

01 / THE HOUSE STORY

The people. The point of view.

THE BEGINNING

Jean Paul Gaultier

Jean Paul Gaultier presented his first collection in 1976 and built a Paris house known for corsetry, sailor stripes, trompe-l'oeil prints, body-conscious mesh and playful reworking of gender and street culture. Decades of mainline, diffusion, licensed and collaborative production created substantial legitimate label variation. Use 1976 as the first-collection anchor, then identify the exact line and runway period. Vintage label archives, museum records, runway imagery and original retailer catalogs are particularly valuable for 1980s-2000s pieces. Modern couture collaborations can deliberately quote old graphics or logos.

From the Sui Generis catalog

FOUNDED

1976

ORIGIN

Paris, France

WHY THE DETAILS MATTER

Care labels and retail references may provide style or production information, but no single brand-published serial/date decoder applies to the entire Jean Paul Gaultier archive. For vintage pieces, line identification and runway/archive matching are often more reliable than trying to decode an isolated number. Before 'decoding' anything, identify what kind of identifier it is: RN/business ID, style/article number, size code, supplier/production reference, serial, date mark, season code, inventory barcode, RFID/NFC or digital passport. Different identifier types answer different questions and are not interchangeable.

Research and catalog observations are distinct. See the linked sources in this guide. Dates describe the cited records; a last recorded year does not establish a line closure.

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Names, lines & relationships

Jean Paul Gaultier

Parent fashion house / Ready-to-Wear

Ready-to-wear and fashion accessories.

Jean Paul Gaultier Haute Couture

Haute Couture program

Couture collections, including the recent guest-designer program and current Duran Lantink era.

Jean Paul Gaultier Fragrances

Fragrance category / licensed beauty system

Fragrance and beauty.

Jean Paul Gaultier fashion / ready-to-wear → Jean Paul Gaultier Haute Couture → Jean Paul Gaultier Fragrances.

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A story in chapters

1976

Jean Paul Gaultier

House origins · Jean Paul Gaultier

COLLECTION CONTEXT

Jean Paul Gaultier presented his first collection in 1976 and built a Paris house known for corsetry, sailor stripes, trompe-l'oeil prints, body-conscious mesh and playful reworking of gender and street culture. Decades of mainline, diffusion, licensed and collaborative production created substantial legitimate label variation. Use 1976 as the first-collection anchor, then identify the exact line and runway period. Vintage label archives, museum records, runway imagery and original retailer catalogs are particularly valuable for 1980s-2000s pieces. Modern couture collaborations can deliberately quote old graphics or logos.

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04 / A WORKED EXAMPLE FROM OUR CATALOG

Read the label. Find the details.



THE COMPLETE ITEM

JEAN PAUL GAULTIER Size 10 Black Rayon Asymmetrical Point Hem A Line Skirt

Marked size = the item’s original label. As a US company, Sui Generis lists a US size comparison; use the relevant brand/category chart and actual measurements to check fit.

THE LABEL / MARKING DETAIL



01 / WHAT YOU CAN READ

JEAN PAUL GAULTIER · FEMME · I
44 · D 40 · F 40 · GB 12 · USA 10

02 / HOW TO USE IT

FEMME is part of the printed label identity. The country abbreviations organize a size-conversion table; record the whole row rather than choosing one unexplained number.

03 / WHAT TO CHECK NEXT

The size table is not a list of manufacturing countries. Read the separate country wording and composition tag, and compare the garment’s measurements with the labeled sizes.

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Research & image credits

Based on the existing Sui Generis guide research and credited references. Catalog photographs are Sui Generis images. Brand names identify the subject; this guide is independent and unaffiliated. Share complete sheets with their credits and a link to the guide.

https://www.jeanpaulgaultier.com/us/en_US/gaultier-universe/the-designer

https://www.jeanpaulgaultier.com/us/en_US/gaultier-universe/gaultier-celebrates-women

https://www.jeanpaulgaultier.com/

https://www.vogue.com/fashion-shows/designer/jean-paul-gaultier

https://suigenerisconsignment.com/products/jean-paul-gaultier-size-10-black-rayon-asymmetrical-point-hem-a-line-skirt

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SIZING / HOW TO READ OUR CATALOG

Marked size & your US size

The marked size is the size printed on the item's original label. Sui Generis is a US company, so our catalog uses a US size comparison to help our customers shop. A US listing size may therefore differ from the number on the designer's tag; it does not change the item's original marked size.

READ THE SIZING SYSTEM

FR or F means French; IT, I or ITA means Italian; JP means Japanese; UK or GB means British; US or USA means United States. D or DE means German. EU (or UE on some labels) denotes a European size where the relevant brand and category chart uses it. French and Italian clothing numbers are not interchangeable, and a manufacturing country does not identify a sizing system.

JAPANESE & BRAND NUMBERED SIZES

Some Japanese designers use their own numbered sizes, such as 1, 2 or 3. These are brand sizes, not automatically US sizes or a universal Japanese conversion. Use the chart for the specific brand, line and item.

MATCH THE CATEGORY. CHECK THE MEASUREMENTS.

When a tag prints several national sizes, retain the brand's own size table instead of substituting a generic conversion. Women's clothing, men's tailoring and footwear need different charts. Letter sizes, denim and accessories also need their own fit information. Compare the original marking, the relevant chart and actual measurements. Vintage fit, alterations and cut can change the fit; a US comparison is a guide, not a guarantee.

If the sizing system or original marking cannot be confirmed from the available photograph, we say so rather than assigning a country or inventing a conversion.

REFERENCE READING

Nordstrom: designer clothing conversion reference

Maison Margiela: category-specific size guide

Yohji Yamamoto: measuring garments

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