



The 36 Most Common Style Mistakes Men Make

MEN'S STYLE GUIDE

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“ The past is where you learned the lesson. The future is where you apply the lesson, don't give up in the middle.”
– Unknown



1. Clothes that don't fit

When you wear clothes that fit well, you'll not only look, but also feel better. Your posture appears better, which affects the way you (and other people) perceive yourself. You'll feel a lot more confident.

2. Wearing a short sleeve shirt with a tie

Unless you work for a fast-food joint - where sleeves get dirty making sandwiches - avoid wearing a short sleeve shirt with a tie. They are generally perceived as lower class apparel. If you want to stay looking professional and confident, stick to long-sleeve shirts when wearing ties.





3. Wearing a backpack with a suit

Soldiers wear backpacks to keep their hands free for combat. Hikers wear backpacks to evenly distribute weight over long journeys. Children wear backpacks to keep from losing their schoolwork.

Able-bodied, grown businessmen – without exception – should carry their belongings in a professional briefcase.

4. Wearing too many colors

Limit each of your outfits to a maximum of three colors or shades to maintain a coordinated look. If in doubt find a color wheel online and use it to help you choose your colors. Colors opposite each other on the wheel are “complementary colors.” Colors adjacent to each other are called “analogous colors.” When putting together an outfit, stick to complementary and analogous colors and remember that less is more.



5. Too much jewelry

For men, wearing jewelry and accommodating an outfit with accessories happens much less frequently than it does with women.

All the jewelry a man needs are watches that will match different outfits, and a wedding ring if he's married. If you're young and you like necklaces, go for it. Try and limit yourself to no more than three pieces of jewelry.



6. Dirty shoes

Even today, you can still tell a gentleman by his shoes. It's an area that too many guys overlook in terms of cleaning and proper care. A stylish man keeps his shoes clean - free of scratches and dirt.





7. Improper pants length

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Don't fold up your jeans or your chinos unless it's an intentional fashion statement that you're making. Your pants can come down to the bottom of your shoes but make sure they come just above the floor to avoid any unwanted fraying. Also, you only need a slight break, or crease, in the pants leg. Don't be the guy who has his feet swimming in a bunch of extra fabric. All it takes is a simple trip to the tailor to get them hemmed.

8. Wrong socks with a suit

There's a bad sock epidemic out there and it's victims are countless numbers of men. So many guys are ruining perfectly good outfits by pairing them with the wrong kinds of socks.

When you're wearing a suit, match your sock color to your pants, not your shoes (for professional and formal occasions).





9. Wrong belt ¹¹ color

Leather should always match leather. That rule stays with you in dress and casual wear: brown leather shoes go with a brown leather belt, and black with black. Glossy belts should be paired with highly-polished shoes; matte shoes go with matte belts. If you're wearing casual shoes that aren't made of leather, you have more freedom to work with. Cloth shoes can be paired with cloth belts of a different color.

10. Mismatching styles

Don't wear your sporty Oakley sunglasses with a blazer, or a pair of cargo pants with the dress shirt you wear to the office. Keep your outfits coherent and matching in style.



11. Clunky square toe shoes



While the odd footwear may have been acceptable for a proper dinner in 1990s, today, it's really not. In the current day and age, self-respecting men everywhere should avoid them at all costs — unless, of course, said man loves dad jeans and rocks out to all things Sting.

12. Clipping your cell phone to your belt

This is as attractive as using a Bluetooth headset as a fashion accessory. Keep your cellphone in your pocket.



13. Improper tie length

When wearing a long necktie it is imperative that it be worn at correct length. If left too long, the tie looks sloppy. If left too short, the tie looks clownish. For the best look, the tip of the tie should end in the middle of the belt buckle or waistband.



14. Being too “buttoned” up

If a jacket has two buttons, only fasten the top button. If it has three buttons, you can close the top button only, the middle button only, or both the middle and top button. The key is to always leave the bottom button undone. This is a tradition that has been used for decades, and will keep your style looking smart.





15. Not tucking in dress shirts

If your dress shirt is long enough to cover your butt, it's meant to be tucked in. The shirt is made longer so that when you sit down, with your shirt under your butt, your shirt doesn't annoyingly lift out of your pants. If you're someone who hates tucking in at casual settings, then make sure the dress shirts you wear are tailored shorter to come just above the halfway point of your gluteus maximus.

16. Bulky pockets

I see a lot of guys walking around with bulging pockets. If it's your wallet that's creating that bulge, spend some time taking out all those old receipts or business cards. If you need to hold on to them, keep them in a safe place and take them out when you need them. Get a slimmer wallet or a money clip to save space.



17. Socks and sandals

Have you seen anyone ever pull this off, and look sexy? **Case closed.**



18. Cartoon clothing

I love Disney characters, but unless you work for Disney, wearing them on your tie or shirts during the week make you look like you're stuck in fantasy land. Oh and while we're on the subject, stay away from those cheesy belt buckles as well. Instead, stick to the classic wardrobe pieces that will keep you looking your best for years to come.



A photograph of a young Black man with a joyful expression, wearing a light blue button-down shirt. He is leaning against a wall with orange and white panels, with his right hand on his head and his left hand in his pocket. The image is partially cut off by a white diagonal shape that serves as a background for the text.

19. Wrinkled clothing

Unless you're going for the "I sleep in these clothes" effect, keep all your clothes pressed and wrinkle-free. It's a good habit to always hang up all your clothes – never throwing them on the floor of your room after use.

20. Dress socks that aren't long enough

When wearing a suit, your socks should come up to your calves, and stay there. When you cross your legs, you shouldn't be showing any part of your legs. Isn't it lovely when you see a man's hairy leg peeking over his socks? But when dressed casual, it's a great idea to go short on the socks or go completely sockless. So fully covered for professional wear, or try the sockless look if you're out for a casual occasion.



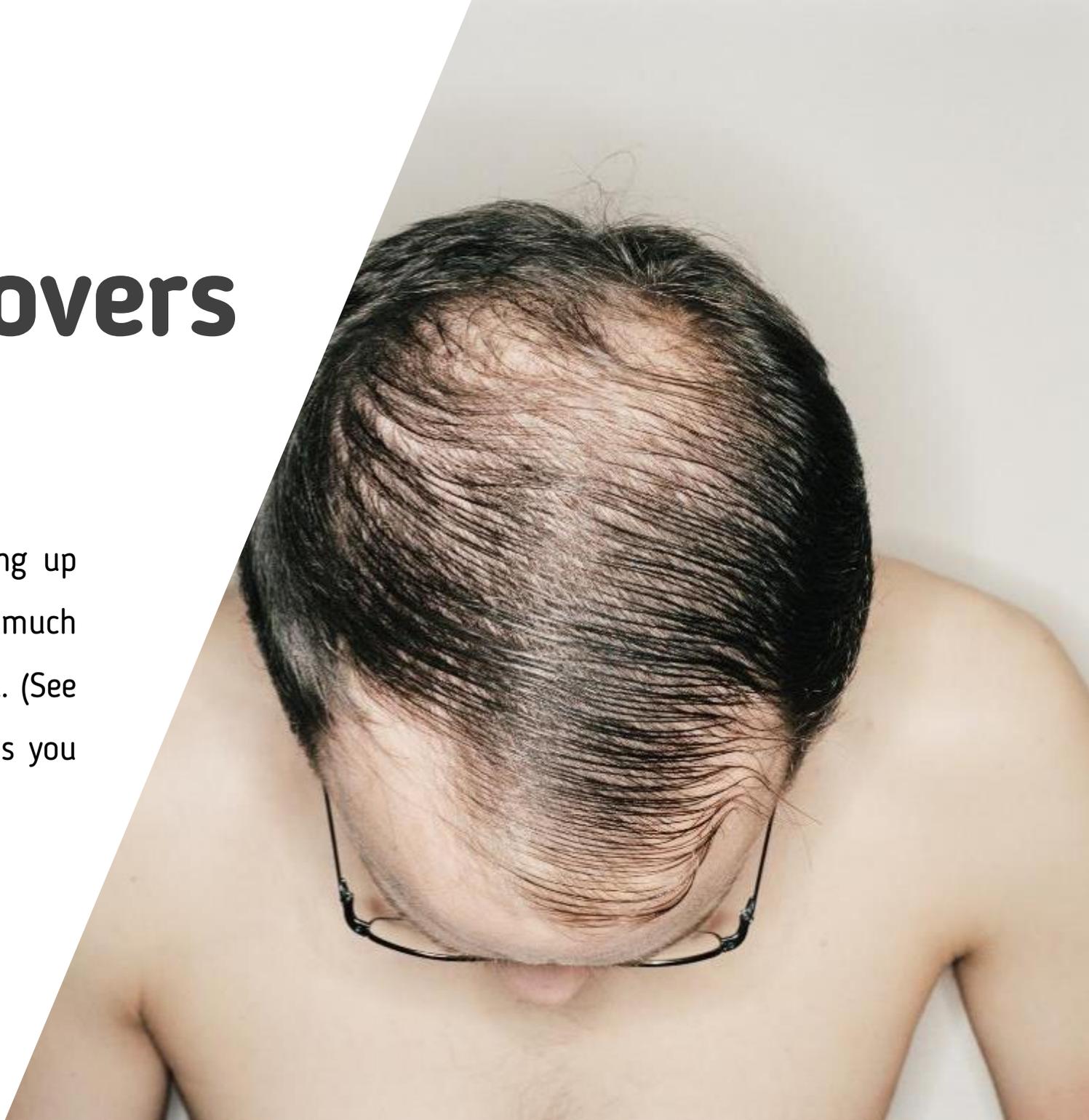
21. Unflattering hairstyles

Hair is one area of your image that you can constantly experiment with and upgrade without paying more than you normally do. Look around and see which hairstyles look flattering to you, and try something new this season.



22. Comb-overs

Your not fooling anyone by covering up your bald spot - you'll look so much better if you keep it short and neat. (See Bruce Willis or Tom Ford). It makes you look a lot more sharp and healthy.



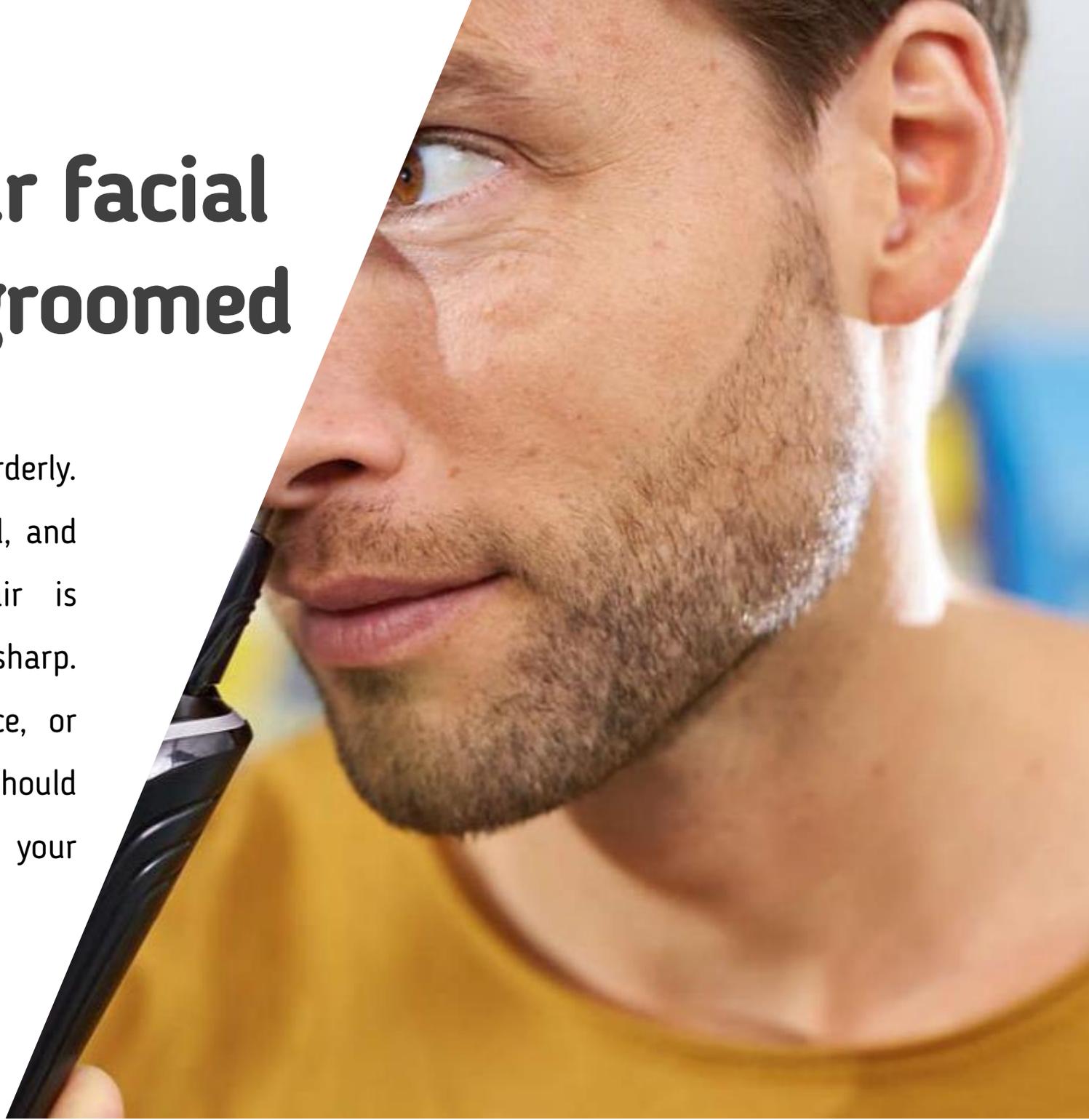
23. Dirty nails

Some men just don't take proper care of their hands. Sometimes it's cracked cuticles and other times it's just dirty fingernails. If you work outdoors or lift weights, wear gloves, and use lotion on your hand whenever you can. Keep your fingernails trim, and free of hangnails, cracked cuticles, and dirt.



24. Keep your facial hair well groomed

The hair on your face should be orderly. Your face is the first thing noticed, and so maintaining your facial hair is important if you want to look sharp. Either keep a cleanly shaved face, or keep your beard trim. There should absolutely be no hair underneath your chin on your neck area.



25. Hair in the back of their neck

Hair on the back of your neck needs to be managed well. If you don't get haircuts too often, use a small mirror to check the back of your neck against another mirror, and use a razor to shave any hair that's growing on the back of your neck. This will keep you looking sharp and well-groomed.



26. Using excessive amounts of hair product

Be aware that looking like you have a bottle of hair product on your head never looks good. Your girlfriends wants to be able to run her fingers through your hair, not hurt herself doing it. Use a smaller amount than you think you need.





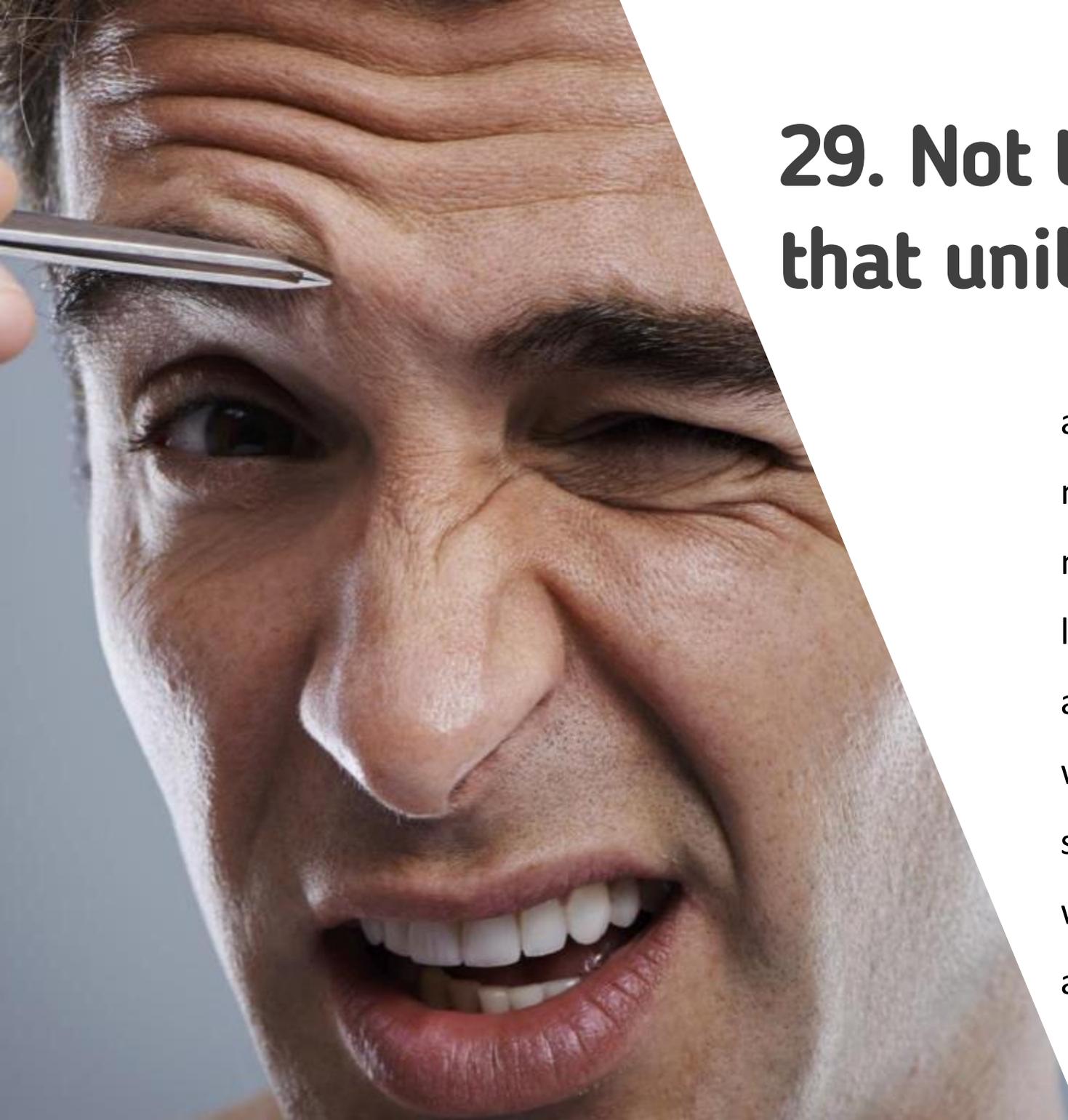
27. Wearing sandals 29 outside of the beach or pool

Keep the flip-flops for the pool, and opt for a casual pair of driving moccasins this summer. Driving moccasins are usually made of leather, but really easy to slip into and have flexible rubber soles, which make them the rich man's slipper. A pair of dark brown ones will work perfectly with almost anything.

28. An undershirt

An undershirt's purpose is to absorb the sweat, dirt, and body oils that we all inevitably secrete, and prevent stains on your dress shirts. The name explains their purpose. It's not meant to be worn as an actual shirt by itself, so avoid this fashion mistake and call your buddies out on it when you can.





29. Not taking care of that unibrow

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30. Tucking T-shirts in

Tucking in polo shirts is acceptable, but t-shirts should be kept casual. If your t-shirt is too long then it's probably too big on you.





31. Wearing athletic socks, for non athletic occasions

Keep the white athletic socks for the gym or when you're out playing sports and stick to navy or black casual socks instead. They always look more stylish than white.

32. Sweatpants in public

Unless you're going to the gym, avoid wearing sweats out in public. You're not wearing them to look your best, you're wearing them because you're lazy.





33. Oversized branding

Avoid clothes that make you look like a walking advertisement. The advertisers would love this, but why wear a huge logo or brand name on your shirt unless you're getting paid to?

34. Excess cologne

If a woman can smell your cologne only when she's close, great! She'll have more reason to stay close. If a woman can smell you from across the room, does she need to come any closer? Depending on the strength of your cologne, use with caution. If your cologne loses its scent later in the day, simply reapply. A good rule of thumb is to limit it to two sprays – once on your neck and wrists.



35. Wearing the wrong colors

It's important to match the color of your clothes to your skin tone. You want the focus to be on you, not the overwhelming color of your shirt. If you have dark skin, you can either wear dark colors or bright colors that match the strength of your skin color. If you have very fair skin, lighter colors are most flattering on you – like soft pastels or icy colors.



36. Warped shoes

Keep at least two pairs of dress shoes in the same color so you can let one pair rest for a day from sweat and stretching. Doing this prevents them from warping in unwanted ways. Place shoetrees in your shoes when you're not wearing them to maintain their best form.



**“Clothes and manners
do not make the man;
but when he is made,
they greatly improve
his appearance.”**

Arthur Ashe

**HELP YOUR
FRIENDS AVOID
THESE MISTAKES**
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