

Prism

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Purpose

This project was inspired by dart manipulation in flat pattern drafting for a target market of upper-class professional women from age 30-60. The idea was to make a custom suit with no apparent darts. The mixture of velveteen and wool creates a subtle color blocking and the geometric forms shape around the curves of the body.

The inspiration was based on science fiction concepts of the future. The suit makes the wearer seem more confident and powerful. In *Battlestar Galactica* one of the main characters named Caprica manages to change the perceptions of the other characters. The name of the piece is derived from the geometric shapes of the pattern pieces. A prism bends light and shows the color spectrum, similar to how Caprica bends perceptions. In researching materials, it was noticed that velveteen will absorb more light than wool due to the texture. The contrast in texture would cause a greater contrast between the color blocks, which are black and dark gray.



Image 1 (left):Front View **Image 2 (right):** Detail View

Process

To create the garment pattern pieces, a basic bodice was draped on a size 8 dress form. During the flat pattern making process, dart manipulation strategically hid the darts in a series of intricate seams that cover the front of the blazer. Extra seams were added to the pattern for color blocking purposes and the exterior of the jacket is composed of cotton velveteen and wool. The Lining is 100% acetate. The interfacing was a non-fusible horsehair canvas that required pad stitching by hand. All of the seams were sewn using an industrial sewing machine. The cuffs of the sleeves were tacked down using a catch stitch done by hand. The hem was closed using a slipstitch. The closure is a metallic magnetic snap. The pants were made from the same cotton velveteen used in the jacket. The edges of the fabric of the pants were finished using a bias binding. The hem of the pants was finished with a catch stitch. The hem has an adjustable tab that connects using a snap, and allows the wearer to taper the leg hole as desired. And invisible zipper was used as a closure for the pants. The silk shell was finished using French seams.

Jacket Exterior: 100% cotton velveteen and 100% wool

Jacket lining: 100% acetate

Jacket interfacing: 100% horsehair

Jacket closure: magnetic snap

Pants: 100% cotton velveteen

Pant closure: invisible zipper

Pant cuff: metal snaps

Shell: 100% silk