

Fun With Stripes

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design, stripes, cotton

The purpose of Fun With Stripes is to use the inherent qualities of the striped fabric to create a unique textile design that would inspire the garment design. The one inch, even stripe both constrained and drove the design process, and it allowed for experimentation into miters, angles, and seaming. The fabric was engineered in several ways to create the design of the two-piece garment: 1) the stripe was pleated to eliminate the white portion and create a slimming "solid" fabric for the waistline and border for the hemline, 2) the stripe was mitered on the center back bodice and pieced on the collar to create interesting design accents, 3) the fabric was cut into strips and resewn in an alternating pattern to create the checkerboard effect on the slim skirt, 4) and the width of the stripe was used to create one-inch boxes, with blue and white sides, for the button-like front closure.



The design is unique in that it cannot be replicated using any textile pattern other than a one inch stripe. The plain weave and stability of the 100% cotton fabric contributed to the success of the engineered stripes. The size 8 garment was completed in May 2013.