

...NOT IN THISDAY STYLE? THEN YOU'RE NOT IN STYLE

THIS DAY

Style

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025

DAVIDO!

THE POWER OF A NEW BEGINNING

Every sacrifice holds a promise.

As we reflect on the ultimate sacrifice, we are reminded of the hope, renewal, and endless possibilities it brings.

Let us move forward with a renewed spirit, embracing each day with faith and courage.

Happy Easter!

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COVER NOTE



It's 7:22 PM. We're in a moderately sized studio tucked away in the heartbeat of Ikoyi, Lagos. Davido is still not here yet—of course, he's not. The production team waits for the superstar, not the other way around. Expected. The team is already looking drained from waiting, and the excitement from meeting an icon is already fading when the double doors leading to the studio open and Tycoone walks in.

EDITOR'S LETTER



EXECUTIVE EDITOR

On Becoming

Nine years ago, I interviewed Davido for the cover of THISDAY Style. At the time, I was a correspondent, and he was the biggest story in Nigerian music. Young, wildly successful, and already dominating the charts, he was everywhere—blaring from car stereos, headlining shows, and setting the tone for what modern Afrobeats looked and sounded like. That cover feature was exciting, not just because of the buzz surrounding him, but because it was obvious—even then—that he wasn't just chasing fame. He was building something meant to last.

Not long after, I witnessed him stepping onto the stage at the BET Awards in Los Angeles to receive the Best International Act award. It was a proud, defining moment for every Nigerian in that room. It wasn't just about one artist winning—it was about our music and culture being recognised on a global stage.

That night, it became undeniable: Afrobeats was no longer underground or "emerging"—it had arrived. Since then, we've seen the genre grow into a global force, soundtracking everything from fashion shows in Milan to stadium tours in Toronto. It's no longer a question of if the world is listening—it's a question of how loudly they're playing it. And through all of this, Davido has remained one of its loudest, most consistent voices.

Today, we are honoured to have him back on our cover—this time, not as the rising star we first profiled, but as a global heavyweight with the world watching. His new album, *5ive*, is his fifth body of work and possibly his boldest yet. It's not just a celebration of where he is—it's a reflection of everything he's been through.

Davido's career has never followed a straight line. He's had to navigate personal losses, public pressure, intense scrutiny, and the kind of expectations that most artists don't have to carry so early in life. But every time he's faced challenges, he's come back stronger—musically sharper, emotionally deeper, and professionally more focused. That resilience is what makes this album feel different. It's a reminder that he's not just still here—he's still at the top.

And perhaps that's also what makes this cover so meaningful. It's not just about celebrating another album. It's about recognising growth. Evolution. Staying the course when it would've been easier to fade away. Davido has grown up in front of us, and through it all, he's remained committed to the music and the movement.

There's another piece in this issue that ties in perfectly with this—it's titled "What No One Tells You About Outgrowing Old Versions of Yourself." It's an honest look at the quiet, often uncomfortable process of becoming someone new. It speaks to the idea that growth isn't always loud or dramatic. Sometimes, it's simply about realising that who you were five years ago doesn't align with who you are today—and allowing yourself to let go.

For anyone in a season of transition or questioning what comes next, it's a thoughtful and timely read. Much like Davido's journey, it reminds us that reinvention doesn't mean losing yourself. It means choosing who you want to be again and again.

As we head into Easter weekend, I hope you're taking a moment to slow down. It's easy to get caught up in the noise of the season, but I hope you find some time to reflect, rest, and reset.

How are you doing? Really? If no one has asked you yet—let this be your check-in.

We at THISDAY Style wish you a joyful Easter and a calm, beautiful week ahead.

Love,

Konye

WHAT NO ONE TELLS YOU ABOUT OUTGROWING OLD VERSIONS OF YOURSELF

By Konye Chelsea Nwabogor

Nobody really prepares you for the ache of personal growth. They tell you to evolve, to become your best self, to "level up", and to "leave behind what no longer serves you." But what they don't mention is that sometimes, the things you're outgrowing aren't toxic or terrible—they're familiar, comfortable, and maybe even beautiful. The only thing is that you're just not that version of yourself anymore. And that realisation? It can feel like grief.

There's something quietly disorienting about no longer fitting into a life you once prayed for. You could be sitting in your own living room, surrounded by things you picked out with such certainty three years ago, and suddenly feel like a stranger in your own space. The music you used to vibe to now irritates you. The friends you once called every day start to feel like polite check-ins. The dreams that once lit you up now feel like tight shoes you're forcing your feet into.

It's easy to glamorise growth, especially on this side of the internet. We love a good "glow up" story. New career, new body, new mindset. But here's what no one says: outgrowing yourself often means breaking your own heart. It means looking at the mirror and no longer recognising the girl who used to love Friday nights at W Bar, or the guy who found validation in Twitter likes.

It's deleting entire playlists. It's dodging old haunts because you know you'll feel out of place—like a guest at a party you used to host.

For Nigerians especially, where community and identity are often deeply tied to family expectations, childhood friendships, and culture, growing out of who you were can feel like rebellion. When you say no to Sunday rice at your auntie's place because you need rest, people call you proud. When you step back from the group chat where nobody really checks in on you, but everyone expects you to show up, they say you've changed. And you have. But that's the point.

The thing is, you can love who you were and still outgrow her. You can be grateful for the role certain people, habits, or even cities played in your life and still know, deep in your chest, that it's time to move on. That version of you was necessary. She got you here. But she can't take you further.

One of the hardest parts is that no one tells you how lonely growth can be. You're suddenly in this in-between place: not quite who you used to be, but not yet who you're becoming. Your old life no longer fits, but your new one isn't fully built yet. So you float. You question. You fumble. And sometimes, you want to go back. Not because it was better, but because



DODOS UVIEGHARA

it was easier to understand.

This limbo stage is when most people hit the panic button. They run back to the ex they had finally blocked, rejoin the WhatsApp group they had exited, or force themselves into friendships that drain them—just to avoid the silence that comes with evolution. However, the truth is silence is not a void. It's a canvas. And the loneliness? It's space. Space to create, to rebuild, to reimagine who you are.

In a society like ours, where everyone seems to have an opinion on how you should live, from your career path to when you should marry, it takes courage to choose yourself. To say, "This may not make sense to anyone else, but I'm listening to myself now."

To turn down opportunities that look good on paper but don't feel right in your spirit. To rest, even when there's pressure to keep grinding.

No one tells you how healing it is to meet a new version of yourself and actually like her. To look back and realise that what you feared would break you actually became your breakthrough. That the days you spent crying over what you lost were quietly planting the seeds of who you were becoming.

Growth is not always loud. Sometimes it's in the quiet choice to let a friendship end without bitterness. Sometimes it's in forgiving yourself for what you tolerated. Sometimes it's in waking up and realising that you no longer need external validation to feel enough. You just are.

So if you're in that uncomfortable space right now—where the old you is gone but the new you isn't fully here yet—breathe. You're not lost. You're expanding. The discomfort is just your soul stretching into something bigger. And one day, not long from now, you'll wake up and realise you feel at home in your own skin again.

And maybe, just maybe, you'll thank the version of you who was brave enough to outgrow what no longer fit—even when it hurt.

Because she didn't just leave. She made room.

Lifestyle & Fashion

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THISDAY
Style

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

KONYE NWABOGOR
08111847087

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE EDITOR

OLUFUNKE BABS-KUFEJI
08111847086

SENIOR DESIGNER

MATHIAS ARCHIBONG
0705496500

CONTRIBUTORS

AYO LAWAL

DIRECTOR, PRINT PRODUCTION

CHUKS ONWUDINJO
08077092196



There's something quietly powerful about turning 40. It's the age where you start to feel like you've lived enough to know who you are, but you're still young enough to reinvent yourself if you want to. You've loved, lost, learned, grown, stumbled, bounced back, and come out of it all with stories that only women in their 40s can tell with a knowing smile and a graceful shrug. The crazy part is that your 40s can also be a bit of a mixed bag. On one hand, you're more confident and self-aware than ever. On the other hand, your body is starting to whisper, sometimes scream, "Hey, sis, slow down." Between career demands, raising kids (or dealing with teenagers), taking care of ageing parents, trying to stay fit, and maybe still figuring out what you really want for yourself—it's easy to forget the woman at the centre of it all: you. This isn't the time to get lost in the background. If anything, your 40s should be about stepping fully into your power. This is your season to thrive, not just survive. So here's how to make these years not just bearable, but beautifully, intentionally bold.

THRIVING, NOT JUST SURVIVING: A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO OWNING HER 40S

RITA DOMINIC AND MIMI YINA



FROM COOKING TO CONTENT: THE NEW EASTER WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Back in the day, Easter weekend was simple and sweet: bread in the morning, a clean outfit for church, and the smell of jollof rice, fried rice, and chicken wafting from the kitchen. The rest of the day? Ludo tournaments, chin-chin snacking, maybe a knockout game with cousins in the compound if NEPA was merciful. However these days, the Easter weekend looks a little different—okay, a lot different. While some of the classics remain (don't even think of skipping that rice), a new generation is remixing the holiday with activities that blend tradition with trend and, yes, with content.

Because let's face it: these days, if you didn't post it, did it really happen?

Welcome to the new Easter weekend—where cooking still happens, but so does curated brunch, TikTok dances in agbadas, and "soft life" hangouts designed for both enjoyment and engagement.

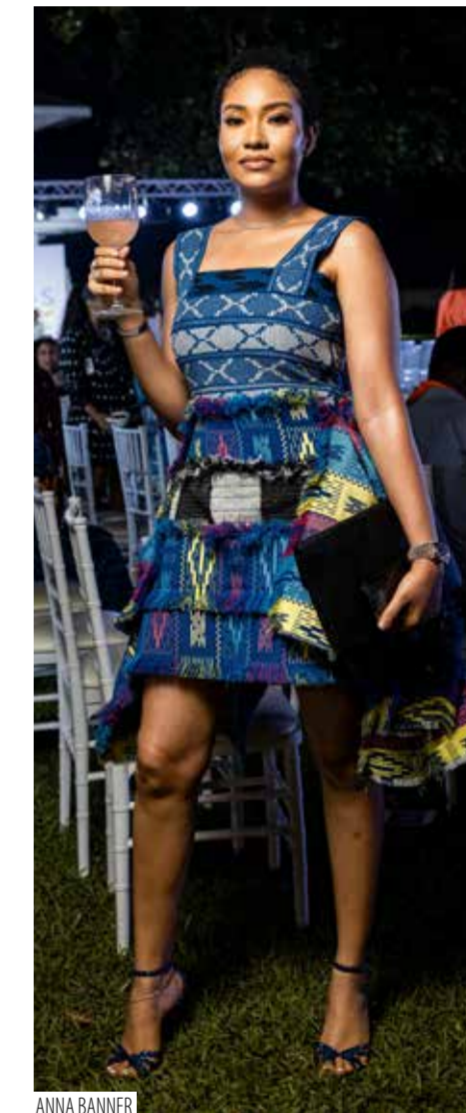
The Kitchen Is Still the Heart—but Now It's a Studio

Let's start with food because nothing brings Nigerians together like it. Easter lunch is still sacred, but now, you're just as likely to find someone balancing a ring light next to the pot of egusi as you are to find them tasting the soup. Cooking has become content. Recipes are filmed, taste tests are dramatised, and even the most chaotic kitchen moments get turned into reels with hilarious voiceovers.

Food content creators and amateur chefs alike now take advantage of the long weekend to film multiple episodes for their YouTube or TikTok channels. Easter recipes? That's prime SEO real estate. From "How to Make Smoky Party Jollof Like a Pro" to "Easter Brunch for Under 5k," Nigerian food content is having a moment. And we're loving every bite of it.

Brunch Is The New Owambe

Yes, we still love our owambes, but these days, Easter weekend isn't complete without a cute brunch outing. Whether it's at a rooftop in Lekki, a cosy garden spot in Abuja, or a destination hotel in Port Harcourt, brunch has become an essential part of the Easter aesthetic. Think: flowy sundresses, sunglasses, soft jazz or amapiano in the background, and a carefully curated menu of pancakes, pepper soup, and cocktails with names



ANNA BANNER



like "Jesus Juice."

And let's be honest—it's not really about the food. It's about the vibe. It's about saying, "I work hard, I deserve this," and then making sure your followers know you're living soft. The Easter brunch has officially replaced the after-church visit to Uncle Chuka's house as the must-do of the weekend.

Content Creation is a Full-Time Activity Now

Gone are the days when Easter meant four slow days of rest. For many, it's now the perfect window to batch-create content. Influencers, creatives, and aspiring content kings and queens use the holiday to film vlogs, update their blogs, and take advantage of everyone being online. Beauty influencers drop their "Easter Glow-Up" routines. Fashion girls post styling reels titled "What I'm Wearing for Easter Mass, Brunch, and Beach Day." Even couples get in on it with cheesy-but-cute "Easter Bae-Cation" content.

And let's not forget the skit makers. You can't scroll more than ten seconds without stumbling upon an Easter Sunday-themed sketch—usually featuring an overzealous church usher or a fashionably late aunty.

The Rise of the DIY Easter Getaway

For those who want a break from the bustle, a DIY getaway is fast becoming a thing. With rising travel costs and the naira doing gymnastics, not everyone is flying to Dubai or Ghana for Easter. But trust Nigerians—we'll make any setting feel like a five-star vacation. Some rent Airbnbs on the outskirts of town, pack a few friends, a speaker, a grill, and create their own "retreat." Others opt for daycations at resorts with swimming pools, spas, and soft drinks in wine glasses.

The key to a great Easter staycation? Vibes, good lighting, and of course, the perfect Instagram caption: "He is risen, and so is my standard of living."

Church, But Make It Fashion

For many, Easter is still very much a time of spiritual reflection. But even that has been reimagined through a style-forward lens. The Easter Sunday service is now the unofficial fashion show of the year. It's not just about giving thanks—it's also about giving looks. Men show up in freshly starched kaftans, women glide in pastel gele and dramatic sleeves, and the kids? Full-on runway ready. And once service is over, the real business begins: the photo dump.

So, What Does It All Mean?

Is this all a little extra? Maybe. But it's also joy. It's creative expression. It's young Nigerians making room for their own way of celebrating—still holding onto the essence of Easter, but sprinkling in a little sparkle (and maybe a filter). Easter weekend is no longer just about what you do, it's about how creatively you do it.

And in this economy, joy—whether cooked, clicked, or curated—is always worth celebrating.



1. Move Like You Love Yourself

Forget punishing yourself into shape. Your body has been through a lot—it deserves love, not shame. Exercise isn't about fitting into a pair of jeans (although we love that too); it's about energy, longevity, and mental clarity. Find what moves you—literally. Is it yoga at dawn, Afrobeats dance classes, weekend hikes, or long, peaceful walks while you catch up on your favourite podcast? Whatever it is, do it. Often. Move in ways that make you feel alive.

Pair this with a way of eating that honours your body. That doesn't mean giving up jollof or plantain. It just means balance. More veggies, less sugar. More water, less soda. A little mindfulness in your meals goes a long way in how you feel.

2. Be Kind to Your Bones

Here's the thing—our bones start to lose density as we age, and women are particularly at risk for osteoporosis. Your 40s are the perfect time to start protecting your future mobility. That means getting your Vitamin D levels checked, adding calcium-rich foods like leafy greens and dairy to your diet, and incorporating strength training

or resistance workouts into your weekly routine. Even a few squats while brushing your teeth in the morning can make a difference (and make you feel like a multitasking queen).

3. Get Menopause-Ready

Menopause doesn't arrive with a red carpet and a calendar invite. For most women, it sneaks in during the 40s, masked as mood swings, irregular periods, sudden heat waves (aka hot flashes), and maybe even sleepless nights. You're not going crazy—it's your hormones recalibrating. This is your body's way of shifting gears, and while it can feel disorienting, it doesn't have to be miserable.

Talk to your doctor. Explore natural remedies or hormone therapy if needed. And most importantly, talk to other women. There's comfort in shared stories, laughter over the weirdness of it all, and power in knowing you're not alone.

4. Keep Those Health Checkups Sacred

You can't pour from an empty cup—or from a cup that hasn't been screened for lumps, bumps, or high cholesterol. Prioritise your health checkups like you do meetings and school runs. Mam-

mograms, pap smears, blood pressure checks, cholesterol levels—get them done. Not out of fear, but out of love for the life you're building.

And if you're feeling tired all the time, moody, or anxious—don't ignore it. Mental health matters, too. Speak to a therapist, journal, or join a women's support group. It's okay to not be okay—but it's not okay to stay there without help.

5. Protect Your Peace Like a Designer Handbag

You wouldn't leave your Chanel bag in the middle of a market and walk away. So why leave your peace unguarded? Your 40s will teach you that protecting your peace is a full-time job—and that it's perfectly okay to say no. No to toxic people. No to overcommitting. No to trying to be everything to everyone.

Say yes to slow mornings. Say yes to weekends away with your girls. Say yes to naps, therapy, skincare, silence, books, prayer, or whatever nourishes your soul. This is the time to build a life that feels good on the inside, not just looks good on Instagram.

MODERN MEETS MID-CENTURY: HOW TO MIX VINTAGE WITH CONTEMPORARY DÉCOR

There's something undeniably charming about a home where vintage and modern design collide—where a sleek marble coffee table shares space with a 1960s radio, and a gallery wall includes both abstract prints and grainy black-and-white photographs of people you've never met. Welcome to the beautiful balance of modern-meets-mid-century style—a décor trend that's more than just aesthetic; it's a celebration of stories, craftsmanship, and bold individuality. Let's get something straight: mixing old and new isn't about clutter or creating a Pinterest-perfect living room. It's about creating a space that feels lived-in, curated, and deeply personal. Whether it's your grandmother's dial phone or a thrifted teak console from the '50s, vintage pieces bring warmth, soul, and history into our ever-evolving modern lives.

The Charm of the Past: Why Vintage Still Matters

Vintage décor isn't just a passing trend. The reason why mid-century design keeps making a comeback is because it never really left. The clean lines, warm woods, and organic curves of the 1950s and 60s were designed to be timeless—and guess what? They still are.

Think about the old rotary dial phone—clunky, adorable, and brimming with nostalgia. While you may never use it to make a call, it makes an incredible conversation starter on your entryway console.

These pieces ground a room with their sense of history and craftsmanship, offering a refreshing contrast to mass-produced, cookie-cutter furniture.

Mixing 101: Balance, Don't Battle

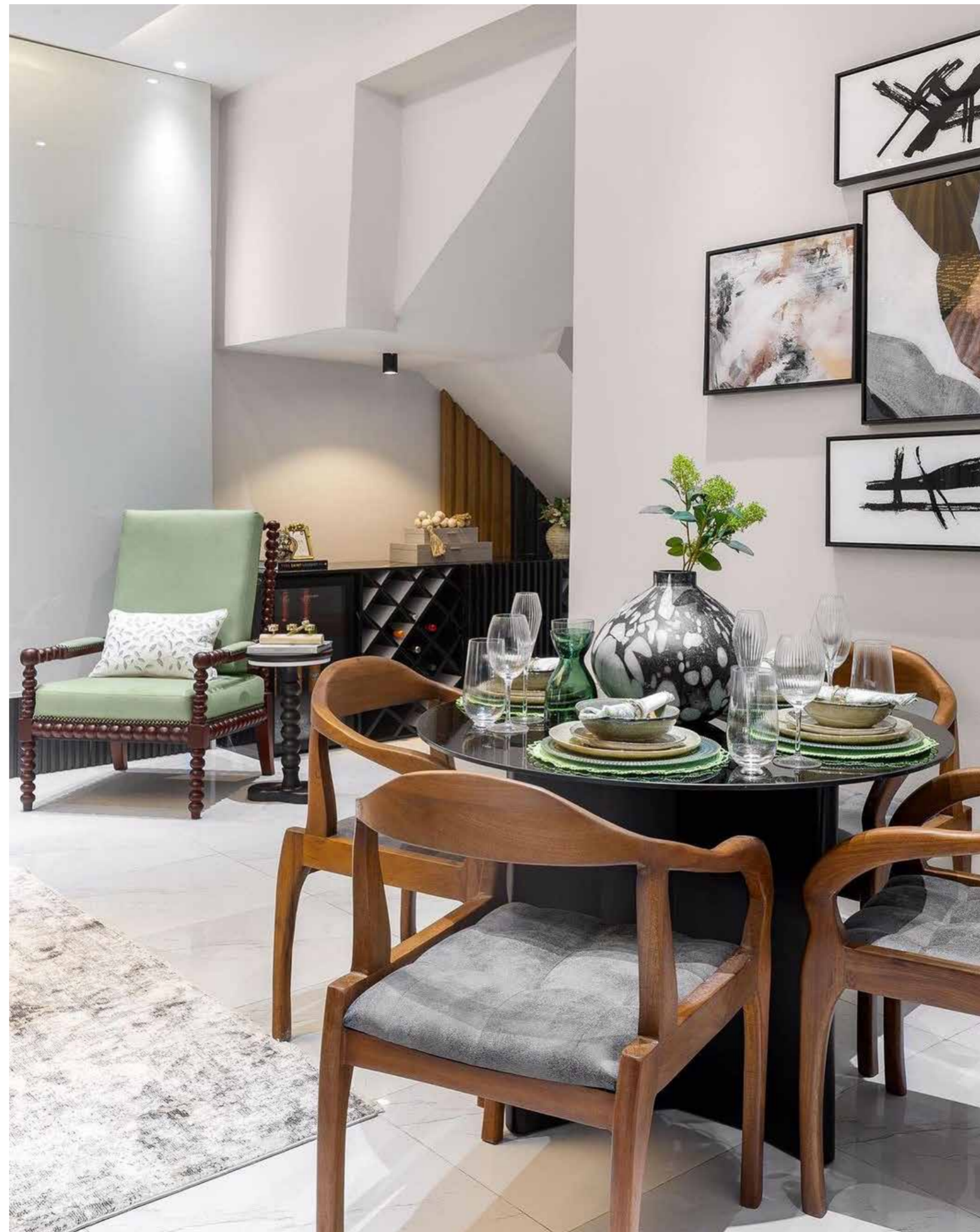
When mixing mid-century and modern, the golden rule is balance. You're not trying to recreate your grandfather's den or design a sci-fi set. The sweet spot lies somewhere between them—where vintage pieces act as accents, and contemporary elements provide freshness.

Let's say your living room is dominated by modern furnishings—low-slung sofas, clean edges, monochrome tones. Adding a vintage Persian rug immediately softens the sharpness, adding warmth and a sense of story. Or pair your minimalist dining table with a set of mismatched vintage chairs in walnut or leather. It's those unexpected contrasts that make the room pop.

Iconic Pieces That Still Shine

Some vintage finds are just too iconic to ignore—and luckily, they play incredibly well with modern design.

The Rotary Dial Phone: Place it on a console, bookshelf, or bedside table. Even if it's not connected, it's full of character and makes any modern space feel more grounded and whimsical.



Retro Clocks: Sunburst wall clocks, flip clocks, or analogue desk clocks instantly bring personality. Position them against clean, white walls for maximum contrast.



Vintage Typewriters: Perfect for a home office or bookshelf vignette, they strike that nostalgic note while still looking incredibly cool.



Mid-Century Sideboards or Consoles: These work beautifully in living rooms, hallways, or even as media stands. Their low profile and warm wood tones offer depth without overpowering a room.

Art Deco Bar Carts: Not strictly mid-century but always welcome. Roll it into your living room corner and pair with modern glassware and LED lighting.

Color and Texture: The Secret Sauce

Mid-century design was big on earthy tones—mustard, burnt orange, olive green—while modern interiors tend to lean toward neutrals, blacks, and whites. The trick? Mix them smartly.

For example, a mustard armchair looks effortlessly chic beside a minimalist grey couch. Layer in textured cushions, macramé wall hangings, or rattan baskets to bridge the gap. You're telling a visual story, and texture is your narrator.

Shop Smart, Style Smarter

Thrift stores, estate sales, and even your parents' attic can be treasure troves of design gold. But the key isn't just finding vintage—it's styling it in a way that feels fresh. Reupholster old chairs with modern fabrics. Paint vintage wooden pieces in high-gloss black or white. Add LED strip lights behind that old bookshelf.

Remember: not every item has to be vintage. In fact, it's more interesting when it's not. Use your vintage pieces as punctuation marks—bold exclamation points in a room full of modern prose.

CLOSET THERAPY: Can Getting Dressed Heal You?

There's something oddly soothing about standing in front of your closet on a quiet morning, fingers brushing past fabrics—silk, cotton, lace—your mind running through the possibilities of who you want to be today. Some days, you're that boss in a well-tailored blazer and sky-high pumps. Other days, you just want your softest Ankara kaftan and a headwrap that makes you feel like royalty, even if you're just going to sit in Lagos traffic for two hours. But what if getting dressed wasn't just about looking good? What if it was part of your healing?

Welcome to Closet Therapy—not a session with your psychologist (though that's still very valid), but a daily ritual where your wardrobe becomes a quiet form of self-expression, self-soothing, and, yes, even self-reclamation.

Let's be real—living in Nigeria can be downright exhausting. Between fluctuating fuel prices, wahala at work, and the general unpredictability of NEPA, it's easy to feel like you've lost control. But the one thing you can always decide for yourself—no matter how small—is what you wear. And that decision can be more powerful than it seems.

"On days when everything feels chaotic, I just throw on my favourite red lipstick and my green palazzo trousers," says Titi, a 34-year-old HR manager in Abuja. "It's for me. The colours lift my mood, and I feel like I'm putting on armour for the day."

That right there is the essence of closet therapy—dressing as a way of reclaiming your mood, your energy, and your sense of self. Whether it's a crisp white shirt that makes you feel put-together or a loud print dress that reminds you that you're allowed to take up space, clothes can have a deeper psychological impact than we often give them credit for.

Think back to a time when you were heartbroken. Did you reach



KATE HENSHAW



for oversized clothes to hide? Or maybe you put on your best outfit, lined your eyes, and walked out the door just to remind yourself that you were still in control of your life. Clothes often reflect our internal state—but they can also shape it. Like a mirror, but one you get to design.

"I used to feel guilty for spending time thinking about my outfit," says Nkem, a Lagos-based photographer. "But I've realised that styling myself each morning is part of my mental reset. It gives me clarity. It's meditative."

And she's not alone. Research has shown that what we wear can impact everything from our posture to our confidence levels. Ever heard of 'enclothed cognition'? It's a fancy psychological term that basically means your brain responds to the symbolic meaning of your clothes. That's why you suddenly feel smarter in a blazer or more relaxed in a hoodie. It's science—and style.

Now, for Nigerian women especially, dressing well has always been more than just fashion. It's identity. It's culture. It's resistance.



ANGEL ANOSIKE AND OZINNA ANJUMUDU

From the gele that sits like a crown on your head to the tailored aso-oke that hugs your curves just right, clothing can be deeply affirming.

But this isn't just about aesthetics or trends. Closet therapy isn't about wearing designer labels (though if you can swing a Lisa Folawiyo piece, please do so boldly). It's about dressing with intention. Wearing that bright yellow blouse not because it's in season but because it reminds you of joy. Choosing the flowing adire dress because it makes you feel soft and feminine, even after a hard week.

It's also about editing your wardrobe to reflect who you are now. So many of us are holding onto clothes from an old life—jeans that no longer fit, heels that hurt too much, corporate wear from a job we left two years ago. Letting go of those pieces can feel like letting go of baggage. Healing starts there, too.

"I had this dress I wore during my NYSC camp that I kept for years," says Doyin, a 40-year-old entrepreneur. "It had no shape left, but I couldn't throw it out. Then, one day, I just did. It felt like I was finally letting go of the pressure to hold onto the past."

Closet therapy can also mean dressing up just because. Not every outfit needs an occasion. You don't need to be heading to a party to wear your nice shoes or style your hair beautifully. Sometimes, the simple act of putting yourself together when no one is watching is the most radical form of self-love.

And on the days when getting dressed feels too hard—because grief, depression, or burnout have you in their grip—start small. Pick one item that makes you feel okay. That worn T-shirt you love. That pair of earrings that always gets compliments. One item. One step forward.

Because healing isn't linear, and sometimes, it comes quietly, like zipping up a dress and standing a little taller in front of your mirror.

How to Host a Chic Easter Brunch (Without Losing Your Mind or Your Budget)

There's something magical about Easter Sunday. It's the one holiday where everything feels lighter—literally and metaphorically. Fashion is in full bloom, events are back-to-back, and people are generally in better moods. It's also the perfect time to host a chic Easter brunch. However, pulling off a stylish brunch that feels effortless yet fabulous—especially in Nigeria, where "showing up" is practically an Olympic sport—can feel like a lot. Not to worry. With a little planning and a lot of flair, you can host a brunch that's as Instagrammable as it is heartwarming. Here's your guide to doing it like a pro.



EKU EDEWOR, DERIN ODUGBESAN AND IFEOMA ODUGWU

1. Set the Tone: Choose a Theme That Speaks Soft Life

Before you even decide on the menu, think about the vibe. Do you want it to feel like a garden party or a rooftop affair? Or a cosy backyard celebration with rattan chairs and pastel napkins? Pick a theme and stick to it.

Pro tip: Soft hues like blush pink, sage green, and butter yellow look great in Nigerian daylight and photograph beautifully. If you're feeling extra, throw in fresh flowers—think lilies, baby's breath, or even locally sourced hibiscus.

2. Send a Proper Invite (Yes, Even if It's Just a WhatsApp Message)

Brunch is a vibe, not a last-minute hangout. Give your guests at least a week's notice, and make your invite cute! You don't need to hire a graphic designer—Canva, or a well-composed WhatsApp broadcast will do the trick. Mention the theme, timing (aim for 11 am to 3 pm), and most importantly, the dress code. People like to know if they're dressing up for Instagram or keeping it casual and breezy.

3. The Menu: Keep it Chic, But Familiar

We're not in Paris, so you don't need to serve quiche Lorraine and caviar (unless you want to). Brunch in Nigeria should be a mix of comfort food and Instagram-worthy bites. Think jollof rice in cute ramekins, chicken skewers with pineapple chunks, plantain cups, or mini moi-moi in tulip paper. Add a few continental options for flair—mini pancakes with palm wine syrup, croissants, or avocado toast with suya spice.

For drinks, mimosas are non-negotiable. They're easy: just champagne and fresh orange juice. You can also do a zobo sangria or cucumber and mint mocktail for non-alcoholic guests. And don't forget water—garnished with cucumber slices for that spa effect.

4. Create a Table that's Stylish but Not Stressful

Your table doesn't need to look like a Pinterest board exploded on it. A simple white or pastel tablecloth, a few glass vases with fresh blooms, and some stylish placemats go a long way. If you have matching plates and cutlery—great. If not, mix and match boldly. Nigerians are stylish people; your guests will appreciate a well-set table that looks curated but not forced.

Don't forget napkins—cloth napkins folded nicely or tied with raffia always elevate the vibe.

5. Music Matters (Don't Just Play the Top 10 on Apple Music)

Music sets the mood. Start with soft Afro-jazz, some Asa, The Cavemen, maybe a little Tems. Then transition into feel-good tunes—throw in some Tiwa, Burna, or even Fela. Just keep the volume low enough for conversation but lively enough to make people sway while refilling their plates.

If there are kids, maybe toss in a few Easter-themed songs or set up a corner for them with colouring sheets or simple Easter egg painting. It buys you time and peace.

6. Don't Overthink It—Curate Connection, Not Perfection

Here's the real secret: people remember how you made them feel, not whether the cutlery matched. The goal is good food, great company, and a warm vibe. Take a few photos, but don't get lost in content creation. You're not hosting for the algorithm—you're hosting for your people. So toast to new beginnings, pass the puff-puffs, and let your Easter brunch be the chic memory everyone takes home.





MODEL FOR BABAYO

Orange: Life of the Party

Orange is here to disrupt—in the best way possible. It's energetic, zesty, and bursting with personality. Want to channel your inner risk-taker? A touch of orange will do the trick. It's playful and fun, but keep it controlled—this colour can easily steal the show (and not always in a good way).



VEEKEE JAMES

Purple: Quiet Power with a Hint of Drama

Purple is a whole mood. Regal, intriguing, and just a little mysterious. From soothing lavenders to bold plums, purple makes a statement without ever raising its voice. If you want to own your space without competing for it, this is your signature shade.



ADEFEMI AKINSANYA

DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT COLOUR SAYS ABOUT YOU?!

What you wear says a lot about you, even before you say a word. But did you know that it's not just what you wear, it's also the colour that's telling your story? Colours are the unsung heroes of our wardrobes. They affect how we feel, how we're perceived, and how we move through the world. They can give us confidence, dial up our energy, or let the world know we mean business. So, the next time you throw on that fire-red blazer or your go-to black-on-black outfit, ask yourself—what am I really saying? Let's decode the colour code, shall we?

By **Funke Babs-Kufeji**

Black: Effortlessly Iconic

Let's not pretend—black is the queen of the wardrobe. It's mysterious, sophisticated, and forever chic. A black outfit instantly pulls you together. But too much can veer into funeral chic, so throw in a print, some gold jewellery, or a pop of colour for balance. Black isn't basic—it's boss.



THELMA MORLEY

Green: Your Inner Peace, but Make It Fashion

Green is the colour of growth, healing, and harmony. Think of it as a walk through a calm forest—refreshing, grounding, and good for the soul. Rich olives bring depth and elegance, while lighter mints and sages feel playful and fresh. Green is perfect when you need a reset—style-wise or emotionally.



DEBBIE BEEKO

White: Clean Slate Energy

Wearing white is like pressing reset. It's fresh, pure, and lowkey powerful. White says "I'm starting something new," and does it with grace. Want to feel crisp and elegant? A well-tailored white outfit does the trick every time. Just don't forget to style it up—it can lean too sterile if you're not careful.



OLIVIA ARUKWE

Yellow: Your Dose of Sunshine

You can't wear yellow and be in a bad mood—it's physically impossible. Yellow is vibrant, optimistic, and full of joy. It screams "I'm here for the good vibes!" but a little goes a long way. Try it in small doses—a bag, heels, a pop of eyeliner—and let your outfit do the smiling.

Blue: Cool, Calm, Collected

Blue is your best friend when you want to feel centered. It says, "I've got this," but without yelling it from the rooftops. From breezy baby blues to strong navies, this colour quietly exudes confidence, trust, and calm. Perfect for boardrooms, first dates, or any day you need to feel like your best, balanced self.



DIDI AKINYELURE

Red: Command the Room

Red is not for the faint-hearted. It's bold, assertive, fiery—and completely unforgettable. Whether it's a dress, a lip, or even a pair of pumps, red says "I came to be seen." It's your power play, your statement-maker, your don't-mess-with-me mood. Just don't overdo it—you want bold, not bulldozer.



MODEL FOR TIFFANY AMBER

Pink: Soft but Not Subtle

Pink is sweet, yes—but it can also be smart, sassy, and unapologetically strong. Light pinks give romance and softness, while fuchsias and magentas bring that fearless energy. Pink walks the fine line between charming and commanding. Wear it when you want to turn heads and warm hearts.



OYIN OLUFEKO

THE POWER OF A NEW BEGINNING

Every sacrifice holds a promise.

As we reflect on the ultimate sacrifice, we are reminded of the hope, renewal, and endless possibilities it brings.

Let us move forward with a renewed spirit, embracing each day with faith and courage.

Happy Easter!

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COVER

DAVIDO

THE KING WHO NEVER MISSES



It's 7:22 PM. We're in a moderately sized studio tucked away in the heartbeat of Ikoyi, Lagos. Davido is still not here yet—of course, he's not. The production team waits for the superstar, not the other way around. Expected. The team is already looking drained from waiting, and the excitement from meeting an icon is already fading when the double doors leading to the studio open and Tycoone walks in. He daps up everyone in the room and

straightaway makes his way to the array of clothes the stylist—Moses Ebite—had carefully selected and arranged. He's inspecting the clothes and looking at the options Davido will be wearing for the photo shoot. "This is fire," he says, stopping in front of a Lisa Folawiyo SS25 shirt. Then, right in the middle of that moment, Davido walks in. He's casual: off-white tee, brown purposefully faded jeans, and an olive green hat (which, fun fact, ends up in the shoot). He also goes around to shake the members of the crew—who are clearly now a little more excited but keeping it professional and cool—then proceeds to the corner of the room to have his hair and beard trimmed.

In a few minutes, he's sitting in the chair, cutting his hair, having a conversation with me while signing bottles of you-know-what to get them ready for a related event he was attending after this photoshoot.

"Why so busy, man?" He shrugs, laughs, and says, "When you're me, it's

understandable." But it's more than just being him—Davido is deep in the rollout for his fifth studio album. In his words: e choke. His fifth album. After dropping four successful albums, you'd think he'd slow down, but he doesn't seem to be. Davido is pushing this gospel of 5ive to the ends of the earth.

Davido has been on the cover of THISDAY Style before. Then, he was a 24-year-old young man with only "Omo Baba Olowo" to his name—his debut album. Now, almost a decade later, he just released his fifth, and he's back on our cover. For him, this isn't just another album. It's a "timely" one, which he believes will continue to cement his legacy in the industry.

"For me, I just really continue to cement my legacy. We're talking about almost 14 years now. It's been a long time... I've been making amazing music over the years. I don't think that's news.

To me, this is a reiteration of the fact that Davido has come—He's delivered again. You know what I'm saying? It's a breath of fresh air.

"I want you to just enjoy music, you know what I'm saying? It's a hard time now everywhere, even for us." (I give him a look that suggests, "Why are you whining me?") "I'm telling you, he says, even for us. But thank God we're pushing through; hopefully, things get better soon. But yeah, I definitely want to continue cementing my legacy in the industry."

Also, you know, solidify the culture as a whole—worldwide, globally. The album is very diverse. It touches on every part of the world. I'm excited about it."

Interview by Ayo Lawal

Cover credits - Photography - Ngozi Ejionueme
Stylist - Moses Ebite for Measiv Styling
Styling Assistant: Isiake Abdulkareem Momoh, Tamhere Ibisike



'Solidifying the culture globally' is the perfect segue into my next question. So, how do you balance staying true to your original self while trying to appeal to a global audience? And do you even think doing that is overrated?

Necessary? Yeah, of course. I think before, that was kind of the idea—to be international or push to be global, you had to be like them and get them on your records. Luckily for us these days, the records that even go crazy in America are the "regular" and "proper" Afrobeats records. So I think that has changed over the years. Us trying to act like them or speak like them, I think that is over with now. We're trying to be like us. They're trying to be like us. They're coming here now. Now, the international artists want to come to Africa, do a show, or just want to come and experience it. Or want to work with Afrobeats artists or producers. The narrative is changing.

It's your fifth album, granted—but was that the only reason you named it *Five*, or is there a deeper meaning? The intro suggests that you may have gone deeper.

Honestly, when I initially wanted to name the album, I wasn't thinking that deeply. I just knew it was my fifth project, and "Five" sounded cool—it rolls off the tongue nicely. But then I went back and did some research on what the number five represents, and it all started to come together. That's when I was convinced it had to be the title. As for what "Five" means, Alhanislam left it all on the intro. It's all there.

Would you like to talk us through any of the album's creative processes? Were there any particular moments that defined the album or the direction of a particular song?

I did a camp in California, in Malibu. I took the whole family there. All my friends, all my producers. And I think it was one of the first times one of my producers and writers could travel.

So I took them to Malibu. We got a mansion. We built a mini studio in it. We were just vibing, really. Sometimes we wouldn't even record, but just being around family, discussing, and reminiscing about how far we've come. How God has blessed us. I think we made about six

of the songs on the album—six or seven of the songs, if I'm not mistaken. So yeah, that was very memorable.

Nigerian music right now is at an all-time high, and you're definitely one of the people who took it to that level. How does it feel that everybody now wants a piece and a taste?

It's just like investing in something and seeing it grow. Being a part of something early on and seeing it grow into something huge globally that's definitely something. In Africa, they've always

loved our music. We've never even had the problem of not being sellable within Africa. But yeah, being recognized worldwide means you're changing the narrative of being African.

I went to school in America in the early days. I remember getting to school, and the conception of being African wasn't how it is now. It wasn't cool at all. Back then, it was more cool to be like Jamaican. Now they're going to find out their DNA. Everybody wants to be Nigerian at this point. It's different now. But I've seen it change over the years. Even from when I first started my Sony deal.

When I first started my Sony deal, executives were listening to the album and they liked more of the American-sounding tunes. But I was telling them: "these are the songs that are going to go. Let's put the budget behind these songs rather than these other options you are spending money on." And they never believed. But then I took a chance on it. And I basically told the label, you know what? Hold your money. I'd go shoot my video myself. And it became one of the biggest songs in the world. So for them to see that made them start believing.

You've been on our cover before when you were much younger. Do you remember that? I'd personally say you've matured over the years. Looking back now—What advice would you give younger Davido?

Of course, I do! With TY Bello. To answer your question... Man, I don't know. I think every young artist—or every young person—has to allow life to take its course, you understand? Obviously, there are a lot of things I'm aware of now that are different from when I was 23 or 24. I dropped

Dami Duro when I was 18. I don't know what I'd tell my younger self, but I would say: Don't give up. Work hard because it took a lot of hard work to get here. You know, there were a lot of times where I won't lie, I could've given up. Because the truth is, I don't have to do this. But the fact that I defeated a lot of naysayers and also made my family proud in that same course... I made something of myself and my family name. I'm proud of that. I'm proud of myself.

I digress, but I have to confess—when I first heard "On the beat, it's Davido" as a teenager, especially in Dami Duro, I thought you were the producer!

Funny you mentioned that! Because in the first version of the song, I did start the production process. And with "Back When", I produced the track from top to bottom. After that, I met Shizzi and just fell in love with his process—he was undeniable. I mean, I even have a production credit on Dami Duro.

What inspires you the most when you're making music? Would you say it's something personal that's happening in your life, or more abstract? Or is it more about

the vibe you're trying to put out at the time?

In the past, I've drawn from personal experiences. But with this album, I was more focused on just making dope music. That being said, when you hear the first few songs—like track 2, "Anything," and track 3, "Be There Still"—there's a story. They speak to my longevity and my staying power in this game. Like I say in the lyrics, "I been don blow by 17."

"So yeah, you'll catch some personal stuff in there. But the album is so diverse. It's not like I'm trying to tell just one story or make it super cohesive. Nah, nah—this isn't that kind of album."

That's very different from "Timeless", wouldn't you say?

I would say that the album had a very clear theme running through most of the tracks. After "Timeless", so much even more musical success came. So much. And I've just been more focused on everything.

"Timeless" was me stepping up like, "Yo, I'm here. Let's do this."

"This album feels like an extension of all that. Funny enough, some of the songs on "Five" were actually meant for "Timeless", but we couldn't fit everything on one album."

Let's talk about collaborations on this one. I have to say, my faves are your track with Omah Lay, and then the one with Victoria Monét. "Holy Water" with Victory also stands out. But let's talk about you and Chris Brown—this is your fifth collab, right? What's that working relationship like? It's got to be something special for you two to keep creating together.

[He laughs before answering] He's always on all my albums! We have so many songs—so, so many that haven't been released yet. But I'd say this is the deepest one we've put out so far. Unlike our earlier tracks, which were more about lifestyle, love, or women, this one is about fighting fate. It's about having an unshakable spirit—being titanium, essentially. I hope you love it.

You've performed on some of the biggest stages in the world. Which one stands out the most to you—like the one you randomly think about and just smile? I have mine in my head already, but I want to hear yours first.

I've got a couple, to be honest. And for me, it's not even always about how big the show was or how many people were there. Sometimes, there are shows you do that just stay with you—they're super memorable for one reason or another. But yeah, definitely my first O2 show.

[That was mine too!]

Yeah? [He smiles] That first O2 was major. A lot of people doubted I could pull it off. That was one of those turning points in a career where you just know—like, "Okay, man, we're really getting somewhere."

"Actually, we're getting more than somewhere. That was amazing. Also,

because I'm from Atlanta as well, doing the arena in Atlanta—selling it out two years in a row—was a big one for me too. We're doing it again this year. It's something I try to do every year now.

Then, of course, the World Cup experience; that one is forever—That's history right there. How can I forget my very first album concert in Nigeria? It was at Eko Hotel, back in 2012. My dad was there. The whole family showed up. And it was the first time they were all looking at me like, "Yo, David actually made it." That feeling? That one hits differently.

There's a growing trend now with musicians getting into



other ventures—especially fashion, retail, and even politics. Looking ahead, do you see yourself exploring other things? Acting maybe?

If you watch my music videos, I already act now! [The whole room bursts into laughter] But real talk—music is so time-consuming. Especially at the level we're at now. It's not just about making music; it's the full package. You make the music, then you promote it, distribute it, shoot videos, handle the financials—it's a lot. Then there's the touring: building the stage, designing the set list, flying the crew in. It's like ten businesses wrapped into one thing. So yeah, even within music, you're doing a bit of everything. But I've also been blessed to come from a background where business is in the family. So yeah, my hand is already in a lot of things.

Any last words?

I just want to inspire. Especially producers—because I started out as one. So we really, really focused on the production of this album. I want producers, writers, and even young creatives to hear it and feel encouraged. I worked with a lot of young producers people don't even know yet. And I want them to feel like, "Yo, if they can make music at this level, I can do it too."

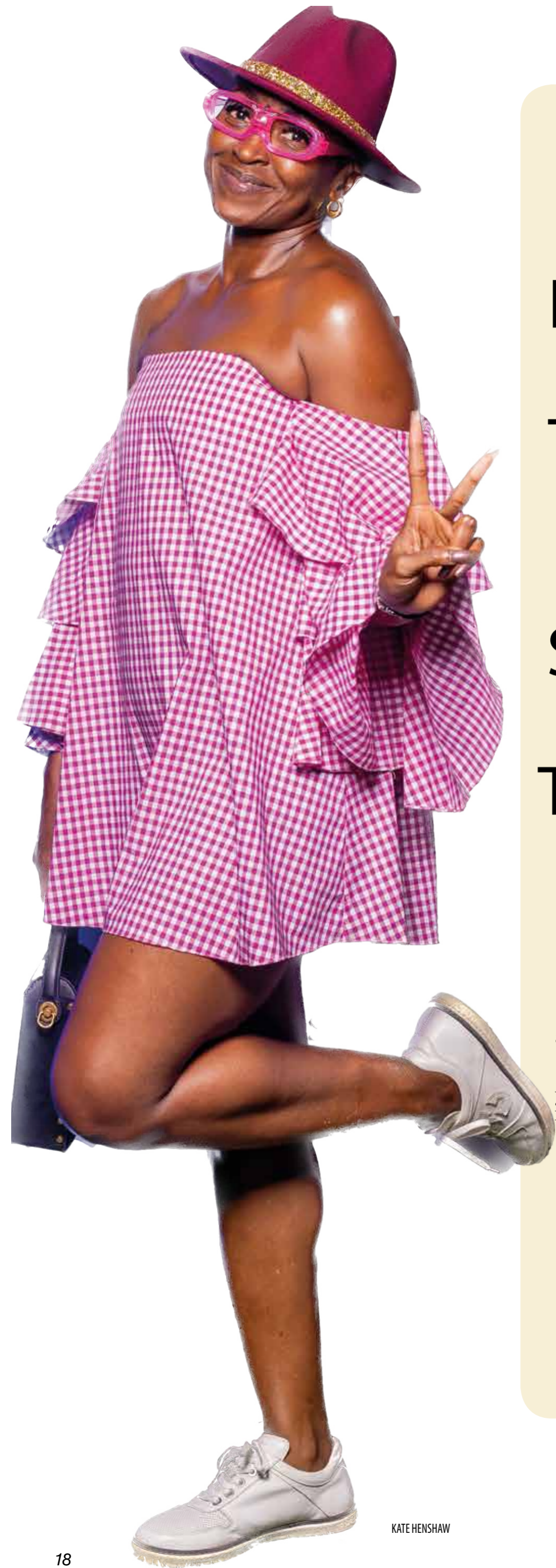
"That's really the heart of Five."

Ayo's note on Five

"10 Kilo" had me hitting replay so many times that I'm convinced Davido's vocals must've started hurting—no joke. It might just be my favourite track on the album. Not to say the others aren't amazing, but what can I say? I'm a lover boy at heart. And truthfully, Davido, I think you are too—and I'm not just talking about the track "Lover Boy."

"Anything" makes me believe in myself every single time I listen to it.

"With You", I think, is the perfect closer to an upbeat and joyful album. Davido definitely delivered again. Those two weeks I had access to the album before the world did felt like a personal gift. And now? The world gets to share in that gift too.



KATE HENSHAW

HOT GIRL LAGOS: HOW TO STAY COOL AND STYLISH UNDER THE SUN

Lagos is hot. Not “oh, it’s a bit warm” hot. We’re talking full-on, sun-is-scorching, makeup-is-melting, fan-is-now-your-bestie hot. And yet, somehow, the fashion girls in this city still manage to slay, unfazed and unbothered. So, how do you beat the Lagos heat without sacrificing your drip? The secret lies in smart, breathable, and undeniably stylish choices that help you stay cool while looking like you stepped off a fashion editorial.

Here are some fashionable hacks to survive the Lagos heat—and look good doing it.

By Funke Babs-Kufeji



ALEXANDER OKEKE



ANITA ADETOYE



RITA DOMINIC



BOLUWATIFE

Top it Off with a Hat

Before you brave the afternoon sun, throw on a hat. It’s the easiest way to keep your face shaded and your outfit elevated. Whether it’s a wide-brimmed straw hat, a classic fedora, or a casual baseball cap, a hat adds a pop of personality to your look while protecting your skin. Go bold with prints or keep it neutral for that timeless touch—but whatever you choose, just don’t skip it. Hats are both functional and fabulous.

Pull It Up: The High Ponytail Life

When the temperature is pushing its limits, the last thing you want is hair clinging to your neck. A high ponytail is the ultimate no-fuss hairstyle for hot weather. It lifts your hair off your face and shoulders, instantly cooling you down while adding a sporty-chic vibe to your ensemble. Whether you prefer it sleek and tight or loose and textured, the high ponytail is a stylish way to beat the heat and still look fresh.

Say Yes to Cotton

If you haven’t already made cotton your warm-weather wardrobe staple, you’re missing out. Cotton is breathable, lightweight, and absorbs moisture without clinging to your skin. It allows air to circulate freely, keeping your body temperature down even when the sun is on full blast. From breezy cotton dresses to crisp shirts and relaxed trousers, this fabric is the MVP of hot-weather dressing. Plus, it works for both casual and elevated looks.

Go Light or Go Home

Dark colours absorb heat—and in Lagos, that’s a fashion risk you don’t want to take. Light-coloured clothes, especially whites and pastels, reflect sunlight, helping you stay cool while looking sharp. A white dress or linen co-ord isn’t just a fashion statement; it’s your secret weapon against heat stroke. Besides, light colours always bring a sense of freshness and polish to your outfit. Think clean, crisp, and cool.

Sunglasses: Your Movie-Star Shield

A pair of oversized sunglasses is more than just a vibe—it’s a necessity. Not only do they protect your eyes from the harsh rays, but they also hide those heat-induced squints and instantly upgrade your look. Think of them as your armour against the sun and a shortcut to looking glam even when you’re melting inside. Whether you go for classic frames, bold colours, or retro shapes, just make sure they’re UV-protective and make you feel fabulous.



IFY OKOYE

YOUR MAKEUP BAG'S GUIDE TO WHO YOU ARE

You can tell a lot about a woman by the contents of her handbag—but if you really want to know her, unzip her makeup bag. That tiny zipped pouch is less about vanity and more about vibes, survival, and a peek into the psyche. Nigerian women, in particular, don't play when it comes to their face beats. Whether it's a five-minute fix-up in the back of an Uber on Third Mainland Bridge or a full glam session before brunch at RSVP, that bag is the secret weapon. So, what does your makeup bag reveal about you? Let's unzip the layers.



1. The Minimalist: Lip balm, powder, brow pencil—done.

You, my dear, are a "don't stress me" kind of girl. You know the power of a clean face and a defined brow. You likely walk into a room and command attention without trying. Your beauty philosophy is: less is more, and effort should look effortless. You probably use coconut oil for everything from moisturising to removing makeup, and if someone checks your makeup bag, it'll be a tiny pouch that could double as a coin purse. Your go-to makeup brands? Zaron, Nuban Beauty, or that one product your cousin brought back from the UK that just works. You are low-maintenance, but don't be fooled—you know exactly what you're doing.



2. The Glamazon: Foundation, contour palette, lashes, gloss, setting spray, full brush set.

Darling, you are a walking beat. Your makeup bag could double as a studio kit. Whether you're going to work, church, or a party in Lekki, your face is coming correct. You likely follow at least five makeup artists on Instagram, and you definitely watched every single moment of the last Makeup by Ashabee masterclass. Your confidence is magnetic, and your face card? Never declines. People often assume you're high-maintenance—but you just understand the power of presentation. After all, you never know when you'll run into an ex or a future bae.



3. The Sentimentalist: That same MAC lipstick you've had since NYSC, a powder that's now pan-level, and a mascara that's... older than it should be.

You're loyal, no doubt. You find what works and stick with it, even if the world has moved on to new trends. Your makeup bag tells a story. You're nostalgic and sentimental, and chances are you also keep random things in there: old receipts, a pair of earrings, maybe even a bottle of anointing oil. There's a quiet beauty to your routine, and while you might not be the trendiest, there's an authenticity that draws people in. You're the type who still swears by Black Opal or Iman and will fight anyone who disrespects it.



4. The Chaos Queen: Half-empty products, no cap on the concealer, foundation stains on everything.

Your makeup bag is a battlefield, and you are the warrior. You live a fast-paced life—your car doubles as your dressing room, and your calendar is always full. Things are always happening around you, and you're usually running 10 minutes late, but somehow, you still show up looking fly. You don't have time to arrange your bag because you're too busy taking over the world. Your brows might be drawn in a moving car, but girl—you will arrive looking like money. People admire your hustle, even if your makeup bag gives anxiety.

5. The Trend Follower: Rare Beauty blush, Fenty gloss bombs, Charlotte Tilbury highlighter, Hegai & Esther brow gel.

You are the IT girl. TikTok, Instagram, YouTube—if it's trending, it's already in your bag. You've definitely watched Jackie Aina's GRWM, and you know what shade you are in at least three different foundations. You don't just wear makeup—you curate it. Your makeup bag is aesthetic, filled with beautifully packaged products that work and look good. You probably post "soft glam" selfies that make your followers ask, "Please, what foundation are you using?" And, of course, you know the answer. In detail. Your makeup bag is not just about beauty—it's about status, knowledge, and being ten steps ahead.

6. The All-Rounder: A bit of everything, but nothing in excess.

You're balanced. Sensible. The kind of woman who knows how to blend her concealer and her life decisions with equal finesse. Your makeup bag is like a well-edited capsule wardrobe—everything has a place and a purpose. You have your ride-or-die black eyeliner, a good compact, one reliable nude lipstick, and a gloss for when you want to switch things up. You wear makeup not to hide, but to highlight. People trust your opinions; your makeup bag reflects that: curated, calm, and never boring. You know when to glam and when to chill.

Easter Sunday isn't just about church, chocolate eggs, or brunch with family—it's also one of fashion's most delightful moments. Think of it as the springtime version of Christmas glam, only lighter, softer, and infinitely more fun. It's the day when everyone brings out their Sunday best, and by "best," we mean pastels, pleats, and the prettiest things you can't wear just anywhere. If you're the kind of girl who already knows what she's wearing for the holiday two weeks in advance—or if you're the one scrambling the night before—this one's for you. Here's your no-fuss, all-fabulous guide to looking Easter-ready without looking like you tried too hard.

THE FASHION GIRL'S GUIDE TO EASTER SUNDAY OUTFITS



ADEDOJA ALLEN



OMON DIKE



IFY OJI



RONKE AKINKUGBE FILANI



IFOMA WILLIAMS



EGO BOYO

these are your best friends this season. But here's the trick: toughen them up a little. Pair a pale yellow dress with sharp white heels, or layer a baby blue blazer over a crisp mini dress. Structured accessories will keep the look from veering into little-girl-territory.

3. The Church-to-Brunch Balance

This is key. You want an outfit that works for sitting through a sermon and sipping bottomless mimosas after. The secret? Modesty with a twist. A mid-length dress with an interesting neckline. A high-neck blouse with wide-leg trousers in an unexpected shade. You don't have to cover up completely—just keep it elegant. No bodycon, no clubwear. This isn't a rooftop party in December.

4. Don't Sleep on Suits

Suits for Easter? Yes, please. Especially now that designers are serving them up in everything from lilac linen to soft buttercream tweed. A well-tailored suit with a bralette underneath (or a silk cami if you're keeping it PG) is effortlessly cool. Add a straw hat or a satin headband and you've got the kind of 'fit that whispers fashion insider, not fashion victim.

5. Statement Accessories, but Keep It Sweet

Easter Sunday isn't the day for your most outrageous fashion experiments: no neon sunnies or BDSM-level corset belts. Instead, go for accessories with charm and character—a beaded clutch, pearl-drop earrings, maybe even gloves if you're feeling extra ladylike. If you're doing a lot of neutrals or solids, this is your chance to add texture and whimsy. Raffia, lace, floral appliqués? Bring them on.

6. The Shoes Matter More Than You Think

You will be walking. And posing. And standing around after church while your aunt insists on taking 300 photos. So pick your shoes wisely. Wedges are making a comeback and feel just right for an Easter picnic. Block heels in nude or pastel shades are a safe bet. Want to keep it low-key but still stylish? Try ballet flats with an oversized bow or pastel mules with a square toe.

7. Go Soft on the Makeup, Big on the Hair

Easter is all about freshness. A glowy base, brushed-up brows, a pink lip that looks like your own but better. Save the smoky eye for later—this is a job for blush and a little highlighter. But your hair? That can do the most. A slick ponytail with pearls, big soft curls, or even a dramatic braid down your back—it's your crown, after all.

1. Florals

Groundbreaking? No. But eternally chic? Absolutely. Easter is one of the few days when wearing a flowery dress feels entirely right, cliché and all. Look for pieces with a romantic silhouette—wrap dresses, tea-length hems, soft ruffles. Think more English garden party, less prom bouquet. If florals aren't your thing, try a delicate toile or a subtle gingham—they're just as festive without screaming "bloom."

2. Pastel Power Moves

There's something about Easter that makes pastels feel powerful. Lavender, blush pink, mint green, powder blue—

FLAWLESS FOUNDATION TIPS FOR EVERY SKIN TYPE

By Funke Babs-Kufeji



Finding the perfect foundation can sometimes feel like navigating a maze with no map. There are countless shades, finishes, and formulations, and just when you think you've found the one, your skin decides to switch things up. But here's the thing: once you find the right foundation, it becomes the quiet hero of your entire makeup routine. It smooths things out, evens the tone, and gives your skin that effortless, "I woke up like this" kind of glow. Whether you're a total beginner, a beauty enthusiast, or someone who only wears makeup on special occasions, these expanded tips will help you master the art of picking the right foundation for your unique skin type, tone, and lifestyle.

1. Match It Like a Pro

A foundation should never sit on your skin like a mask—it should melt into it, becoming one with your complexion. The biggest mistake many people make is choosing a shade that matches only their face without considering the neck and chest. Always swatch two or three shades along your jawline and blend them in. The one that disappears into your skin is your match. If your face is a different tone from your body (which is totally normal), go with a shade that balances both for a more seamless finish.

2. Know Your Finish

Dewy. Matte. Satin. Velvet. The list goes on. Your finish says a lot about the look you're going for. Dewy finishes add radiance and are perfect if your skin is dry or dull—especially during Harmattan. Matte finishes help control oil and shine, making them a great option for those living in Nigeria's hotter regions or anyone with oily skin. Satin or natural finishes are a lovely in-between, giving the skin

a smooth, healthy glow without looking too shiny or flat.

3. Factor in the Occasion

Would you wear the same outfit to the gym and a wedding? No? Same goes for your foundation. Everyday wear calls for something lightweight, breathable, and comfortable—think BB creams, tinted moisturizers, or serum foundations. But for big events, where you might be dancing, hugging people, or under strong lighting, reach for a long-wearing, sweat-resistant foundation with more coverage. Some formulas are made to withstand hours of wear without separating or oxidizing, which is precisely what you need for long events like Nigerian weddings or owambes.

4. Choose Your Coverage Wisely

Coverage doesn't mean caking. These days, many foundations offer buildable coverage, meaning you can apply a light layer and build up only where you need it. Light

or sheer foundations are great for that second-skin effect, where your freckles or natural glow still peek through. Medium coverage can blur imperfections without completely covering your skin's texture. And full coverage is ideal for glam looks or covering pigmentation, acne scars, or redness.

5. Be Camera-Conscious

We all want to look good in pictures—especially in an era where phones are always snapping. Flash photography can be unforgiving; some foundations with high SPF or titanium dioxide can cause flashback (that ghostly white cast). For special occasions, opt for a foundation that says "photo-friendly," "HD," or "no flashback" on the label. And make sure to blend well into your hairline and neck—cameras catch everything.

6. Always Test in Natural Light

Store lighting can deceive you. What looks like a perfect match

under fluorescent bulbs can end up looking grey, orange, or ashy once you step outside. Always try before you buy. Apply a few swatches on your jawline and take a mirror (or your phone camera) outside or to a window. Natural daylight gives you the most accurate view of how the foundation actually looks on your skin.

7. Don't Skip the Primer

Think of primer as the bridge between your skincare and your makeup. It creates a smooth canvas, helping your foundation go on more evenly and last longer. Primers also tackle specific skin concerns. For oily skin, go for a mattifying primer to control shine. If you have dry skin, reach for a hydrating primer that adds moisture and glow. There are also illuminating primers, pore-blurring ones, and even colour-correcting primers. The right one can completely transform how your foundation sits and wears throughout the day.



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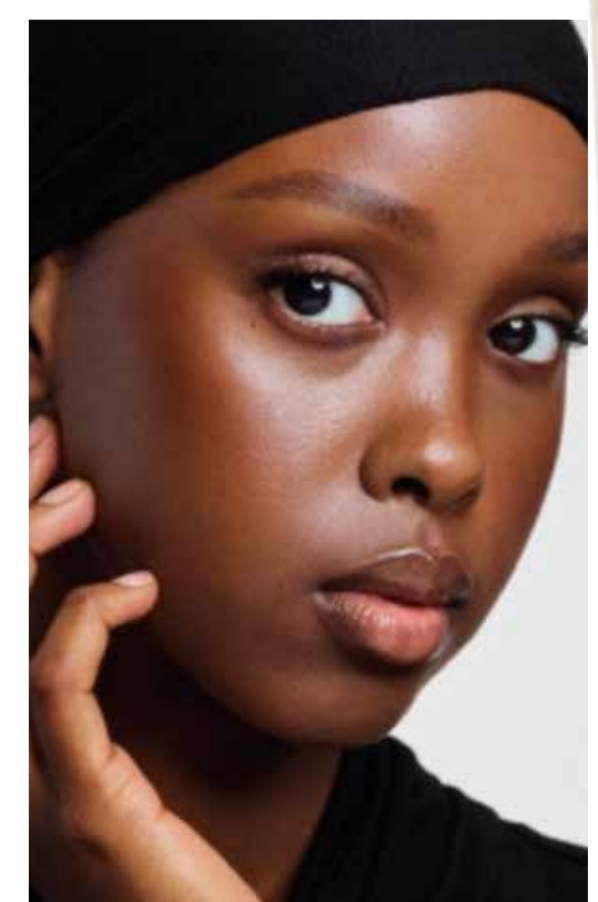
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