

Translation of a Stitch

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This coat was created on the theme translation. When brainstorming about the theme many things came to mind. However, the one thing that stuck with me was how fabric structures are like languages and that fashion and textiles are formed using those languages much like a book uses language to communicate ideas, fashion and textiles use fabric structures to communicate design. Here the idea was to put one of those languages in focus and give it a new expression by using it as embellishment and make the actual structure, the focal point of this coat. It can be compared to a poem where the language is in focus and creates beauty. I knew the fabric for the coat was going to be a woven and therefore I choose to use knit as the embellishing structure. The woven background was able to give the coat the body I was looking for. I looked at knit structure and tried to think of how it could translate into the design without giving the typical knit sweater feel. After lots of ideation and testing the final design evolved.



Using a striped approach I was able to give the knit feel I was looking for. However, instead of having each row of the knit directly next to the other I set a strip of wool in between them and made the knit rows piping with a cord that would come out of the piping and knit to the next row. Each row starts with a hand tied button then comes out to knit in 6 places around the body and once on each sleeve then finishes with a button loop. All shaping of the coat is placed in the stripes as well, including



most of the sleeve seams. To create a more interesting design the stripes are the widest at the top and bottom and become narrower around the waist.