

THE SIXTIES



Fashion in the first half of the 60's didn't really change from the 1950s. In 1966, however, the mini-skirt made its debut. Within a year anybody who had the body to pull it off was wearing a mini, whose hemlines were 7-8 inches above the knee.



Thin Was in



Voluptuous was out by the early 60's. The 'thin is in' slogan was born. This look was another rebellion against the older generation. Women everywhere began to believe the saying 'you can never be too rich or too thin.' Twiggy had the ideal figure and modelled tight mini-dresses perfectly. Toothpick-like actresses like Mia Farrow and became popular.



ICONS OF THE 60'S

-Brigitte Bardot

Jackie O (Kennedy)

The Beatles



SIXTIES MUSIC

PART 1: BRITISH INVASION



The 1960s started with the "British invasion". This refers to the numerous British groups, admirers and emulators that were inspired by the rock and roll movements of the U.S. that began to form in the underground of London in the late 50s. Before long bands from England like the Beatles were dominating the music scene throughout the world.

The Beatles made their American debut on The Ed Sullivan Show on Sunday, February 9, 1964. In New York City, there were 50,000 requests for seats in the studio that held only 703 people. An estimated audience of 73 million television viewers watched the Beatles perform 5 songs and become the music rage of the United States.



The Vietnam War



In 1963 the US began sending troops to Vietnam. The war was justified to the American people with the explanation of the "domino theory." The domino theory said that if one country or state (such as Vietnam) fell to the communists it would produce a domino effect, leading to the communist take over of all southeast Asia.

There was much suspicion as to whether the domino theory was a valid reason for Americans to become involved or not. A lot of young people especially began protests and demonstrations. The American people became very concerned over the high casualty rate. In 1967, Americans began bombing North Vietnam to try to end the war. This was explained by an alleged attack upon a US warship. It was later discovered that American forces might have provoked the incident. All this worsened America's view of the Vietnam War.



Children flee a Vietnamese napalm strike. This picture was to become one of the most iconic of the war.

Nearly 60,000 US soldiers died in Vietnam with over 300,000 injured. For the Vietnamese, however, the figure was far higher with estimates of over half a million killed and many millions wounded.

With the arrival of the Vietnam War and the Beatles came 'flower children', or hippies. Hippies defied the conformity of the 50's fashion code. Hippies rebelled against institutions, criticized middle class values and were opposed to the Vietnam War. They embraced aspects of non-Judeo-Christian religions, promoted sexual liberation and the taking of psychedelic drugs, and created intentional communities

The "hippie" look

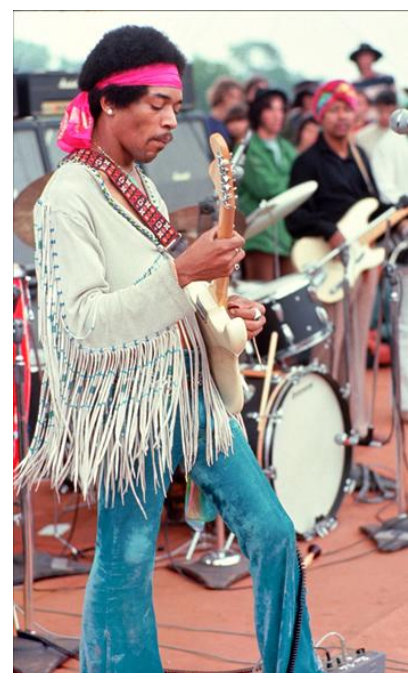
You needed a flower. As the song says "in your hair" but the truth is that it was hard to get the things to stay put. No flower? The Pocahontas headband was a good trade-off.

Hair was long and afros were the hairdo of choice.

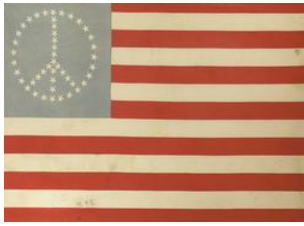
Women could wear a mini skirt provided they had decent legs. A chain belt was groovy. Boots or go-go boots were okay too. For men it's jeans, the grungier the better. Leather vests were big too.

Fringe - for all. Vest, jackets, pants, shirts. Anything could be fringed.

Peace symbol. Every last one had at least one peace symbol.



VIETNAM WAR AND MUSIC



The Vietnam inspired many songs, like "For what it's worth" (Buffalo Springfield), "Fortunate Son" (Creedence Clearwater Revival), "Give Peace a Chance" (John Lennon), "The Times, They Are A-Changing" (Bob Dylan), and "What a Wonderful World" (Louis Armstrong) among others.

PART THREE: PSYCHEDELIC ROCK

The third part of the 60's brought Psychedelic rock. Psychedelic rock combined elements of rock, reggae, and other diverse elements. Involving the use of mind altering drugs like cannabis, mescaline, psilocybin, and especially LSD, psychedelic rock broke with traditional rock and led the way for heavy metal that would begin later in the seventies.

White Rabbit - Jefferson Airplane

One pill makes you larger
And one pill makes you small
And the ones that mother gives you
Don't do anything at all
Go ask Alice
When she's ten feet tall

And if you go chasing rabbits
And you know you're going to fall
Tell 'em a hookah smoking caterpillar
Has given you the call
Recall Alice
When she was just small

When men on the chessboard
Get up and tell you where to go
And you've just had some kind of mushroom
And your mind is moving low
Go ask Alice
I think she'll know

When logic and proportion
Have fallen softly dead
And the White Knight is talking backwards
And the Red Queen's "off with her head!"
Remember what the dormouse said:

"Feed your head
Feed your head
Feed your head"

Famous Group Names

THE DOORS: From a William Blake quote 'If the doors of perception were to be cleansed every thing would appear to man as it is, infinite'. The Doors were originally called the Psychedelic Rangers.

BOB DYLAN: His real name Robert Zimmerman was too long and he was a big fan of the poet Dylan Thomas.

ROLLING STONES: From the MUDDY WATERS song "Rolling Stone".

THE BEATLES: According to Lennon, he named the band "The Beatles," for two reasons. First, he liked Buddy Holly's band "The Crickets," and wanted an insect sounding name, but also wanted to incorporate the name "Beat" in the title. By the way, the Beatles were their 8th name. The seven first were: The Black Jacks, The Quarry Men, Johnny and the Moondogs, The Nerk Twins, The Beatals, The Silver Beetles, and The Silver Beats

CREAM: These three good, but egotistic musicians considered themselves the "Cream of the crop".

60'S TV



WOODSTOCK



In 1969, from August 14 to the 17, 400,000 people turned up at Woodstock, it was the Summer of Love. "Make love, not war" was the catchcry. There were peace signs, daisies and love hearts everywhere. Time magazine called it "the great ground swell of popular movements that affect the minds and values of a generation or more"



The Rise of Muscle Cars

"Muscle car" describes an American automobile with lots of power and blazing acceleration. America had produced fast, powerful cars since well before World War II, so had various European automakers, but most of these were expensive rarities could only be afforded by people with money. The muscle car was a mass-market child of 1960s America, when youth was king and Detroit ruled the automotive world.

Dodge Daytona

Chevrolet Camaro

Ford Mustang

Pontiac GTO



Muscle vs exotic

Dodge Charger 426 hemi

Ferrari 275 GTS



Specifications

Wheelbase: 119.0 inches
Weight, lbs: 3210
Base price: \$4,600

Standard Engine

V-8, 426 (7 litres)
Horsepower: 425
Torque: 480 lbs

Performance

0-60 mph: 5.3 sec.
1/4 mile: 11.4 seconds
Top speed: 134 mph

Specifications

Wheelbase 94.5 inches
Weight: 2540 lbs
Base price: \$14,500

Standard Engine

V-12, 3,3 litres
Horsepower: 280.0 bhp
Torque: 188 lbs

Performance

0-60 mph: 7.20 sec.
1/4 mile: 15,7 seconds
Top speed: 150 mph