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LE CADDIE

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Before I came to Paris I thought that shopping trolleys (known in France as a 'Caddie') strictly existed for the over 70 market, and you would not have been able to pay me to be seen in public with one. When we got here I spotted someone close to my age with a caddie who was fairly normally dressed; I thought they were being ironic, but then I spotted another and another... everybody had one!!

The Caddie has had a revival in Paris and it makes complete sense! It is impossible to drive to the supermarket here, so why risk cutting off your circulation with plastic bag handles when you can load all your groceries into a trolley and gracefully pull them along behind you. It has also really cut down on the use of plastic bags; shopkeepers are now checking whether you have your caddies with you before bagging your groceries! The bigger supermarkets like Monoprix even loan out caddies if you happen to have bought more than you had planned for.

As this is the city of style, caddies come in a huge amount of variety. (How cute is this one from Orla Kiely)?! Gone are the days of the tartan caddie; now you find them everywhere in every shape, colour and price imaginable. Some have freezer compartments, some have bottle holders and some can be folded down into tiny little packages.

I cannot believe the caddie craze has not caught on everywhere!

- Emilie

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