Dad's ugly, oversized sneakers are back in style
By USA Today, adapted by Newsela staff
Sept. 11, 2018
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When it comes to fashion, dads are in style.

Celebrities are loving the "ugliness" of oversize sneakers. Many call these "dad shoes."

Dad shoes got their name because of their appearance. They look like something a father from the 1980s would wear. Imagine unremarkable white shoes, along with long white socks and jeans.

Many dad shoes feature thick soles. With their chunky look, these shoes are more about comfort than stylishness.

**Nike And Adidas Brought Back Chunky Shoes**

Katie Smith studies buying trends for the company Edited. This year, she says, stores have more than tripled the number of chunky sneakers available.

It is not certain who started the dad-shoe trend. Jane Buckingham follows trends for the company Trendera. She says some shoe companies had "chunkier" looks about a year ago.

Last August, Adidas released the Yeezy Wave Runner 700. It had a more "dad" look. At the time, this was not as popular.

Around the same time, Nike brought back its Air Force 1 shoe. It was first released in 1982.

Buckingham says these moves influenced other fashion companies.

**Expensive Styles Cost $1,000**

Smith says expensive "dad shoes" are especially popular. Triple S Trainers by luxury fashion company Balenciaga cost $895. It is the best-selling shoe in that style.

Louis Vuitton is another luxury fashion company. It offers the chunky Archlight sneakers. They cost $1,000.

Buckingham says "retro" fashion is back.
"Don't Assume I Am Weak And All Girly"

Today, she notes, women are being celebrated in popular culture. Fashion, she says, also became more feminine and ladylike. "Dad shoes" could be a reaction to this.

Women are wearing frilly dresses with chunky sneakers, she says. It sends a message of "Don't assume I am weak and all girly." It also says, 'There is more to me than meets the eye,'" says Buckingham.

Famous People Are Dad-Shoe Fans

Actor Jaden Smith has dad shoes. In May he was seen wearing Louis Vuitton's Archlight sneakers.

Chance the Rapper performs in dad shoes. Artist Kanye West makes them for his Yeezy fashion label.

Kendall Jenner and Bella Hadid are famed for their fashion choices. They too are dad-shoe fans.

Many fashion fads from the 1980s and '90s are popular again. Fanny packs and hair scrunchies are examples.

It appears the trend will continue. Kasper Rorsted is head of the fashion company Adidas. Earlier this month, he said "big clunky shoes" are in style.

They "aren't for everybody's taste," he admits. "But that's the new taste."

“Newsela | From Dad's Closet to the Runway, Clunky Sneakers Are Latest Fashion Trend.” Newsela | Primary Sources: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Newsela, 11 Sept. 2018, newsela.com/read/dad-sneakers/id/45699/. In-text Citation
Directions: Use the information found in the article to identify the **best** response for each item.

### R1: Cite text evidence to support an analysis of what the text says explicitly/implicitly

1. Who is credited for starting the trend of clunky “dad shoes”?
   - A. Adidas with their Yeezy Wave Runner 700
   - B. The trend analyst Jane Buckingham
   - C. Actor Jaden Smith
   - D. No one is certain who started the trend.

2. Why does Jane Buckingham think that "retro" fashion is back?
   - A. because women are wearing frilly dresses and chunky sneakers at the same time
   - B. because men in the 1980s often wore unremarkable white shoes with white socks and jeans
   - C. because people are now buying shoes and accessories that look like items from the 1980s and '90s
   - D. because people did not like the Yeezy Wave Runner 700 when it was first released last year

### R4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases

3. Read the following line from the section “Expensive Styles Cost $1,000”
   
   Buckingham says "retro" fashion is back.

   Using context clues, what is the meaning of the word *retro*?
   - A. too large
   - B. income owed to an employee from a previous pay period
   - C. expensive
   - D. style or fashion from the recent past

### R2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text

4. What is the **main idea** of the article?
   - A. Dad shoes were first worn in the 1980s.
   - B. Dad shoes have thick, comfortable soles.
   - C. Dad shoes can be very expensive.
   - D. Dad shoes are the newest fashion trend.