

VAAKENYA OXFORD SHOES SPECIFICATION

An Oxford [shoe](#) is characterized by [shoelace eyelets](#) tabs that are attached under the [vamp](#), a feature termed "closed lacing". This contrasts with [Derbys](#), or [bluchers](#), which have shoelace eyelets attached to the top of the vamp. Originally, Oxfords were plain, formal shoes, made of leather, but they evolved into a range of styles suitable for formal, uniform, or casual wear. On the basis of function and the dictates of fashion, Oxfords are now made from a variety of materials, including calf leather, faux and genuine [patent leather](#), suede, and canvas. They are normally black or brown, and may be plain or patterned ([brogue](#))

Oxford shoes have always been synonymous with elegance, versatility and comfort. The shoes have their origin in Scotland and Ireland and depending on who you believe, were invented and made popular by Prince Albert, husband to Queen Victoria. It is said that he wore lace-up boots for hunting as well as for walking around the palace. These boots eventually were shortened into a shoe, and this new style became popular with the students at Oxford University in the late 1800s, who had tired of the fussiness of boots. Oxfords at the time were worn by both men and women. It took some convincing for men to fully adopt them since they considered the shoes feminine since they had laces.

As with all international trends, with the rise in popularity of Oxford shoes in the United Kingdom, the shoes travelled, with British citizens spreading the idea of what was considered fashionable in every country they visited. They brought the shoe design to British colonized Africa which was then adopted by the rich among the indigenous population. Long after the white man left and the country gained independence the shoes still stayed, cementing their place as the favourite for the stylish elegant man.

Oxford shoes are often worn to formal events. Young people wear them to job interviews to complete a formal ensemble, and long after they have been hired they wear these shoes to work on a daily basis. There are those that wear them with jeans or khakis as part of a smart casual look. For most formal events, however, men, both young and old, often opt for the Oxford shoes.