

Western fashion has gone mainstream, with bright colors and lots of bling

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FORT WORTH -- What do you get when you cross a pink tiger with a black stingray?

One of Teskey's best-selling cowboy boots at the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo.

"These are for fashion-minded people," said salesman Dave Ratliff, holding up a pair of pink-and-black striped Tiger Ray boots from Nocona's Safari Collection.

Throw on a pair of Miss Me Jeans, with rhinestones on the rear, and an edgy shirt with attitude (one that says something like, "Put on your big-girl boots and deal with it"), and you'll look the part this year at the Stock Show and Rodeo.

"It's all about the bling and the flash," said Samantha Griffeth, who runs a boutique called Just A Little Western inside the Richardson-Bass building.

So, what happened to plain old Wranglers and Ropers?

Western fashionistas say they are still around, but insist that this edgier, rock 'n' roll look is much trendier. Pretty much anything goes, they said.

Making a statement seems to be what it's all about this year, whether you're a real cowgirl or the couture kind.

Ratliff, the sales associate at Teskey's in the Amon G. Carter Jr. Exhibits Hall, estimates that he sells 10 to 15 pairs of the Tiger Ray boots a day.

"They've been roping and riding barrels in them," he said.

And the best part?

"There is tack to match their horses," he said.

Oklahoma woman walked away from corporate life to follow her rodeo dream

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