

CHUNKY SNEAKERS

Rave

BY FIRSTNAME LASTNAME

According to Footwear News, Balenciaga's "dad shoes" could help the high-end brand hit the billion-dollar sales mark. That alone shows the rising popularity in these chunky sneakers, especially in high-end consumers.

Then why are people still calling them "diabetic shoes"? Simply because of how close-minded individuals tend to be with clothing, unless of course they're acclimated with street-fashion trends.

I for one, am obsessed with this fad. I have my own pair of Fila's that never fail to make me feel confident when strolling down the streets of Athens, Ohio.

A key reason for why I feel like a modern day supermodel in these chunky sneakers is because of the added height. My Fila's specifically give me at least half an inch, maybe more. They're high heels with comfort instead of pain.

The main reason that chunky sneakers have become so popular lately isn't just because of the brands like the most popular Balenciaga, Fila, and Nike. But how undeniably attractive they are. Now, these shoes aren't the easiest to style with, but they'll look great with some key items.

These key pieces include the newly popular cropped wide-legged pants or jeans and chunky sneakers. The cropped and bell bottom

pants make the feet look less massive, than if you paired them with skinny jeans. As for overall style, these shoes look the best in casual streetwear. This can include a range from tucked-in, brand shirts with jean jackets to something with a edgier look like baggy, camo joggers and a sheer top. The amount of looks you can create with these shoes seems endless, and never boring.

Now that I have undoubtedly

convinced the readers, here are some options on joining the "dad shoe gang". Affordable websites like Romwe and Ego have an array of Balenciaga-inspired sneakers for a low price. Although, if you're looking for an affordable sneaker that will withstand daily wear, opt for the roughly \$65 Fila's. Spend as much money as your pocket will allow you and find the best possible option for your individual style.

Rant

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Chunky sneakers are back, and as monstrous as ever. Spending over \$100 on a pair of sneakers that are frighteningly similar to the ones I had as a young, awkward child is a big old fashion nope from me. The Fila Disruptor II is a more affordable alternative compared to the Balenciaga Triple S's but I still can't bring myself to drop sixty dollars on a pair of shoes that make it look like I am ready to yell at my kid at his little league game. I have spent my adult years cringing at the photos that document the fashion disaster that has orbited back onto our radar once again. I go by the rule that if the Hadid's can't wear it and rock it, then it will be hard for the rest of us mere mortals to wear them. Chunky sneakers are the epitome of wearing a dad joke, and even my dad who divides his

indoor and outdoor sneakers does not have sneakers this thick. All your missing are zip off cargo pants and a cell phone belt clip to complete the dad trifecta. Who would've thought that designers like Balenciaga, Louis Vuitton, and Valentino would be taking fashion tips from Sketchers? No one wanted to be caught dead in these shoes when it was just Fila and Sketchers selling them, but once the Kardashians and Hadids wear them, they fly off the shelves. Let's just take a step back and reflect, do we want these because we want them or are we being told we want them? While comfort and support are important factors in any type of footwear I still can't get behind the chunky sneaker. It is just down right wrong to put these sneakers next to the timeless designs of Adidas Stan Smiths, Air Jordan 3s, and Nike Air Max 1s. Here's to hoping these rotate out of our lives, just as quickly as these came.

