

Designing and construction of casual skirts for college going girls using denim and printed cotton

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■ **ABSTRACT** : In the present study, casual wear skirts for college going girls aged between 19-22 years was done using denim and printed cotton. Ten designs were created and evaluated by 30 respondents from Government Home Science College, Chandigarh. Casual wear is the most desired aspect in clothing practices for every age. Conventional denim and cotton are used to create some innovative designer wears. In the present scenario western, dresses are on the mind of young people and adolescents. To break the monotony of designs in fashion world and to provide new and different designs to the apparel industry, the study was undertaken. Of all the components of the women's wardrobe, skirts are one of the most popular dresses. These designer wears can be worn in different combinations according to the individual's interest.

■ **KEY WORDS** : Skirt, Casual wear, Clothing

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Designers are ever evolving new styles for fashion conscious people. Casual wear is the most desired aspect in clothing practices for every age. New colours, textures, silhouette and their combinations are globally in demand. In the present scenario, western dresses are on the mind of young people and adolescents. To break the monotony of designs in fashion world and to provide new and different designs to the apparel industry, the study was undertaken. While the adolescent girls are glamorous and typically traditional in Indian *Salwar Suits* and *Churidars*, the invasion of western dresses like jeans, skirts and middies has picked up momentum in remarkably short time. Of these, skirts are one of the most popular wears of college going girls since these are a convenient casual wear that is fashionable as well. It is surprising that the "skirts" which form part of the wardrobe of a young girl today and which is considered a dress of western origin, is in fact, closest to the very first clothing ever to be worn. Skirt (a rectangular of material tied around the hip) is known to have been worn by men and women of stone age and before, but the skirts have seen a number of variations since then. There

have been changes in their style, form, purpose and design.

■ RESEARCH METHODS

The present study was undertaken to create 10 designs of skirts for college going girls (aged between 19-22 years) and construction of 2 most preferred designs. The investigator evolved 10 designs of skirts using yokes, flare, pleats, gathers, gores, godets and circular patterns. For evaluation of designs, a panel of thirty judges was made having the knowledge of apparel and textile designing. The responses were evaluated to find out the 2 most preferred designs.

Leading shops in the markets of Chandigarh were surveyed for selection of fabrics. Six combinations were selected for evaluation by judges from which the best two combinations were selected. The basic draft of the skirt was prepared by direct drafting method. The designs of selected skirts were adapted from basic skirt block on standardize drafting paper and then their commercial paper patterns were made with complete details. For the estimation of fabric required for both skirts, their paper patterns were referred. According to the design these were stitched by following

the stitching instructions. After stitching the skirts accessories and fasteners were attached and the raw edges were finished.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The experimental findings obtained from the present study have been discussed in following heads:

Creation of designs:

Responses of all the judges were statistically analyzed. The results obtained have been shown in Table 1.

Table 1 reveals the ranks and marks obtained by skirt designs on the basis of evaluation carried out by judges.

Designs	Marks	Ranks
1.	226	1st
2.	158	5th
3.	184	3rd
4.	142	8th
5.	185	2nd
6.	180	4th
7.	154	6th
8.	148	7th
9.	126	10th
10.	139	9th



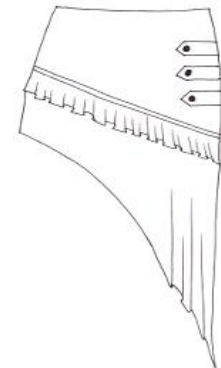
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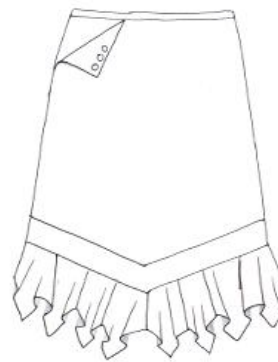
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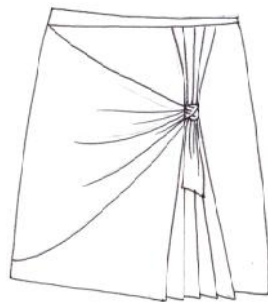
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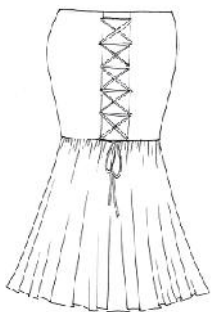
Design no. 10



Design no. 1



Design no. 3



Design no. 2



Design no. 4

Design number 1 got first rank and design number 5 got second rank. These designs were selected for construction.

Construction of skirts:

After the evaluation of fabrics, the amount of fabric required for the construction of skirts was calculated. The fabric was marked and cut by placing paper patterns made on brown sheets. All the skirts were stitched by following the stitching instructions. Fasteners and accessories were attached to the skirts and finishing was done.

Costing of skirts:

The cost of all the skirts was estimated after

construction Table 2. Sood (1985) and Chadda (2003) have also made some contributions on designing making paper pattern and construction of skirts, related to the present investigation.

Table 2 : Costing of constructed skirts

Design no.	Approximate cost of fabric (in Rs)	Approximate cost of accessories (in Rs)	Labour (in Rs)	Total cost (in Rs)
1.	450	55	250	755
5.	250	40	250	540



Design no. 1



Design no. 5

Conclusion:

Designing new garments has widened the scope of garment industry and also gives opportunity to designers to play with colours and textures by using their creativity and imagination. The designing of skirts, which has constantly been a very important part of female attire through the history of fashion, still retains its position of significance. By reviewing various books and internet studies, the present investigation was carried out to construct skirts in selected designs and colours. The design features like yokes, gathers, flares were incorporated in the skirts.

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