

Manual

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The New Bass Weejun

→ Bass introduced the Weejun loafer in 1936, but it wasn't until the '50s that guys started slipping dimes (the price of a phone call) into the mouths of the shoes' straps. Pennies were substituted eventually, and when James Dean stepped into a pair of loafers, it cemented their iconic status. Since then, they've been enjoyed by all, from schoolboys to punks to elegant prepsters. In 2007, high-fashion labels like Prada and Gucci made versions in designer leathers and exotic skins. This year, Bass has reinvented its trademark loafer with a slimmer profile and modern lines. The result is stunning, and so is the price. The shoe is more fashionable without being *too* fashion-forward. Wear it with a slim khaki suit or a pair of dark jeans. And at \$125 a pair, it's a smart way to master your own reinvention.

—JIM MOORE

Dover by **G.H. Bass & Co.**, \$125 | Where to buy it? See the Directory, page 237.

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