

01 / THE HOUSE STORY

The people. The point of view.



THE BEGINNING

Ralph Lauren

Ralph Lauren began in 1967 with neckties under the Polo name and grew into a broad portfolio of luxury, lifestyle and diffusion labels. Authentication starts by identifying the exact line - for example Polo Ralph Lauren, Ralph Lauren Collection, Purple Label, RRL/Double RL, RLX, Lauren and historical labels - because legitimate materials, labels and price tiers differ dramatically. Use 1967 as the company anchor, then line-specific milestones such as RRL and Purple Label introductions to frame later pieces. Ralph Lauren frequently revisits archival Americana, so vintage-looking graphics, patches and washes must be dated with labels and product information. Polo Sport wording is not a hard ≥ 1991 or ≥ 1992 date marker.

FOUNDED

1967

ORIGIN

New York, USA

WHY THE DETAILS MATTER

Modern Ralph Lauren product identifiers and digital product IDs can support model matching. The company has rolled out Digital Product IDs across large portions of its portfolio, beginning with Polo; where a QR-enabled Digital Product ID is present and officially supported, use the brand experience as one evidence source rather than as the sole verdict. 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

Ralph Lauren Collection Luxury collection Women's luxury ready-to-wear, tailoring, eveningwear, footwear and accessories.	
Ralph Lauren Purple Label Men's luxury line Men's luxury tailoring, sportswear, outerwear, footwear and accessories.	1995
Double RL / RRL Heritage line Heritage menswear and womenswear, denim, workwear, Western, military and vintage-informed sportswear.	1993
Polo Ralph Lauren Core lifestyle line Men's, women's and children's sportswear, tailored clothing, outerwear, accessories and related lifestyle categories.	
Lauren Ralph Lauren Lifestyle line Women's sportswear, denim, dresses, accessories and footwear; men's tailored clothing; Lauren Home categories.	

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Names, lines & relationships · continued

RLX Ralph Lauren Performance line Performance sportswear, golf apparel, technical outerwear and athletic lifestyle products.	1998
Polo Ralph Lauren Children Children's line Children's apparel and accessories.	
Chaps Licensed lifestyle brand family Men's, women's and children's lifestyle apparel plus home categories through licensed distribution.	
Polo Sport Polo performance sub-label Performance-inspired sportswear, technical outerwear, graphic sportswear and archival/revival capsules.	1992
Polo Western / Ralph Lauren Polo Western Historical Western line Western-inspired apparel. Ralph Lauren Vintage provides a first-party c.1979 women's denim blazer comparator explicitly attributed to the Ralph Lauren Polo Western collection.	

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Names, lines & relationships · continued

Polo Country

Historical heritage / country line

Historical heritage and country-inspired apparel. Ralph Lauren Vintage provides a first-party Cruise 1984 Polo Country sweater comparator.

Polo Dungarees

Historical utility / denim line

Historical utility, workwear and denim-oriented apparel. Ralph Lauren Vintage provides a first-party c.1990 Polo Dungarees utility-jacket comparator.

Ralph Lauren Black Label

Historical luxury line

Period luxury and designer apparel; exact category scope varies across the line's documented years.

Ralph Lauren Blue Label

Historical line

Historical Ralph Lauren apparel and related lifestyle categories; evaluate by exact product and period.

Rugby Ralph Lauren

2013

Historical collegiate line

Collegiate/preppy sportswear and accessories with youthful, heritage-inspired styling.

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Names, lines & relationships · continued

Denim & Supply Ralph Lauren Historical denim / youth line Denim, casual sportswear, weathered utility, bohemian and youth-oriented lifestyle apparel.	2011
Polo Jeans Co. Historical denim / sportswear line Denim-based men's and women's contemporary sportswear aimed at a younger market.	1996

Luxury: Ralph Lauren Collection (women) and Purple Label (men). Heritage: Double RL / RRL. Core lifestyle: Polo Ralph Lauren. Performance: RLX and the revived Polo Sport line. Historical Polo-family identities such as Polo Western, Polo Country and Polo Dungarees must be preserved when explicit on the garment or established by exact first-party documentation; they are not generic Polo label variants. Additional current families include Lauren Ralph Lauren, Polo Ralph Lauren Children and Chaps.

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A story in chapters

1967	Ralph Lauren House origins · Ralph Lauren
1992	Polo Sport Line / house introduction in the cited records
1993	Double RL / RRL Line / house introduction in the cited records
1995	Ralph Lauren Purple Label Line / house introduction in the cited records
1996	Polo Jeans Co. Line / house introduction in the cited records
1998	RLX Ralph Lauren Line / house introduction in the cited records
2011	Denim & Supply Ralph Lauren Line / house introduction in the cited records

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A story in chapters · continued

2013

Rugby Ralph Lauren

Last year recorded here; not necessarily a closure

COLLECTION CONTEXT

Ralph Lauren began in 1967 with neckties under the Polo name and grew into a broad portfolio of luxury, lifestyle and diffusion labels. Authentication starts by identifying the exact line - for example Polo Ralph Lauren, Ralph Lauren Collection, Purple Label, RRL/Double RL, RLX, Lauren and historical labels - because legitimate materials, labels and price tiers differ dramatically. Use 1967 as the company anchor, then line-specific milestones such as RRL and Purple Label introductions to frame later pieces. Ralph Lauren frequently revisits archival Americana, so vintage-looking graphics, patches and washes must be dated with labels and product information. Polo Sport wording is not a hard >=1991 or >=1992 date marker. Ralph Lauren Vintage now documents multiple archivist-certified pieces dated circa 1990 with explicit Polo Sport branding, plus a Spring 1991 garment described as using Polo Sport branding before the official launch. Ralph Lauren's own heritage history nevertheless dates the formal Polo Sport launch to 1992. Treat the circa 1990 dates as first-party item-level circa dating, not proof that the formal line had launched by 1990.

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04 / A WORKED EXAMPLE FROM OUR CATALOG

Read the label. Find the details.



THE COMPLETE ITEM

RALPH LAUREN Size 8 Plaid Camel Wool Suede Trim Jacket

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

RALPH LAUREN COLLECTION · 8

02 / HOW TO USE IT

Keep COLLECTION in the label transcription. The complete name is more useful for line research than grouping every piece under the broader Ralph Lauren name.

03 / WHAT TO CHECK NEXT

The size tab is separate from the line wording. Record 8 as printed, compare measurements, and request the care label for composition and country.

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SOURCES / SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION

Research & image credits

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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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