

BOOTS 'N ALL

Kara Michelle Deleroux

FALL AND WINTER ARE NOT THE ONLY SEASONS ONE CAN PAIR TALL BOOTS WITH AN OUTFIT. With a bit of planning, one can wear knee boots year-round and be comfortable while also looking good.

It has been said of me, unfairly I might add, that my shoe collection consists only of knee-high leather boots. While it is true that such boots make up exactly half of my shoe collection, I choose to wear them for reasons other than because they keep my feet dry and lower legs warm. I am a firm believer in the adage that “shorts and skirts should end well above the knee, while boots should end just below”. This draws attention to my legs and makes me look taller. Petrushka, in disguise as Niccolo Baggio’s latest arm candy, displays this effect to the maximum on the following page by adding over the knee socks.

What to pair with such boots depends on the weather. For drier and warmer days, I like to go with a cotton t-shirt, cotton top or light blouse. Denim or suede shorts work well for around campus or casual trips into Rome. When on a mission, I’ll go with skirts of varying lengths (usually ending between one-third and one-half way up the knee).

There are those summer days, however, when knee boots are just not appropriate due to the ambient temperature. In those situations, I reach for my tan Loeffler Randall lace-up mid-calf boots, usually paired with a dress of mid-knee length. Yes, this violates the adage above, however showing some more bare leg is not a bad thing and it does help keep one cooler. These boots also have an aggressive tread pattern and this aids traction when chasing Padans.

When on formal or official functions with Michele, I usually choose my Christian Louboutin Borge patent leather knee boots, especially when wearing business attire or a formal dress. However, on occasion I will go with a pair of nice leather ankle boots (with or without protruding stockings) when I feel the desire to mix things up, especially with my shorter dresses.



She wears | printed cotton t-shirt by **Marc by Marc Jacobs** | suede shorts by **Diane von Furstenberg** | leather riding boots by **Christian Dior**.



She wears | striped cotton top by **Moschino** | washed stretch-denim shirt by **Gucci** | roddy pleated stretch-crepe skirt by **Ralph Lauren Collection** | mid-calf leather boots by **Loeffler Randall**.



She wears | cotton top by **Escada** | cotton blend jersey sweater top by **Valentino** | denim shorts by **Victoria Beckham** | leather knee boots by **Burberry**.