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## Island Warrior Knit

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## Island Warrior Knit

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Keywords: Design, sustainable, cotton, handstitched

**Purpose:** My sustainable design was inspired by warrior armor of ancient times and Micronesian prints. I wanted to show the ability to transform used garments into a reinvented look with a completely different concept by finishing the pieces off with everyday spray paint.

**Process:** I designed this sustainable knit braid top to mimic chain armor. Seven mixed fiber sweaters cut and braided into a rope effect top, then handstitched to hold the braids together. The asymmetrical skirt was created out of two disassembled cotton dresses and cut on bias, to create a leaf effect. For the final detail I used painters tape and a hand made fern stencil to place over the skirt for detailing. I used home and garden spray paint in lavender and pink to decorate

**Techniques:** Draping and braiding were utilized to shape the sweater on a dress form. Hand sewing the braids together stabilized the final garment. Paper pattern manipulations formed the bias cut skirt. Taping, a cardboard stencil and spray paint were used to alter the color of the garment and create detailing on the skirt.

**Materials:** Seven mixed fiber sweaters including 100% cotton, 100% polyester and polyester/rayon blend created the braided sweater. Two 100% cotton fabric dyed dresses were used to produce the skirt. Two spools 100% polyester thread and one nylon zipper finished the garment structure.

**Measurements:** B: 32 inches, W: 28 inches, Hip: 34 inches

