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Zipped and Glam

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The purpose of this apparel design was to embody the fun, young spirit, of an early to mid twenties female. The silhouette is edgy, yet maintains its femininity. It requires a model who is strong and ready to take on whatever the world has to offer her. The couture piece is considered to be more of a piece of art, with slight inspirational elements of a ready to wear silhouette. The Zipped and Glam, bustier and skirt, was created through a collaboration of draping muslin on a Wolf size 10 junior mannequin and hand pattern drafting. The bustier includes several individual pattern pieces, separately sewn together to give the garment a geometric look. A total of 5 prototypes were made before the final construction of this bustier. The skirt first consisted of draping a basic sloper, made of 100% Cotton. Lectra Modaris software and the NCSU Lectra cutter, were then used to draft and cut the different layering sizes of each of the 27 flounces, after careful measurements. For the skirt construction, 30 yards of zipper tape were hand dyed black. Each piece of zipper tape was separated to expose the teeth. The skirt was inspired by a personal visit to the MOMA exhibit, on developing notions as detail. Every flounce consists of utilizing zipper teeth for edging. To give off a clean, finished edge, each layer was then top stitched along the zipper ending, allowing every flounce to fall with an efficient organic look. The opening zipper is located on the princess line. Here, the end of each flounce was folded over, to give off a flower effect, creating an emphasis on the couture aspect of this garment. A hook and eye is used at the top of the zipper to secure the weight of the skirt. 27 layers were created to cover the model from the natural waist line to an appropriate mini skirt length. The skirt, itself, took about a total of 55 hours of hard labor to complete, after the idea process was already finalized. Five different types of fabrics were used: 100% Cotton in a blue floral print, Cotton/Poly Blend for the ruffled black STOLL knit sample, 100% Cotton in black for lining, Polyester blend for lining, Silk in light blue; with the addition of utilizing 100% Cotton binding, boning, lightweight apparel interfacing, and metal closures.