

WHAT A YEAR!  
**RIHANNA**  
 TRANSFORMED  
 HERSELF FROM  
 COOKIE CUTTER  
 TO COUTURE

**Elements of Style**

● **She doesn't take herself too seriously** You'll never catch this island beauty constrained by fashion rules: "It's all about inspiration, expression and my mood. Whatever mood I'm in, that's how I dress," she says. And it doesn't just apply to clothes: The singer's latest accessories—her growing number of tattoos (10 and counting!)—get the same treatment. "They're very addictive," adds Rihanna, 20. "I always find a cool place to put them."

● **She has a great haircut** "Her short hair is so versatile," says the star's hairstylist Ursula Stephens. "Spiked up, all forward, slick it back, she rocks it." Women are now asking for "the Rihanna" in salons across America, says Stephens. "We never knew it was going to be this big."

● **She straddles the line between sweet and street** From her smoky eyeliner to her liquid leather leggings and motorcycle jackets, Rihanna takes noir beyond just the LBD. And on the red carpet, she tempers her jewel-toned dresses with chunky jewelry or dark lipstick for that sassy—yet classy—edge. "She's able to bring an island feel to her style," says the star's stylist Lyse Cooper, "but she's very Grace Jones in the '80s: avant-garde and fun."



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FROM LEFT: ELIOT BAUER/GHINIS; ILLUSTR: JOHN MUGENBORG (3)