

Sure, clothes are one aspect: styles change radically from year to year, from the “natural look” of the early ’60s to the tribal chic of a few years later to the current trends in techno-inspired “wearable computing” couture, and getting caught in yesterday’s threads can be the kiss of death for fashion-conscious club hoppers. But that’s not where it ends. For the 2070 fashionista, “the look” involves expressing yourself using that most intimate of canvases: the body itself. Other fashion trends include:

- **Body mods:** Piercings and tattoos are practically required (the more exotic the better—animated nanotats are hotter than ever), while more extreme alterations like scarification, skin weaving, whiskers, and implanted gems and metals are gaining steady popularity. Full-body dye jobs, hot in the previous decade, have dropped some in popularity, though a new subtrend based on using slow-changing bioreactive inks is developing a small but dedicated following.
- **Hairstyles:** You name it, somebody’s done it. Hair in non-natural colors is so common that people don’t even look twice at it anymore, while alternative fiber implants, electrically-sensitive filaments that can change color with a thought, and head shaving (all the better to display your tattoos, implants, and scars) are all popular.
- **Advertising:** It had to happen at some point—more and more people these days are renting out their bodies as walking billboards for whichever product will give them the best deal. It’s not at all uncommon to see ads tattooed (often in full animation) on people’s foreheads, chests or backs, and in the days of the ubiquitous RFID tag, most mod providers will knock a bit off the price if you’ll let them implant a tag advertising their wares along with your new look.

Of course, for the large percentage of the population who don’t care whether they’re “fashion-forward” and just want to be comfortable, the old standbys—jeans, athletic shoes, leather and synthleather jackets, sports-themed gear and so forth—are still as popular as ever.

If you *really* don’t care (or you just want to blend in and keep your nice clothes from getting messy, gory, or otherwise trashed), there are always “flats”—buy them from a vending machine, wear them a few times, and recycle them for a new pair. Convenient, yes; fashionable—no way! On the other hand, flats mean never having to worry about getting out those troublesome bloodstains.

SEX

The sex trade is alive and well—if you know where to look, you can find a like-minded group of adventurers willing to share your deepest desire with you, usually for a price. Law enforcement has all but given up trying to keep control over the more vanilla end of the sex industry: strip joints and brothels (catering to all sexual preferences and metatypes and ranging from skanky street hovels to five-star luxury pleasure palaces) are common in every town of any significant size. Specialty sex clubs, usually private and invitation-only, serve the needs of all manner of sexual proclivities and desires: gay, transgendered, fetish, bondage & discipline, exhibition-

COMMON STREET SLANG IN 2070

- arc** – *n.* arcology.
- beetle** – *n.* Better Than Life (BTL) chip/download.
- blank** – *n.* a SINless person. *v.* to kill someone.
- chiphead** – *n.* someone hooked on Better Than Life (BTL) chips/downloads.
- chromed** – *adj.* cybered.
- corpse (also wageslave, zombie)** – *n.* corporate employee/citizen.
- dandelion eater (also keeb)** – *n. vulg.* derogatory term for elf.
- gaijin** – *n. Japanese.* foreigner, anyone not local or out of their element.
- gillette** – *n. vulg.* female street samurai or razorgirl.
- glitched** – *adj.* messed up, crazy, drunk.
- grep (also grok)** – *v.* understand.
- halfer (also stuntie, squat)** – *n.* derogatory term for dwarf
- hermit** – *n.* a commlink user who always operates in hidden mode.
- hez** – *n. Or’zet.* courage, sexual prowess.
- hoi** – a greeting.
- ice** – *n.* security software. Intrusion Countermeasures, or IC.
- jacked in** – *adj.* online, wired, having sex.
- joyboy/joygirl/joytoy** – *n.* prostitute.
- kick artist (also cleaner)** – *n.* assassin.
- link (also comm)** – *n.* commlink.
- meshed** – *adj.* online, networked.
- Mr. Johnson** – *n.* name often adopted by a person who hires shadowrunners.
- mundane** – *n. or adj.* non-magical; a non-magical person.
- omae** – *n. Japanese.* friend.
- paydata** – *n.* a datafile worth money on the black market.
- rad** – *n.* political activist, agitator.
- rip** – *v.* download, copy
- scan** – *v.* look at, check out, read
- skraa** – *Or’zet.* Hello.
- slitch** – *n.* derogatory term for a woman.
- slot** – *v.* mild curse word. *n.* guy (“the poor slot got cacked.”). *adj.* have sex.
- slot and run** – hurry up, move quickly.
- smoothie** – *n.* derogatory term for non-ork or non-troll
- so ka** – *Japanese.* I get it, I understand.
- spider** – *n.* security rigger.
- trog** – *n. vulg.* derogatory term for troll.
- vatjob** – *n.* a person with extensive cyberware replacement; reference is to a portion of the process during which the patient must be submerged in nutrient fluid.
- white hat** – *n.* security hacker.
- wiz** – *adj.* cool.
- wizworm** – *n.* dragon.

Urgent Message...



LIFE ON THE EDGE

