

# The Tastemaker

Lucia van der Post's favourite things



Build your dream jeans at Selfnition

## ✂ JEANIUS IDEA

The semiotics of jeans are intricate and often quite baffling but one thing all are (mostly) agreed upon is this – they should fit and fit properly. Selfnition is a Swiss brand which has hit upon a brilliant way of giving every customer a bespoke jean at very reasonable prices. It has an online system that enables each customer not only to choose colour, waist design, placement of pockets and fit (slim, flared, ankle length and so on), but also give measurements (a video shows the customer exactly how to take their own measurements), all of which are then incorporated into the jeans. All for around £179 a time. Genius, we say. [selfnition.co.uk](http://selfnition.co.uk)

## PLATE SPINNING >>

August is picnic time and while I have long had a soft spot for the National Trust tin plates that sport designs copied from the grand old Staffordshire pottery company, this summer it is Marks & Spencer that has captured my patronage. It is selling some absolutely fabulous light melamine plates that look for all the world like old-fashioned blue and white china (£4 for dinner plate size, £3.50 for side plates). For purists who like things more austere, Lakeland has some beautiful ones in a stone-effect white with a thin silver border (£4.59 each). [marksandspencer.com](http://marksandspencer.com)



M&S's pretty blue and white melamine plates are perfect for picnics



Solidteknics cookware

## << WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

All those who hate the idea of waste and are tired of the incessant emphasis on the new, BuyMeOnce.com is well worth a trawl. Its basic idea is to promote the sort of enduring classics that we all love and will never ever tire of. So what you will find is a classic Tilley hat (£70), a beautiful black and white classic Turkish scarf (£35), Solidteknics cookware (from £99 for a tiny skillet) – you get the idea. It offers a wide range of everything, from kitchen and homeware to fashion, jewellery, accessories, health and beauty products. Nothing but the tried and tested passes muster here. [buymeonce.com](http://buymeonce.com)

## LUXURY IN BRIEF



CASE IN POINT

This column isn't usually one to be swayed by the shopping habits of the rich and famous but Meghan Markle's Stow First Class Tech Case has got us thinking. It looks like a traditional leather case but it houses space for travel documents, a wallet, powerbank charger and cable, an international foldaway plug set and a powerful memory stick (£375). For an extra £6 there's an extra adaptor pack available. Just the thing for those who need to work on the go. [stowlondon.co.uk](http://stowlondon.co.uk)



IN THE SINK

Just the thing to cheer up a less than spectacular loo are some wondrously colourful, patterned basins designed by Anna Callis for the London Basin Company. Modern versions of Middle Eastern and oriental basins, they are all made of porcelain and there are some ten different designs – all glorious. From £620 each. [londonbasincompany.com](http://londonbasincompany.com)



TOP TIP

Make-up artist of choice for many a great photographer and many a showbiz star, Attracta Courtney has a great tip for those wanting a bit more of a glow to their summer beauty routine. Take a tiny bit of Nivea Creme (£1.39 from Boots and much underrated in her view) and massage it into the cheeks. Result – instant radiance. [attractabeautyawards.com](http://attractabeautyawards.com)