

# The band of boys

They are not the *bahu*, *beti* or *saas*, but television's men make for interesting variety. *HT Style* takes a look at the latest crop



From left: Ram Kapoor, Karan Wahi, Iqbal Khan, Manoj Bohra and Hiten Tejwani

## Kohama Ras and Piyush Roy

The idiot box may be crowded with women — *bachus*, *betis*, *maas* — but it's the men who are getting increasingly interesting. Archana Puran Singh once rightly said, "If women are supposed to be watching TV most, then where are the men on TV?" So though it was a trifle difficult to sift the men in the primetime crowd, here is a lowdown on five broad categories that men on the small-screen can be classified into.

## The Suave Man

**How to spot him:** Always in power suits, jackets and ties. Occasionally you can even spot a handkerchief in his breast pocket. Usually with gelled hair, grey streaks and contact lenses, has a 'wise/mature been-there-done-that' body language.

**Prototype:** Ram Kapoor (in *Kasamh Se*), Rishi Roy (in *Kasauti Zindagi Kay*), Anoop Soni (*Kohami Ghar Ghar Ki*).

**Our best bet:** Stern, yet master of understated charm, Ram Kapoor leads television's few good men.

## The Chocolate Boy

**How to spot him:** The lean, clean one, with just-sprouting big eyes. He's often the maan's pet

and the female protagonist's most dependable bet. A flirt with a heart of gold and virginal to the point of fault, though belatedly he eventually does warm up to the love of his life.

**Prototype:** Karan Wahi (Gomti), Amit Sahl (Gomti-Dusse), Abhishek Vaidi (*Pyaar Ka*).

## The Drud Dude

**How to spot him:** Between suits and shirts, he's occasionally flashy. Is charming to the hilt and knows how to make his women feel special and go weak in their knees.

**Prototype:** Mohd Iqbal Khan (*Kaisa Yeh Pyaar Hai*), Eijaz Khan (*Kya Hoga Nimmo Ka*), Rishi Roy (*Sarfaraz Bakhsh Ki Anokhi Kahani*).

**Our best bet:** Iqbal Khan because he has a voice to die for and an attitude to match.

## The Rogie

**How to spot him:** You know him from a mile. His reputation precedes him. He usually has long, unkempt hair, sports grey-blue-green glasses, wears more accessories than his female counterparts, often sports a wicked smile, and, lest you forget, has his own signature tune.

**Prototype:** Akash Deep Saigal (*Qumk...*), Chetan Hansraj (*Ka-*

*hani...*), Manoj Bohra (*Kasauti...*).

**Our best bet:** Manoj Bohra is one rascal on the small screen you can't easily ignore.

## The Wimp

**How to spot him:** Unshaven, droopy/sunken eyes (ever ready to break into a flood of tears at the drop of a hat), lashed by a sorry past ranging from betrayal in love to treachery within family.

**Prototype:** Hiten Tejwani (*Kyunki Saas Hai Kabhi Bahu Thi*), Apurva Agnihotri (*Gassi Kaal Ka Nakhra*), Cezanne Khan (*Kasauti Zindagi Kay*).

**Our best bet:** Hiten Tejwani. He clearly wins the race for the Meena Kumari of the idiot box.

## THE ONES TO LOOK OUT FOR



Indraneel Sen Gupta (*Pyar Ke Do Naam Ek Raath Ek Shyam*), Vipul Gupta (*India Calling*) and Sudeep Sahir (*Love Hua*). Though Sudeep has done TV in the past, it's his rusty character in this show that could make him one of TV's favourite boys.