

A Pull of Color

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The inspiration of this dress came from a picture of a girl with zippers wrapped around her body. The contrast of heavy gold metal teeth against the girl inspired me to design this red carpet gown with a twist. The dress looks simple at first glance, but reveals an unexpected pop of color between zippers with a movement. Young women with a funky style will wear this dress to special occasions.

I wanted to design a fancy dress made out of ordinary materials that would not usually be used to make gowns. Denim was chosen as it is an inexpensive everyday fabric. The skirt was designed with 12 gores with 12 exposed zippers inserted. The zippers can be opened from the bottom so that the fun color of the lining would show through when the wearer walks. Patterns were developed from sloper patterns and a muslin test garment was made to test a fit.

Patterns were adjusted before developing a final garment. For the bodice, the darts were converted into design lines that could be trimmed with zippers.

Flat pattern technique was used. The dress is fully lined. All the seams were serged and the skirt hem was finished with a rolled hem. The 12 zippers are all exposed and fully functional.

The materials use for the dress included gold coated stretch denim for the bodice; blue stretch denim and dark blue stretch denim for the skirt; Fuchsia 100% Polyester stretch Taffeta for the lining; and Trimming-#5 Gold exposed zippers. This project was completed in March 2013. The measurements for the garment are: bust 38", waist 30", and hips 41".



