

## A Magical Labyrinth

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The inspiration of this design came from intricate gardens featuring labyrinths. Most of these gardens do not have colorful flowers yet it can inspire beauty, balance and simplicity. A labyrinth represents the unconscious desire to find the perfect inner balance. It is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It combines the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a meandering but purposeful path. The labyrinth represents a journey to our own center and back out again into the world (Saward, n.d.). Balance, poise and a sense of natural beauty that are neither forced nor contrived is the essence of my design.

The design process included searching for fabrics with geometric patterns that can represent the labyrinth followed by sketching. A fit-and-flare silhouette was created to emulate the labyrinths with the basic long sleeve, which creates a poised style. The developed patterns were carefully laid out to show the geometric patterns proportionately. The patterns flow through the entire dress forcing you to run your eyes throughout the entire garment. The color black was used to portray a classic and balanced look. The beadings were applied to the necklines, waist and the sleeve hems to add a luxurious detail to the dress.

Draping technique was used to create the dress and the tube top, while the shorts were developed using the flat patternmaking. The tube top and shorts were created to be worn underneath the dress since the dress is transparent. The French seam was used to finish the seams and the raw edges were finished using self-fabric bias tape. The dress is made of 100% polyester burnout chiffon and the tube top and shorts are made of 85% Cotton and 15%



Spandex. A 22 inch invisible zipper and a hook-and-eye were used for the closure. The bias binding was hand sewn, and the beadings were applied by hand.

This original design contributes to the field of textiles and apparel by portraying a magical labyrinth as an inspiration. This unique design captures the balance, the poise and the sophistication in a timeless piece that can be forever remembered.

#### Reference

Saward, J. (n.d.). The story of the Labyrinth. Retrieved from <http://www.labyrinthos.net/labyrinthstory.html>