

JAMIE WILSON / ASSOCIATE EDITOR

WHO: The perfect marriage of protection and fashion. Retro motorcyclists and skiers. Statement makers and those eager to experiment with style and adopt elevated, chic accessories into their wardrobe.

WHAT: Side shields have been elevated from function to fashion and are gracing many fall/winter frames. From luxury takes on the traditional look and sleek additions to frames to subtle trendy styles, there are a variety of fashion statements that shields are being utilized for.

WEAR: (LEFT TO RIGHT) Marcolin's **Moncler** MLo004 takes inspiration from retro ski looks by styling this leather side shield with the black acetate frame. The curved temples are reminiscent of goggles and the lenses feature a trendy violet flash treatment combining tradition and luxury. Safilo's **Fendi Men** FF M0012/S featured in blue, showcases a sleek plastic shield in a translucent light blue that contrasts well with the darker blue of the frame front. This frame highlights this trend's evolution into a fashion-forward form of a

side shield. The **Vuarnet Ice** frame VL1709 has given a modern twist to the brand's ski heritage. This style translates life on the slopes into an elevated fashion statement. The black matte frames with bronze/gold side shields is juxtaposed by gold flash lenses. **Cutler and Gross** style 1270 has created a highly wearable version of the side shield, paring the size of the shield down and turning its function into a complete style statement. These metal frames featuring a double brow bar and flashed lenses are perfectly elevated by the mini shield effect on the sides of the frame which have a pearled presence that also appears on the outer rim of the lens and the temple ends. This Cutler and Gross frame definitely says chic.

WHY: Shields are no longer reserved for function when it comes to a frame style. More fashion friendly and innovative looks are being created by utilizing the concept of side shields. From generating a statement with a large shield to adding a stylish touch with a trendy, subtle take—shields are a great way to experiment with the crossroad of fashion and function.

jwilson@jobson.com

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