
Rust

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Contextual review and concept:

The purpose for this project is to explore a unique pattern making technique which breaks the rules of traditional pattern making, making the design fun, creative, and functional. Various creative pattern making techniques have been used by researchers to explore and emphasize cutting as a create practice (e.g Lindqvist, 2015) and also to minimize the wastage of fabric (eg. Kallal, 2007). Specifically, this design was inspired by the Planar Flux technique created by Sanah Sharma, 2016). This technique uses not only the X and Y axis, as in traditional pattern making, but also the Z axis. The Mobius strip, discovered in 1858 (Figure 1), was Sharma's inspiration source when developing the Planar flux method. A Mobius strip is defined as a surface that has one continuous side, formed by joining the ends, after twisting it 180 degrees. Examples of turning a pattern piece's ends 180 degrees to create one continuous item are shown below. The goal was to create a two-piece women's dress ensemble using the above approach to bridge traditional and modern patternmaking techniques making the end product versatile.



Figure 1 Mobius Strip

Aesthetical properties and visual impact:

The visual inspiration for the ensemble came from wood carving on ancient Indian doors. The aspect on the doors that caught the designer's attention were the intricate details and the attention-grabbing juxtaposition of structure to curves. The plan was to combine two opposite aspects and create a piece of wearable art. For this purpose, the designer choose to combines volume to structure. The color story inspiration came from the rust on doors caused by climate change over time. Keeping these visual line and color inspirations in mind, an Indian fusion wear ensemble that would combine seemingly opposite elements of comfort and drama was designed. Indian Fusion wear basically is blending together aspects of Indian wear and Western wear to create a unique piece that creates a sense of veracity. The main purpose for creating this garment was to notice that there is more room to grow and be creative in terms of combining both pattern making and draping by adapting to new innovative/ hybrid methods that not only creates one of a kind unique, innovative pieces that can be appreciated by a wider range of customers but also at the same time help minimize fabric wastage (e.g Rissanen & McQuillan, 2016).

Process, Technique and Execution:

The design and construction process began by creating circler pattern pieces and draping them on a ½ scale to visually notice the drape and form that could achieve by simply attaching a

circle to a circle and wrapping it around the body. Selecting fabrics that matched well with the aspect of structure and fluidity was very vital during the design process. The designer chose to work with a rust colored ombre jersey knit for the shell to match up with my inspiration and a polyester silk brocade for good structure and drape ability. Using traditional pattern making technique, an asymmetrical jersey knit shell was created finished with strip binding. This was done to ensure that the finish the garment for better appeal and longevity to meet the higher price point. For the wrap around that goes over the shell, the Planar Flux technique created by Sanah Sharma was used. For this purpose, a total of 4 yards of polyester silk brocade was use. Two large circle with a diameter of 48 inches each were cut and attached together using a French seam to achieve a good length that can drape around the body.

A neck hole was incorporated within one of the circles to help wear ability and sustainability through minimal fabric wastage (Figure2).

The seam and hem of the wrap around was finished with 6 yards of 2 inches wide horse hair and 12 yards of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch elastic binding to increase volume and flow yet have better finish and longevity to meet the target market. The end product was an ensemble that represented the Indian fusion wear, incorporated with volume and drama making it very modern with an Indian twist. Comfort and elegance and quality of the end product was also very vital during the design process.

All of the above mentioned came together really well through experimentation and sustainable design ideas. The end product was a garment that clearly shows its influence and diversity.



Figure 2 Pattern of the Wrap around

Design Contribution and Innovation:

The uniqueness of this design is the combination of experimental pattern making along with tradition silhouettes to make an original garment that is not only comfortable but also esthetically pleasing and wearable. The design created is a one of a kind piece that caters to a broad array of customers.

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Full front view



Full back view



Full side view



Detail: Finishing and drape