Realities Royalties<br>Carly Palmer, Appalachian State University, USA

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Realities Royalties is a garment created using men's neckties. The purpose was to create a couture look out of recyclable material to demonstrate how fashion can be ecofriendly as well as displaying a garment that had a wide variety of patterns and different forms of repetition while still remaining cohesive. The shape of triangles was played up in as many ways as possible because both a tie and the recycling symbol create triangles. It is named Realities Royalties because the garment has shades of the color royal blue and the bodice imitates the shape of a crown. Both words also have the word tie in them.

The ties were organized by color. Next, each tie was seam ripped and the lining was removed. The ties were then cut, sized accordingly, ironed and interfaced to make the fabric. The first step was making the lining for the skirt. Next, twelve ties were cut into three pieces; longer tie pieces for the front of the skirt and two shorter pieces for the back. Two black ties were placed on the sides to allow the skirt to have a bigger seam allowance as well as being a figure flattering detail.



An invisible zipper was sewn in the back. The bodice has three layers. The middle piece sandwiched between the lining and fabric that contains boning to give it more structure. The top of the lining was hand sewn to the triangular tip of the ties to finish this seam. Four snaps were sewn in the back. The ties used in the skirt and bodice were placed in the same order. Earrings were also created by using scraps of the same ties used in the outfit and wrapping them around an old pair of earrings. These pieces were then hand sewed and thread was wrapped around the fabric so that it would stay in place.

