

# Grand DESIGNS

*The singing career, the fashion empire, the insanely cute rock-royalty family – Gwen Stefani's sitting pretty*

**You're looking pretty hot at the moment – have you been dieting like a demon since Zuma was born?**

I go through waves with food. I'm probably like everyone else. If something cool is coming up and I want to look good, I get into my healthy fitness rage and I take care of myself really good. And as soon as it's over it's like, "Hurray, let's go get pizza!" It's the best way to be.

**You're always updating your look – do you come up with new ideas, or do you have a team of stylists?**

**‘ I GET INTO MY FITNESS RAGE AND I TAKE CARE OF MYSELF ’**

I have the initial inspiration and the ideas and then basically everybody that I work with now is just super talented. I'll come up with an inspiration and they will just run with it.

**Have you always had a really strong sense of your own style?** My mom loved clothes and I think it's in my blood! Every holiday we always got to go to the fabric store, look through the books and choose the patterns, the buttons and the zippers. I love clothes and fashion – it's an extension of my personality. It really isn't important in life, but it's fun.

**What about when you started performing? Were you making your own stage costumes?**

I always made my own clothes, so when we first went on tour as a band I sat around and made three outfits – they were cartoonish, Disneyland dresses. Then I got more lucky making money and hooked up with a girl who made my clothes for me. So I'd be on tour and I could say, "Make the polka-dot pants in yellow with a top with black stripes," and she would send them out to me. Then I met this girl, [celebrity stylist] Andrea Lieberman, who was so cool. She's cooler than me and we really connected

and she took all my ideas and streamlined them and made them better, and I was blown away.

**You're touring with No Doubt for the first time since Zuma was born. It must be interesting being on the road with your band and your kids!** Yeah, but I love going on tour. I get really excited and we have a blast.

**What made you want to tour and not just stay at home being a mum?** It was really done on a whim. The



whole plan was that I was going to come out of recording [2006 solo album] *The Sweet Escape*, get pregnant, make a record and go on tour. But when I was pregnant, it was a little more consuming than I thought it would be. All I could do was eat and not write. Then I was sitting around after having the baby trying to write and I was like, "I just don't want to be in this room right now. Let's just go on tour and get inspired."

**So where do you live now?** We have a house in LA and right in the middle of London. You open the door and there you are – but all the houses in London are like that. We're right across the street from the park, so it's nice.

I don't know where she stole hers from, but her clothes are so wearable.

**What's your biggest extravagance when it comes to clothes?** When I go to London I splurge on Vivienne's clothes and come home with bags full of her stuff. I'll buy whatever I can because I love her clothes and they fit me really good. They fit so well, she's spectacular.

**Does your hubby Gavin Rossdale ever help you pick out new stuff?** Gavin's got really good taste. I try to impress him so when I go out to buy something, I think, "Will he like it?" You want to look good for the person you're hot for. ■

## ABSOLUTELY fabulous!

Right from the start, Gwen's flaunted those rock-hard abs of hers. Twenty-three years in the band and two kids later, she's still bringing her A-game



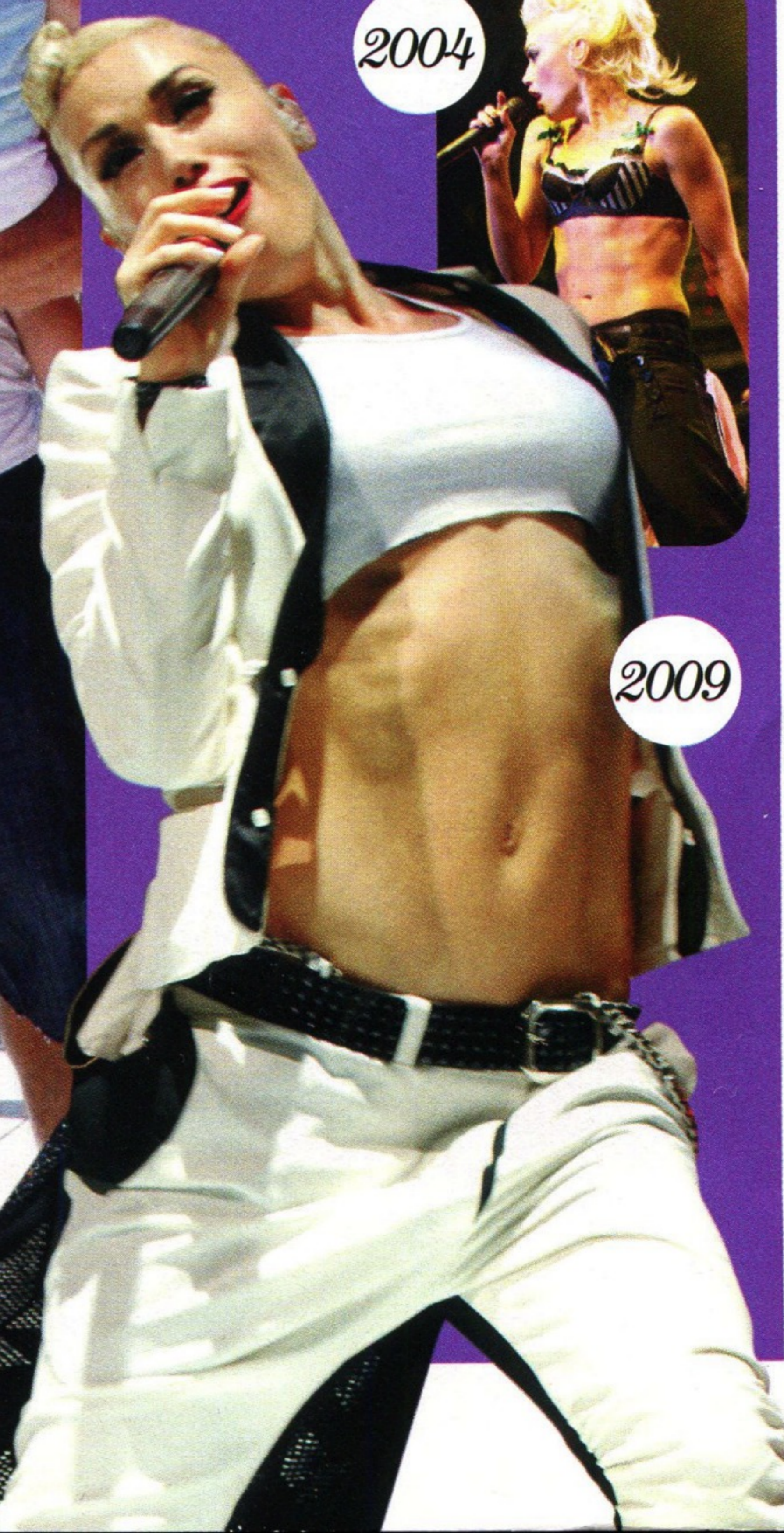
1998



2003



2004



2009

## I COULD EASILY MAKE MONEY CASHING IN ON MY FANS

**How is your fashion label L.A.M.B. going?** L.A.M.B. is great. I love doing all that designing stuff – for me it isn't stressful, it is really fun and I get to have all the stuff, so it's just like a dream come true!

**What are your plans for the range in the future?** I want to do everything, eventually. It starts to get to be a lot and right now I feel spread a little thin. I can't really do everything at the same time, but hopefully some day.

**How involved are you in the label's designing process?** I'm really involved. I love fashion just as much as writing or music or performing. Design is something I would love to do forever. I've been asked to be the spokesperson for loads of beauty products, all sorts of different commercial products, and that was never anything I was interested in doing. I could easily go out and make tons of money cashing in on my fans, trying to do something they could afford at Target, but I'm not really interested in that.

**Who's your favourite fashion designer? Who's inspired you the most?** Vivienne Westwood. I'm a Vivienne Westwood maniac! The first fashion show I ever went to was Vivienne Westwood. Talk about stealing her ideas!



Looking fab at 40, Gwen steps out with hubby Gavin Rossdale and sons Kingston, three, and Zuma, one