

In an interview in the 90s, Liverpool legend Robbie Fowler (a childhood Everton fan) admitted that his favourite football kit as a young boy was the Everton Le Coq Sportif 83–85 home design.



3 1982–83

Design: UMBRO
Sponsor: HAFNIA

The second set of Umbro strips worn in the 80s was complemented by this yellow third strip. Worn with the same shorts and socks as the standard away kit, this shirt was sported in those awkward games against teams whose kits featured large areas of blue and white in one form or another. Utilising the same design as home and away shirts of the period, this strip is one of the rarest worn by the club.

Worn in: The 2–2 draw with West Bromwich Albion at the Hawthorns in the 82–83 season.

Worn by: Andy King, Kevin Sheedy, Derek Mountfield.



H 1983–84, 1984–85

Design: LE COQ SPORTIF
Sponsor: HAFNIA

The club's deal with Umbro ended in 1983 and in came Le Coq Sportif, who in the early 80s were redefining modern kit aesthetics. Their first outfit for the club was stunning and coincided with the greatest period in the club's history. The shirt featured the unique Le Coq Sportif continental neck design, a new version of the club badge and vertical shadow stripes. Also worn with the third kit blue shorts.

Worn in: Two consecutive FA Cup finals: a 1–0 win over Watford in 83–84 and a 1–0 defeat the next year vs Man Utd. Also, the epic 3–1 victory over Bayern Munich in the 84–85 Cup Winners Cup semi-final, followed by success in the final vs Rapid Vienna.

Worn by: Andy Gray, Adrian Heath.



A 1983–84, 1984–85

Design: LE COQ SPORTIF
Sponsor: HAFNIA

Away kit colours often come in trends and in the early 80s grey became the hue of choice, as demonstrated by this Le Coq Sportif outfit. The design replicated that of the home kit, with the silver/grey replacing the blue. As the primary function of football kit design is to ensure the players are distinctly visible, it is curious that grey has had moments of popularity as a shirt colour. Still, a magnificent Everton side won the Division 1 title in the 84–85 season while wearing this kit away from home, so it can't be all bad!

Worn in: A good 1–0 win over Ipswich in the 84–85 FA Cup quarter-final replay and a 1–0 win at Chelsea later that season.

Worn by: Kevin Ratcliffe, Peter Reid.



3 1983–84, 1984–85

Design: LE COQ SPORTIF
Sponsor: HAFNIA

Having grey as an away colour can cause some clash problems, but the Toffeemen always had this neat yellow shirt to fall back on. Seldom worn, when it did appear it was paired with blue shorts and trademark Le Coq Sportif-style blue hooped socks. Perhaps the strip's greatest night was the European Cup Winners Cup quarter-final success in 84–85 against Fortuna Sittard. The shirt also saw the distinctive Le Coq Sportif neck replaced by a more conventional design.

Worn in: A competent 2–1 win over Leicester at Filbert Street and the awful 4–1 defeat at Coventry (both 84–85).

Worn by: Graeme Sharp, Gary Stevens, Paul Bracewell, Trevor Steven.

Apart from Kejian mobile phones, the other major arrival from the Far East in the 02–03 season was Chinese player Li Tie.



A 2001–02

Design: PUMA
Sponsor: ONE 2 ONE

For their next away kit Puma studied the history books and turned up with a silver/grey shirt obviously reminiscent of the classic Everton away kit of the mid-80s. Unfortunately, unlike that great side the 01–02 team did not win a single League game wearing it. On first inspection it was a very minimal style, but a closer look at the shirt revealed, aside from its new holographic-style badge, an intricate design of reversed seams and different contemporary fabrics.

Worn in: A worthy 2–2 draw at Leicester and a 3–0 whipping at Stamford Bridge by Chelsea.

Worn by: Tony Hibbert, Niclas Alexandersson, Kevin Campbell, David Weir.



3 2001–02

Design: PUMA
Sponsor: ONE 2 ONE

Puma's nostalgic look into the past continued with the style of this seldom-worn third kit. The shirt borrowed the salmon pink colour of the club's away shirt from the early 90s, which was in turn inspired by one of the club's earliest strips from the 1800s (which may explain this kit's unfeasibly long shorts). The shirt featured black sleeves and pink piping from collar to cuff. New manager David Moyes replaced Walter Smith late in the season and managed to save the club from relegation yet again.

Worn in: The disappointing 1–0 defeat to Blackburn at Ewood Park.

Worn by: Scott Gemmill, Abel Xavier, Thomas Graveson.



H 2002–03

Design: PUMA
Sponsor: KEJIAN

The club's next home strip was a real gem. This new tight-fitting shirt was produced to mark the club's 100 years in the top flight and included a nice commemorative logo on the right-hand sleeve, featuring an image of club hero Dixie Dean. The shirt had a blue continental collar and white reversed seams that mapped an elegant design across the shirt. Also worn with blue change shorts.



Worn in: The 2–1 win over Arsenal at Goodison Park and the Worthington Cup triumph on penalties over Newcastle (3–3 AET).

Worn by: Wayne Rooney (when he scored a wonderful late goal in the 2–1 win vs Arsenal).



A 2002–03

Design: PUMA
Sponsor: KEJIAN

After four years as shirt sponsor One 2 One (who had recently been bought by T Mobile) were replaced by another mobile phone company, Kejian, forging a link between the club and China. An unfussy strip, it was simple and stylish and included a vertical blue line down each side of the shirt and a unique V-neck design. It also featured the 100-years motif on the right-hand sleeve.



Worn in: A heavy 4–1 defeat to Chelsea in the Worthington Cup. Also the humiliating 2–1 defeat to Shrewsbury in the FA Cup 3rd round.

Worn by: Peter Clarke, Joe-Max Moore.