Bespoke Unit's Guide To The Oxford / Balmoral Shoe

Bespoke Unit's Key Oxford Facts

• Also known as a "balmoral," it originated at Oxford University in 1800, replacing a half boot called the Oxonian
  • Considered the most formal of daytime dress shoes for men, it looks best with a suit

What Makes It An Oxford Shoe?

• An oxford / balmoral is defined as a lace-up shoe with a closed throat lacing system, unlike a blucher / derby which uses an open-throat lacing system

Oxford Shoe Style Guide

Below is our "formality slider" for the oxford shoe and its casual and dress variations

ARCHETYPICAL: BLACK/BROWN/BURGUNDY LEATHER

Outfits

• The most formal of men's dress shoes, they can be worn with suits during the day
  • In black patent leather, it's one of the three classic options for a tuxedo
  • Can be worn with jeans in lighter-colored, chunkier versions

Aesthetically Similar Shoes: Blucher, Brogue, Cap-Toe
Classic Quality Makers: Allen Edmonds (USA), Samuel Windsor (UK), Unhandy (Online Custom)

Typical Quality Makers' Price Ranges: Low: $79 | Mid $395 | High $1000+

To Read More About The Oxford Shoe Please Go To: BespokeUnit.com/Shoes/Styles/Oxford-Shoes/
Learn About Seasonality, History, How To Wear, Classic & Contemporary Styling, and The Best & Traditional Makers
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