

# F Y EYE



Lately we find lots of people chucking around the terms "Retro" and "Vintage".

What is the difference especially when it comes to eyewear choices? Both are huge trends right now, but they are very different style choices. Vintage eyewear refers to glasses or sunglasses that were manufactured in the time period that they were originally designed. Those Ray Ban Aviators with the cable temples that pilots used to wear are a prime example of vintage. Also, those cat eye or horn-rimmed glasses from the fifties and sixties

are definite examples of vintage eyewear. Retro, also retro-inspired, eyewear styles are newly manufactured designs that resemble vintage frames. Maybe that Ray Ban Aviator has maintained its classic teardrop shape, but it now has a slight wrap-around front curve.

Maybe it has new materials, new colors, or even a new lens mounting design that allows it to have the original appeal, but with half the weight.

How do you decide what is best for you? You may not even give it much thought but it is your first impression to others. Your eyewear should be an overall reflection of this personal style.

Maybe you appreciate that quality of how things were made years ago and

march to your own drum or you like things that have stood the test of time, or you are drawn to the things for the sentimental feeling you get when you see or wear them. If this is you, maybe vintage would be a good fit.

That being said, please ensure that the frames you are planning to wear are a proper fit and that you will be able to have optimal vision with them. You and your licensed optician should still discuss whether the frame fits your face properly and if it is an appropriate choice considering the lens prescription that must go in it.

These are still very important factors that will help determine how satisfied you will be with your choices.



## The Appeal of Retro Is Quite Different from Vintage

You may like the idea of the original wayfarer but maybe the narrow design is not for you. For you the softer lens design and more average temple placement make more sense.



The new colours of a retro-inspired frame certainly make a statement and allow you to really personalize your style. That classic shape can say that you recognize what was a good thing but still want something that has never been done before.

## How Do You Decide What the Right Choice Is?

Here is where there are no defined rules. My children would say that if you wore the trend the first time, then you should not be seen in it when it comes around the second time. Apparently just being around long enough to see a trend return does not mean you should wear it again (first image that comes to mind is my MC Hammer pants, blah). Making the decision to wear vintage, retro, or a modern frame can be a difficult choice.

But there are a few things I have learned; there is no "one" frame that looks good on you. There are several frames that look good, but not all of them will suit your personality. It is your final decision if your eyewear choices are a reflection of "you". Most importantly, trust yourself. You know what you don't like.

Licensed opticians are here to assist you with your choice. It is our job to make informed suggestions of what

will fit, what will suit your prescription, what design you need for your vision, as well as varied style options.



Together we will find fabulous eyewear that you will feel great wearing and have lens options that ensure your best vision.

**Dalie Schellen**  
Manager / Contact Lens Fitter

President, Opticians Association of Canada

**Vogue Optical**  
Confederation Court Mall  
Charlottetown PE