

Shimmering Falls

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This dress was created using the copper colored side of a piece of silk shantung. The teal colored side of the fabric is used for the contrasting waterfall flowing down the side of the dress. There is a polyester sheer overlay on top of the teal colored silk. The lining of the dress is a beige polyester satin fabric.

The inspiration for this garment was the fabric itself. With the beautiful contrast between the teal and the copper and the flow of the fabric, it was reminiscent of a tropical waterfall. The flow of the waterfall was recreated using the contrasting fabric along the contours of the body.

A sloper of a dress front and dress back was digitized and the pattern was modified in Optitex 12 to create the new garment pattern pieces, front and back. Using the software, there were many modifications that needed to be done to the original sloper. The first step was to lower the neckline front and back. Moving the points and lines in the software created the new neckline. The next step in the process was to make the dress fuller from the waist down by using the add fullness tool. The pattern pieces were then digitally cut to allow for the contrast pieces. Points were added, and a line was drawn from the upper left shoulder to the waistline of the front and the back pieces at the side seams. The second line was drawn approximately four inches lower than the first. The cut tool was used to separate the pieces. The dress front had three pieces and the dress back had five pieces. There



was a triangle removed from the front and back left side from the waist down using the cut tool. The two pieces were joined to form the contrasting waterfall. The hemline was curved using points and the smooth tool to create the downward effect of the waterfall. The pattern was printed and ready for construction. The copper colored fabric was used for the right side of the dress, and the teal colored fabric had an overlay of the shimmering polyester sheer fabric for the contrast. The dress was sewn together with traditional garment construction techniques.

