archives at Lanificio Zegna: mélange, pin-stripes and micro-pattern tweed. The research of matching accessories is an important aspect, resulting in narrower ties on close-fitting shirts featuring refined details.

In the *Sartorial* line the shapes and materials of the jackets are revisited, for example the Travel jacket, a classic item that is presented once again, now in linen with multiple pockets and optional elbow patches. Formal lines appear in non conventional, soft shades such as greige, a fresh mix of beige and grey. Taking centre stage in the collection is a wool and silk suit with an updated jacket shape and new, close-fitting trousers. Great attention has been given to researching fresh ideas for informalwear: silk and linen one-button jackets, mouliné yarn sweaters with a Nappa leather trimmings and extremely soft sports jackets of openwork plonge leather finished with contrasting jersey cuffs and collar. Made-to-measure follows the trend, with a wide choice of exclusive textiles and styles inspired by the best tailoring tradition.

Made-to-measure is extended to shoes, with the option to order Oxford, Derby and loafers in a choice of leather, colour and lining, for a customized shoe. The limited edition shoe has been updated for this season, now available in a stronger palette and narrower line, yet continuing to be hand-made from precious leather in a limited number of 999.

Technical performance matched with smart appeal is the key element of the *Zegna Sport* collection. Aqualite fabric is the news at Zegna Sport, it is an extremely light micro fibre, breathable yet with a high resistance to both wind and rain. The new Aqualite fabric is transformed into a two-tone reversible sports jacket as well as 'Foldaway' trousers and vests. Winning colours of the season are greens through to the golf inspired collection ivories, blue tones inspired by the world of sailing and from sandy colours to naturals, freshened by a touch of lime. The Highway Jacket has been updated both functionally and aesthetically with an attractive and tactile weave and an internal band that keeps the jacket in place, for instance when riding a bike. An exciting development is the 2005 Highway shoe: this season sees it laced-up with five eyelets, made of Nappa leather with contrasting tones and coloured clearly visible rubber-cap soles.

Four cities inspired the *ZZegna* collection: Rome, New York, London and St. Tropez, four destinations to be reinterpreted for the *ZZegna* man. In Rome the inspiration is sport chic, close-fitting jackets made from woven fabrics with leather styles to match jeans. Leather is white, in washed calfskin or lamb, or in ostrich with satin buttons and an extra-luxurious finish. De rigueur in New York are the business-like greys, highlighted by the unusual touch of chalk, lavender, hydrangea and sky. Formal dress is designed with striking details and narrow ties. The evening is in London, in black, brown and white, demonstrated by one-button dinner jackets and voile shirts. Finally, in St. Tropez colour gets very fresh: light blue, apple green, delavè pink and red, mint green, light green for de-constructed jackets, knee-length trousers and t-shirts.