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## Metallicis Bride

Eulanda Sanders

*Iowa State University*, [sanderse@iastate.edu](mailto:sanderse@iastate.edu)

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# Metallics Bride

## **Abstract**

The goal set forth was to design a wedding gown for a non-traditional bride who desires distinct aesthetics and comfort for the special day through the use of fiber art techniques. A secondary goal for the designer was to reuse metal findings from the manufacture of jeans for the bridal market. To achieve the second goal surplus nickel backs of tack buttons for jeans were knit and crocheted into the gown.

## **Keywords**

Knitting, Machine Knitting, Recycling

## **Disciplines**

Fashion Design | Fiber, Textile, and Weaving Arts | Industrial and Product Design | Metal and Jewelry Arts

## **Comments**

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## Metallics Bride

Eulanda A. Sanders  
Iowa State University, USA

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The goal set forth was to design a wedding gown for a non-traditional bride who desires distinct aesthetics and comfort for the special day through the use of fiber art techniques. A secondary goal for the designer was to reuse metal findings from the manufacture of jeans for the bridal market. To achieve the second goal surplus nickel backs of tack buttons for jeans were knit and crocheted into the gown.

The halter gown was knit on a manual knitting machine (with full fashion shaping) from two white yarns (a 45% cotton/30% linen/25% rayon yarn and a 50% cotton/50% rayon yarn) to create a subtle horizontal stripe pattern. The layout for the placement of button backs and the shaping of the garment were completed in DesignKnit 8, a computer program, using body measurements, stitch gauge information from a test swatch and pattern making knowledge. Each button back (526 total) was



manually inserted from the hemline up into the skirt of the gown during the knitting process. An additional 220 button backs were hand crocheted with a single crochet stitch into a looped fringe. The halter edges of the gown were finished with three rows of single crochet with a size “h” hook. The gown is lined with a 100% rayon double knit to provide modesty and comfort to the wearer. The gown closes at the center back neck with two white covered snaps.

The completed gown, demonstrates the reuse of non-traditional materials and the implementation of under-utilized traditional structural textile techniques such as knitting and crocheting for bridal wear.

