

Conclusion

This book has examined the fundamental elements of fashion design and explored what happens to a collection once it has been made.

It has introduced the process of research through to design, the basic properties of fabrics, treatments and decoration, and the basic principles of pattern cutting and construction.

Fashion design is a combination of all of these elements; a good designer needs to understand his or her methodology and be able to communicate their ideas to others. He or she needs to have an understanding of the properties and the potential uses of fabric, and knowledge of how to make clothes with a view to what is or is not possible. Designers cannot work in isolation and need people involved from other areas of the fashion industry to achieve success, as a good designer is not necessarily the best publicist or stylist.

The way to improve as a designer is through practise and repetition, therefore increasing your knowledge and understanding of clothes. It is also important to get feedback about your work from someone working in the fashion industry. This may be from tutors or other designers, but is essential to a designer's growth. Combine this with as many internships as you are able to undertake as this will improve your knowledge and understanding of the fashion industry itself and the work experience becomes something to add to your CV.

It will take some time to discover who you are as a designer, but once you do, embrace that person. Like any creative industry, fashion is about individuality, and you will succeed as an independent designer, or be employed in the fashion industry because of what you, and you alone, can supply.

Never be afraid to experiment and to challenge convention. Fashion is constant change and without innovation it will devour itself, doomed to repeat trends over and over, as can be seen in its less inspired moments.

We would like to thank all the talented people who have contributed to this book. We have tried to give a balanced and varied view of fashion, and we hope that you find much within this book to inspire you as much as we have been inspired.

We hope you enjoy your future career in fashion.



