

The people. The point of view.



THE BEGINNING

Tom Ford

Tom Ford founded his namesake brand in 2005 after his influential design leadership at Gucci and Yves Saint Laurent. The TOM FORD business spans fashion, leather goods, footwear, accessories, eyewear and beauty, with category-specific licensing and manufacturing arrangements that can legitimately produce different label formats. Use 2005 as the namesake launch. Ownership/licensing relationships have changed, and current fashion and accessories operate under Zegna Group arrangements while other categories have separate partners. Date and authenticate within the correct product category and business era.

FOUNDED

2005

ORIGIN

New York, USA

WHY THE DETAILS MATTER

TOM FORD product/style references can support exact-model matching, but code formats can differ across fashion, eyewear, beauty and licensed categories. Identify the category and responsible manufacturer/licensee before interpreting a 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. Read the Tom Ford care label literally before trying to date it.

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.

An independent educational guide by Sui Generis. Unaffiliated with the featured designer; these references cannot establish an individual item’s authenticity.

Names, lines & relationships

TOM FORD FASHION

Licensed fashion business

Men's and women's fashion, accessories, fine jewelry, textile and home design products.

TOM FORD BEAUTY

Beauty and fragrance category operated by brand owner

Fragrance, makeup, skincare and beauty.

TOM FORD EYEWEAR

Licensed eyewear category

Optical frames and sunglasses.

The Estée Lauder Companies is sole owner of the TOM FORD brand and IP. Zegna Group operates TOM FORD FASHION under exclusive long-term license; Marcolin holds the eyewear license; TOM FORD BEAUTY sits with the brand owner/Estée Lauder beauty business.

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.

An independent educational guide by Sui Generis. Unaffiliated with the featured designer; these references cannot establish an individual item’s authenticity.

A story in chapters

2005

Tom Ford

House origins · Tom Ford

COLLECTION CONTEXT

Tom Ford founded his namesake brand in 2005 after his influential design leadership at Gucci and Yves Saint Laurent. The TOM FORD business spans fashion, leather goods, footwear, accessories, eyewear and beauty, with category-specific licensing and manufacturing arrangements that can legitimately produce different label formats. Use 2005 as the namesake launch. Ownership/licensing relationships have changed, and current fashion and accessories operate under Zegna Group arrangements while other categories have separate partners. Date and authenticate within the correct product category and business era.

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.

An independent educational guide by Sui Generis. Unaffiliated with the featured designer; these references cannot establish an individual item's authenticity.

04 / A WORKED EXAMPLE FROM OUR CATALOG

Read the label. Find the details.



THE COMPLETE ITEM

TOM FORD Size M Pink Micro Plaid Cotton Long Sleeve Shirt

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

TOM FORD, partly covered by the collar

02 / HOW TO USE IT

The neck label is the relevant detail, but the collar obscures part of it. Photograph the label with the collar opened so the full wording and stitching can be recorded.

03 / WHAT TO CHECK NEXT

This partial view is insufficient for small-label details. Request the inside care and size tags before recording composition, manufacturing country or a product reference.

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.

An independent educational guide by Sui Generis. Unaffiliated with the featured designer; these references cannot establish an individual item's authenticity.

SOURCES / SEPTEMBER 2026 EDITION

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.elcompanies.com/en-gb/our-brands/tom-ford>
- <https://www.zegnagroup.com/en/tom-ford-fashion/>
- <https://www.elcompanies.com/en/news-and-media/newsroom/press-releases/2023/04-28-2023-173011791>
- <https://www.tomfordbeauty.com/>
- <https://www.tomfordfashion.com/>
- <https://www.vogue.com/fashion-shows/designer/tom-ford>
- <https://suigenerisconsignment.com/products/tom-ford-size-m-pink-micro-plaid-cotton-long-sleeve-shirt>

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.

An independent educational guide by Sui Generis. Unaffiliated with the featured designer; these references cannot establish an individual item’s authenticity.

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

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.

An independent educational guide by Sui Generis. Unaffiliated with the featured designer; these references cannot establish an individual item’s authenticity.