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Fringe Fever: Amanda Brooks on her Moccasin Obsession

PHOTO GALLERY



Minnetonka fringed boot, \$43.45 from www.zappos.com

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Fringe Fever: Amanda Brooks on her Moccasin Obsession



Three times in my daughter's eight years I have bought her **Minnetonka suede moccasins** hoping she would wear them. And each time she refused. Even at age two—they were bright-red suede mocs with the cute Native American beading—she wouldn't even put them on. No reason given, just outright refusal. My most recent and last attempt was this year, before school started. I got her the fringe-y brown boots this time—similar to ones a lot of her friends have. Still no. After the fourth or fifth time I tried to get her to wear them to school she finally turned to me and said, "Mommy, why don't you just get a pair for yourself?" She has never been more right.

I've loved all forms of Minnetonka boots and mocs since I was in the third grade and had a purple pair myself. I guess my resistance to wearing them as a grown-up was that they seemed to me like a real **Kate Moss** signature. Most girls I know would readily confess to spending a fair amount of concentration trying to look as good in their clothes as Kate Moss does, but I guess I felt I didn't need to be so obvious about it. Then the solution arrived with my fall **J.Crew** catalog. The designers there have reinvented the **fringe-y ankle boot** in a way that still looks classic (rich brown suede, comfy rubber moccasin soles) but also new (the fringe has been moved from the ankle to run down the front seams). I haven't taken them off since they arrived.

Boots like these can go almost anywhere, from morning school drop-off to work in my office to casual meetings. And because bohemian is definitely not the trend in fashion now, I feel I have added something personal to my closet that makes my trendier things—such as my black Chanel biker jacket—seem less of the moment and more comfortably situated in my overall look.

—Amanda Brooks

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Editor/socialite Amanda Brooks writes about her obsession with Minnetonka Moccasins, and how she's loved them since she was in third grade!