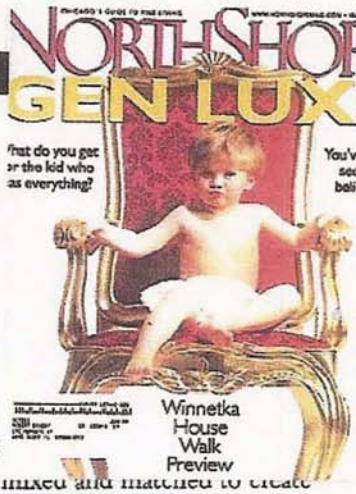

Lovin' Summer

KEEP YOUR COOL WITH THE STYLES OF THE SEASON

It's a beautiful day — and if it's not, it will be soon. The day is coming when you'll be forced to consider going out sans jacket, sans sweater, sans those mercifully concealing clothes you've been hiding in since September. And when it does, don't fret; summer might be right around the corner, but you can look great and still beat the heat, even if you're estranged from your Stairmaster.

Our friends in the design community have handed down lots of way to layer this year, unleashing a barrage of gauze, mesh and other translucents perfect for pairing with tanks and camis. The result is the chance to wear sleeves, or a tame neckline, without feeling all covered up or adding cumbersome weight — catching the breeze on your skin without showing it all off.

You can find some lines, like DKNY's spring collection, that have done the work of layering for you, matching up for example a camisole with a chiffon blouse. But don't limit yourself to pre-paired possi separates can be mixed and matched to create a variety of looks. Embellishments like studs and lace keep things interesting underneath — we're fans of Ascension — and what you choose to throw on top depends entirely on your mood, as there are a multiplicity of styles to choose from.

HOLLYWOULD

There are some alternatives to layering that can keep you cool this summer, and they don't involve the words *mini* or *Daisy*. Kimono-esque tops have been popping up here and there, and we're told Bermuda shorts have been flying off racks. Both seem like reasonable ways to battle the mercury without requiring much daring on your part — so long as they're not used in tandem, of course.

So chill out, and enjoy your summer. You might not be a gym rat, but with nearly boundless options for the season, you're going to look hot — and feel cool and comfortable. *Jeff Cockrell*

FIBERS
BERMUDA SHORTS
$98 at Bett's, 678 Central Ave., Highland Park, 847/432-0338

JUNGAL
TOP
$295 at Frances Heffernan, 810 Elm St., Winnetka, 847/446-2112

TIFFANY & CO.
GEHRY COLLECTION
"FISH" BRACELET
$2,400 at Tiffany & Co., 730 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, 312/944-7500 (available in June)

ESKELL
TOP
$328 at Eskell, 953 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, 773/477-9390