

Designing of bolero jackets with abstract motifs

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■ **ABSTRACT :** The present study was undertaken by the investigator to add a new range and interesting ideas which can break monotony and give a touch of novelty in designing of bolero jackets using abstract motifs. Bolero jackets contribute to create a variety of styles which can provide a different look with fashion needs. Thirty abstract motifs were collected and best 5 motifs were selected for the designing of bolero jackets. Various types of designs were prepared using different features for bolero jackets. Finally, five designs were selected to construct prototypes on the basis of consumer preferences. Selected motifs were digitally printed on bolero jackets. Then prototypes were constructed and evaluated. Developed garments were successful to achieve the objectives of the study. All prototypes were liked by the respondents. Thus, the designing of bolero jackets was found very creative and useful for consumers. Present study has fulfilled its objectives with high performance of appreciation.

■ **KEY WORDS:** Bolero jackets, Abstract motifs, Digital printing, Garment designing

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A fashion accessory is an item that is used to contribute in a secondary manner to the wearer's outfit, often used to complete an outfit and chosen to specifically complement the wearer's look. A jacket is usually worn on top of other apparel or item of clothing. A bolero jacket is a short, cropped jacket that usually has long sleeves. A bolero jacket construction is similar to construction of the shrug but made of stiffer fabric. The origin of the name is unknown, though the word 'bolero' is also used to describe a traditional form of Spanish dance, and is the title of a well-known classical music piece by Ravel. Bolero jackets can be made of many different types of fabrics and can be used to dress up or down almost any type of outfit. The cropped shape of the bolero can help to emphasize the waist by

reducing fabric bulk around this area and can also help to create or enhance an hourglass silhouette. A bolero jacket is a mid-stomach-length garment for the upper body.

Abstract motifs are combinations of color, size, and shape without relationship to natural or man-made objects. These add interest to the design and allow a designer greater freedom. Abstract pattern is simply not a figurative. In fact, the abstract designs are the stylized shapes based on the real objects but not in the tradition of patterning that relies on balance and harmony, the basic principle of art and design.

Bolero jackets are generally not designed with the digitally printed abstract motifs. Therefore, researcher carried out present research work with the objective to collect and select various abstract motifs, to develop

design sheets for bolero jackets with abstract motifs, to evaluate the designed sheets for bolero jackets, to construct and evaluate the constructed prototypes and to assess the consumer acceptability of the constructed prototypes

RESEARCH METHODS

Selection of respondents:

A sample of fifty college going girls of the age group 18-25 years was selected randomly for the study. These respondents were selected to evaluate motifs, prepared design sheets and prototypes.

Collection and selection of abstract motifs:

Thirty abstract motifs were collected from secondary sources viz., books, journals, magazines, and internet. These motifs were evaluated using five point rating scale on the basis of clarity of motif and color combination and 5 best motifs were selected.

Development and evaluation of design sheets for bolero jackets with selected motifs:

Twentyfive design sheets of bolero jackets were prepared using selected motifs. Developed designs for bolero jackets were shown to respondents and were assessed using 5-point rating scale on the basis of placement of motif, suitability of design and overall appearance by displaying all the designs to the respondents.

Construction of prototypes:

Five best and most preferred design were constructed into prototypes on the basis of evaluated data of design sheets.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained from the present investigation as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under following heads :

Collection and selection of motifs:

The 30 motifs were collected from secondary sources (Plate 1) and were assessed by the consumers on the basis of clarity of motif and color combination using five point rating scale. Finally, best 5 motifs 1, 9, 12, 14, 21 were selected on the basis of highest overall weighted mean score to develop design sheets for bolero

Motif no.	Clarity of motif	Color combination	Overall weighted mean score
1	4.64	4.48	4.56
9	4.52	4.54	4.53
12	4.56	4.60	4.58
14	4.68	4.52	4.60
21	4.72	4.46	4.59

jackets.

Evaluation of design sheets:

Twenty five design sheets of bolero jackets were prepared using selected motifs and were evaluated on the basis of placement of motif, suitability of design and overall appearance.

Placement of motif:

Fig. 1 reveals the weighted mean scores of selected design sheets on the basis of motif placement. The design sheet 13 and 22 were preferred most as both of them obtained 4.86 weighted mean score. Design sheet 3, 6 and 20 secured 4.8, 4.78 and 4.84 weighted mean scores respectively.

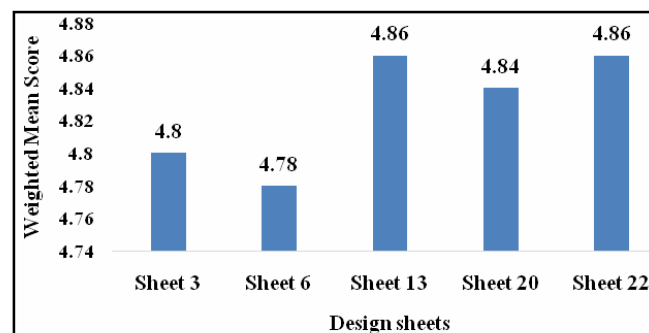


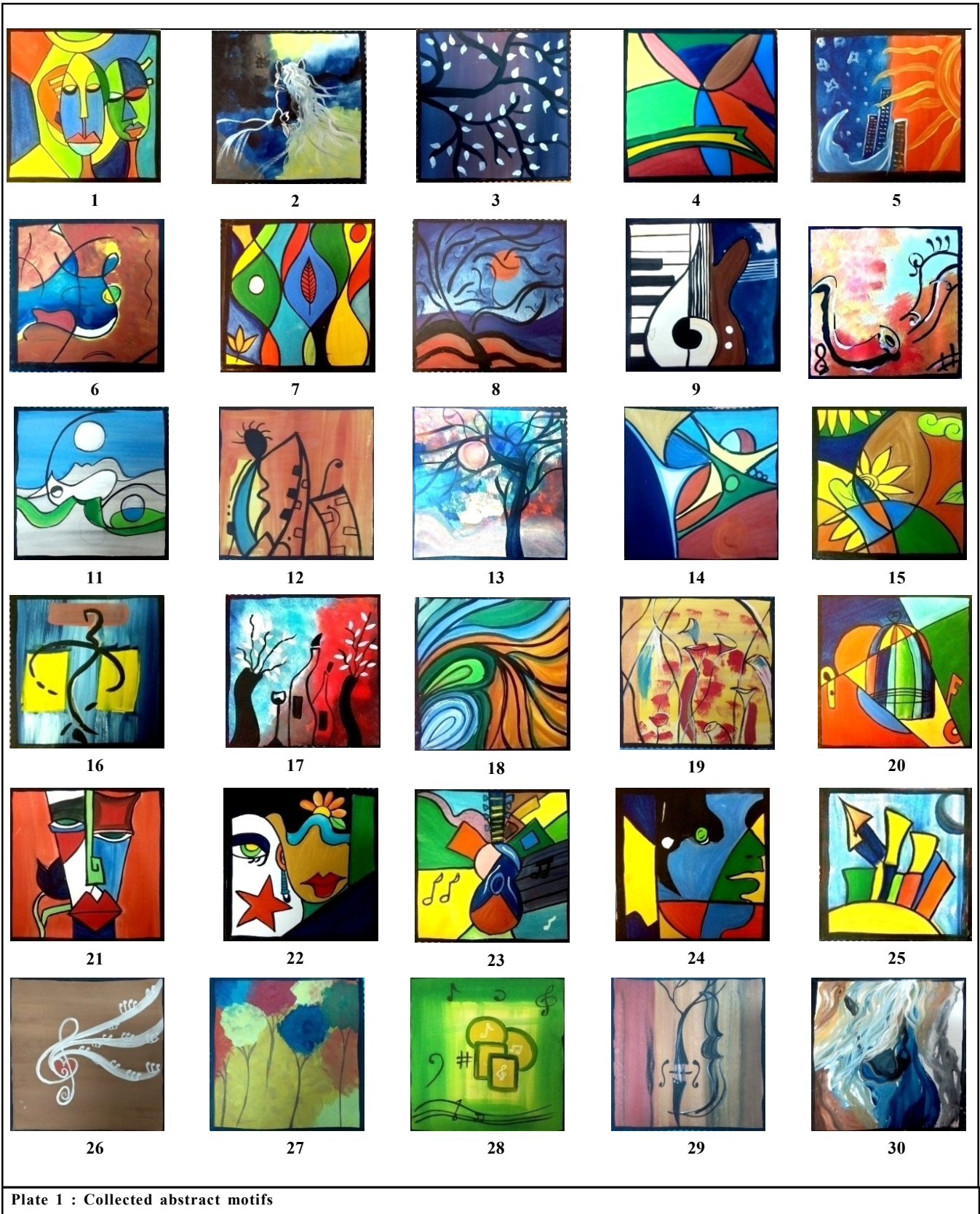
Fig. 1 : Weighted mean scores of selected design sheets based on motif placement

Suitability of design:

It is clear from Fig. 2 that design sheet 22 was preferred most as it obtained highest weighted mean score i.e. 4.88. Design sheet 3 and 6 obtained 4.78 and 4.86, respectively. Both sheets 13 and 20 got 4.82 weighted mean score.

Overall appearance:

Fig. 3 indicates weighted mean scores of 5 best design sheets on the basis of overall appearance. The design sheet 3, 6 and 20 were most preferred as they



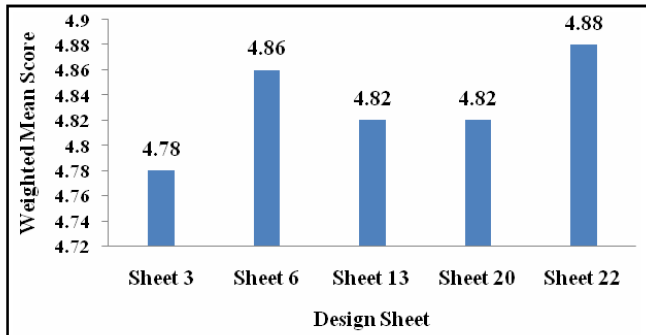


Fig. 2 : Weighted mean scores of selected design sheets based on suitability of design

got 4.92 weighted mean score. Design sheet 13 and 22 secured 4.80 and 4.9 weighted mean scores, respectively.

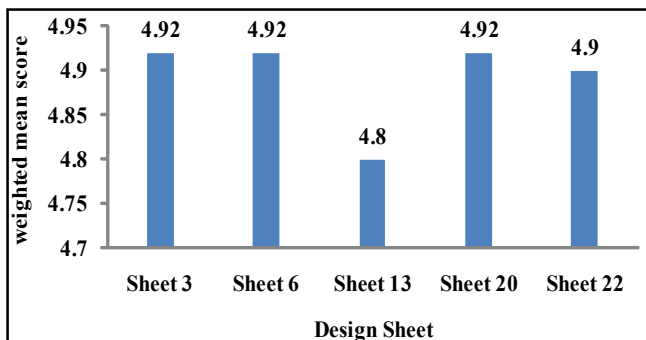


Fig. 3 : Weighted mean scores of selected design sheets based on overall appearance

Average weighted mean score:

Fig. 4 indicates average weighted mean scores of 5 best design sheets which were selected for development of prototypes. Design sheet 22 secured highest weighted mean score *i.e.* 4.88 whereas sheet no 13 obtained lowest weighted mean score *i.e.* 4.80 among all selected designs.

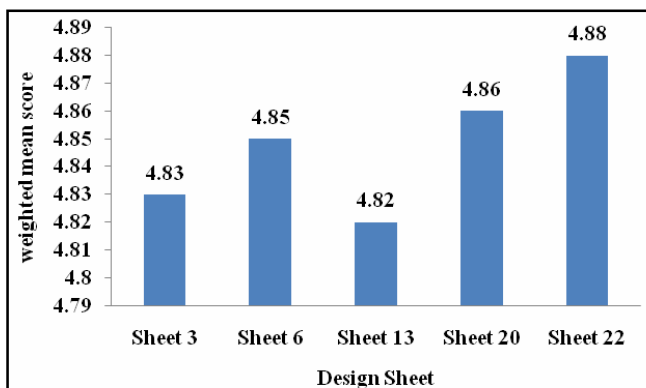


Fig. 4 : Average weighted mean scores of selected design sheets

Construction and evaluation of prototypes:

Bolero jackets were constructed according to selected design sheets. Motifs were digitally printed. Structural details were used in the bolero jackets which were selected by the respondents in design sheets. Prototypes are presented in Plate 2.

Consumer acceptability and for the prototypes:

Prepared prototypes were shown to the respondents for analyzing these on the basis of three criteria *i.e.*, aesthetic appeal, clarity of printing and cost suitability using five point rating scale. Results are presented below.



Plate 2 : Prepared prototypes

Table 2 : Weighted mean scores of prototypes on the basis of aesthetic appeal

Sr. No.	Prototype	Weighted mean score
1.	1	4.62
2.	2	4.53
3.	3	4.34
4.	4	4.63
5.	5	4.78

The weighted mean scores of prototypes on the basis of aesthetic appeal. Prototype 5 was preferred for its aesthetic appeal among all prototypes as it obtained highest weighted mean score of 4.73. Prototypes 1, 2, 3 and 4 secured rating 4.62, 4.53, 4.34 and 4.63 weighted mean scores, respectively.

The weighted mean scores of prototypes on the basis of clarity of printing. Prototype 5 was found to be

Table 3: Weighted mean scores of prototypes on the basis of clarity of printing

Sr. No.	Prototype	Weighted mean score
1.	1	4.55
2.	2	4.44
3.	3	4.30
4.	4	4.56
5.	5	4.80

Table 4 : Average weighted mean scores of developed prototypes

Sr. No.	Prototype	Weighted mean score	Rank
1.	1	4.58	3 rd
2.	2	4.48	4 th
3.	3	4.32	5 th
4.	4	4.59	2 nd
5.	5	4.79	1 st

most clear in terms of printing among all prototypes as it obtained highest weighted mean score 4.80. Prototypes 1, 2, 3 and 4 secured rating 4.55, 4.44, 4.30 and 4.56 weighted mean score, respectively.

That prototype no. 5 got highest weighted mean score (4.79) and chosen by the respondents as the best garments and prototype no. 3 obtain lowest weighted mean score (4.32) and was assigned fifth rank.

Prototypes 4,1 and 2 were given second, third and fourth ranks, respectively.

Conclusion:

It was concluded that the study of designing of bolero jackets with abstract motifs was successful in creating new range of bolero jackets. The consumers liked these jackets and were ready to wear these garments. The features used in the development of these garments were also appreciated by the respondents.

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