

Origami Meets Eco-fashion

Chanjuan Chen, University of North Texas, USA

Keywords: Design, sustainability, origami, variety.



In order to protect our environment, improve fashion workers and suppliers, and satisfy consumers' desires of both sustainable and changeable apparel, this design uses natural resources and origami folding technique, the traditional Japanese art of paper folding to create an interchangeable design for the 18 to 40 year old woman, who enjoys unique structure and variety in fashion. The design targets a globally conscious consumer who wishes to have fashionable design and elements of fun while honoring an eco-friendly aesthetic.

The design started from seven square and rectangular shapes cut from organic cottons designed to minimize the fabric waste. By folding four of them into the shoulder parts, they also create pockets in the second look. When the remaining shapes were stitched together, two form the front, and one forms the back garment. Buttons and a belt were added for fit, and two snaps

placed on the hem of look one for creating the second look of the design; snapped they form the shoulder seam of look two and create cowl armholes.

The garment can be worn in two ways by the use of snaps the top becomes the peplum and the hem becomes the neckline in the second look. As in origami (transforming a flat sheet of paper into a finished sculpture through folding techniques) the folding of fabric along with buttons and snaps successfully transforms the rectangles into fashion. In addition, because the use of cuts or glue is not considered to be origami, the principle of folding influenced the design to achieve less fabric waste, cutting and seams. The choice of the natural color blocking is better to show the shape and construction of the design.

The materials are 100% organic color grown cotton, peach pit buttons, 100% organic cotton thread, and snaps. The size of the garment is US size 4, and the measurements are Bust: 34", Waist: Adjustable.

