

Girl Gang

Mackenzie Robinson and MyungHee Sohn

California State University of Long Beach, USA

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Girl Gang is designed as a feminist statement piece, with the concept that women can do anything. An ode to feminists and feminism in the past, present, and future, this look is made for the modern woman. The lettermen jacket is like a shell that protects women from a man's world, while giving strength, courage, and confidence. Meanwhile the dress is representative of the natural spirit of women. The movement of the dress dances with the strut of the woman wearing it. The concept of Girl Gang is to empower girls, encourage individualism, and celebrate womanhood.

A regular lettermen jacket typically highlights the achievements of having been apart of a sports team, while the "M" patch placed on the Girl Gang jacket is a reward for being on the women's team, feminism. Sharp shoulders are structured with tailored shoulder pads to metaphorically barrel through the huddle and to fight the opposing team. The trench-like yoke overlays the back bodice and that let's the dirt and gravel, or "sticks and stones", roll off. Placed under the back yoke is a textured piece created by woven strips in a plain weave structure. Symbolic for the Girl Gang feminists have created, the woven back piece stands for all of the people that have come together to create, and fight for something bigger. The Girl Gang jacket shell is made from 100% black wool, which was chosen for its durability and natural insulation. Wool is a symbol of armor for the women army, sticking through all weather conditions and always keeping the core warm. The square shape of the jacket is slightly masculine, while the slim sleeves and shoulders balance out with femininity, noting that women can be sexy without sacrificing modesty. The Girl Gang jacket also includes two double welt pockets, an asymmetrical front zipper, and belt loops for an option of a waist belt. The seams are finished with a single topstitch for extra stability and for extra design detail. The Girl Gang jacket is fully lined throughout the sleeves and bodice with a floral print polyester blend. I chose to use a floral print



as a lining to speak to the inner woman. I think it is important to stay raw on the inside even if you act tough on the outside because it makes for a stronger person, which is, in theory, what this jacket is all about, being a strong individual. The woven piece on the back bodice is unlined. This way you can sneak-a-peak through the open gaps to view whatever garments are underneath. As stated before, this part of the jacket is meant to represent coming together and uniting. The back yoke overlay was inspired by traditional trench coats. I loved the idea of a piece that was slightly separated from the garment, but also still keeping the structural theme. This part of the jacket gives a little more dimension in the width, which is interesting to the eye. This garment was also completely hand tailored using traditional tailoring methods. With sew-in hair canvas, I structured the front bodice, back bodice, collar, and shoulders in order to achieve the shape I was going for. The way this garment was crafted was to follow a woman throughout all moments of life. It is durable and comfortable, while staying cool and relaxed.



The Girl Gang dress is a two tier, fully lined, 100% silk dress. To create the top tier, the pattern was contoured, slashed and spread, allowing for a flowing top piece, and a very low and narrow armhole. Underneath the overlay is a fitted bodice with contoured darts to create a better fit. The bodice is in a contrasting fabric, which peaks through the center front and back of the dress top. With a high and narrow halter neckline, the delicate shoulders and arms are highlighted. Gliding over the shoulders to a racer back shape, the shoulder blades are exposed and outlined for a flattering figure. Woven down the center front and center back of the waist length top tier, is a leather string finished with handmade tassels, topped with leather details. I liked the idea of having a laced up detail because its symbolic for women lacing up and getting down to business. The loops created for this effect are made from self-fabric spaghetti. The bottom tier circle skirt is separated into 16 different style pieces subtly designed to represent the struggles women have had on the road to equal rights, while keeping clean and organized. The Girl Gang dress is finalized with invisible side seam pockets below the waistline to make the dress more wearable. All parts of this dress have been under stitched to keep the facings and loops in place.

Together the Girl Gang dress and Girl Gang jacket balance each other in forms of equal femininity and masculinity. This look was carefully designed to translate women's equality into fashion.