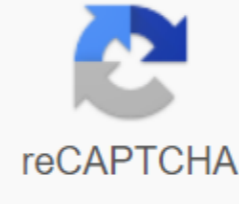




I'm not robot



**Continue**

## Dance hairstyles hip hop

Karl Prouse/Catwalking/Getty ImagesA model with a grill walks the catwalk during a Baby Phat fashion show in New York City. Fashion is fickle -- styles come, go and come back in the blink of an eye. Hip-hop fashion is no exception. In the beginning, DJs were the leaders of the hip-hop style. Many took fashion cues from the disco styles around them, while others developed styles of their own. As graffiti and breaking united with music to create the beginning of a cultural movement, the eyes began to focus on the MCs and breakers. Initially, most breakers are dressed for comfort and usability. Loose-fitting pants (sometimes with suspenders), comfortable sneakers (with the laces left mostly undone) and colorful t-shirts (to deal with other members of a dancer's crew) were standard on the East Coast. Meanwhile, military-inspired outfits with baggy pants (again, sometimes with suspenders) and lace-up boots were popular with some dancers on the west coast. When Run-D.M.C. hit the scene, so did a look that would be emulated in part, for years: black leather jackets and pants, black fedoras or Kangol hats, big, thick necklaces and, of course, Adidas. Eventually, these leather suits gave way to nylon and cotton tracksuits, still adorned with heavy jewelry. The ensemble was often topped with a Kangol or baseball cap and a low point with a pair of designer sneakers (Adidas made way for Nike). African-inspired clothing also enjoyed a wave of popularity. Kente cloth from Ghana appeared in almost every type of clothing, and red, yellow, black and green were the colors du jour. Hats, and even whole outfits, were worn backwards (remember the Kriss Kross video Jump?). Basketball jerseys were worn over t-shirts with jeans so baggy that they bunched into a puddle of fabric only tucked through the open, unwoven top of a Timberland or Lugz boat. As the 1990s came to an end, oversized was still the size of choice, be it denim or cargo pants. The gangsta style of wearing pants so low that underwear shows persists today. Reportedly, the practice comes from prisons, where belts are not allowed due to potentially lethal use [source: CNN]. Kangol hats remain, as do baseball caps. Along with them is the do-rag, reportedly another prison-wear influence. Gangsta-inspired clothing wasn't the only '90s hip-hop staple. Designer labels, such as Tommy Hilfiger and Ralph Lauren, filled cabinets from the East to the West Coast. The label-heavy trend continues today. Some of the more prominent brands on the shopping list are: Baby Phat, Carhartt, Converse, Dickies, Ecco and Ecco Red, Fubu, G-unit, Lacoste, Phat Farm, Reebok, Rocawear, Sean John and Von Dutch. Some of them don't come from the fashion industry -- they started out in the hip-hop industry. Probably the oldest label is Russell Simmons' Phat Farm. The original hip-hop mogul's holdings are reportedly worth it up to \$325 million [source: Kate]. Jay-Z sold Rocawear for \$204 million and bought another clothing line, Artful Dodger, for \$15 million [source: Brown]. Clothing is not the only big business associated with hip-hop. Accessories - especially jewelry - also bring in the Benjamins. Long before the word bling-bling was coined, Kurtis Gave Blow gold a good name by putting on multiple necklaces, some with medallions at the same time. Run-D.M.C. and others took it a step further and reinforced the size of the gold, wearing incredibly thick chains that resembled the actual rope. As time went on, jewelry became more elaborate, and gold gave way to platinum -- of the ice-out variety, encrusted with diamonds. For those who are so inclined (not all hip-hoppers decorate themselves), there is jewelry for almost every body part. Multiple-finger rings can double as a set of super-expensive, not-so-brass knuckles. Belly chains can complement a navel ring. Even teeth can become gold or platinum. While some early hip-hop artists went for simple gold caps, today's stars can shine extra and shine with a grill. From graffiti to grills, hip-hop is one of the most influential cultural movements ever in the United States -- and its impact isn't limited to one continent. Next, we look at how hip-hop has spread. Ad Karl Prouse/Catwalking/Getty ImagesA model with a grill walks down the catwalk during a Baby Phat fashion show in New York City. Fashion is fickle -- styles come, go and come back in the blink of an eye. Hip-hop fashion is no exception. In the beginning, DJs were the leaders of the hip-hop style. Many took fashion cues from the disco styles around them, while others developed styles of their own. As graffiti and breaking united with music to create the beginning of a cultural movement, the eyes began to focus on the MCs and breakers. Initially, most breakers are dressed for comfort and usability. Loose-fitting pants (sometimes with suspenders), comfortable sneakers (with the laces left mostly undone) and colorful t-shirts (to deal with other members of a dancer's crew) were standard on the East Coast. Meanwhile, military-inspired outfits with baggy pants (again, sometimes with suspenders) and lace-up boots were popular with some dancers on the west coast. When Run-D.M.C. hit the scene, so did a look that would be emulated in part, for years: black leather jackets and pants, black fedoras or Kangol hats, big, thick necklaces and, of course, Adidas. Eventually, these leather suits gave way to nylon and cotton tracksuits, still adorned with heavy jewelry. The ensemble was often topped with a Kangol or baseball cap and low with a pair of designer sneakers (Adidas gave way to Nike). African-inspired clothing also enjoyed a wave of popularity. Kente cloth from Ghana appeared in almost every type of clothing, clothing, red, yellow, black and green were the colors du jour. Hats, and even whole outfits, were worn backwards (remember the Kriss Kross video Jump?). Basketball jerseys were worn over t-shirts with jeans so baggy that they bunched into a puddle of fabric only tucked through the open, unwoven top of a Timberland or Lugz boat. As the 1990s came to an end, oversized was still the size of choice, be it denim or cargo pants. The gangsta style of wearing pants so low that underwear shows persists today. Reportedly, the practice comes from prisons, where belts are not allowed due to potentially lethal use [source: CNN]. Kangol hats remain, as do baseball caps. Along with them is the do-rag, reportedly another prison-wear influence. Gangsta-inspired clothing wasn't the only '90s hip-hop staple. Designer labels, such as Tommy Hilfiger and Ralph Lauren, filled cabinets from the East to the West Coast. The label-heavy trend continues today. Some of the more prominent brands on the shopping list are: Baby Phat, Carhartt, Converse, Dickies, Ecco and Ecco Red, Fubu, G-unit, Lacoste, Phat Farm, Reebok, Rocawear, Sean John and Von Dutch. Some of them don't come from the fashion industry -- they started out in the hip-hop industry. Probably the oldest label is Russell Simmons' Phat Farm. The original hip-hop mogul's holdings are reportedly worth close to \$325 million [source: Kate]. Jay-Z sold Rocawear for \$204 million and bought another clothing line, Artful Dodger, for \$15 million [source: Brown]. Clothing is not the only big business associated with hip-hop. Accessories - especially jewelry - also bring in the Benjamins. Long before the word bling-bling was coined, Kurtis Gave Blow gold a good name by putting on multiple necklaces, some with medallions at the same time. Run-D.M.C. and others took it a step further and reinforced the size of the gold, wearing incredibly thick chains that resembled the actual rope. As time went on, jewelry became more elaborate, and gold gave way to platinum -- of the ice-out variety, encrusted with diamonds. For those who are so inclined (not all hip-hoppers decorate themselves), there is jewelry for almost every body part. Multiple-finger rings can double as a set of super-expensive, not-so-brass knuckles. Belly chains can complement a navel ring. Even teeth can become gold or platinum. While some early hip-hop artists went for simple gold caps, today's stars can shine extra and shine with a grill. From graffiti to grills, hip-hop is one of the most influential cultural movements ever in the United States -- and its impact isn't limited to one continent. Next, we look at how hip-hop has spread. Ad Advertising