

projects from the runway

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Christopher Palu

Bias Feathering Technique Skirt

This feathering technique is one of my favorites because you can use almost any fabric and make it look amazing! There are so many interesting ways to design this skirt! For this project, I will be making a pencil skirt using this unique feathering technique.

MATERIALS: 8" zipper, 2 yards solid fabric, 2 yards patterned fabric, 1" wide leather trim for the waistband.

(Note: I used navy wool, along with silver and navy patterned wool, and my dress form was created using a 26" waist.)



Option 1: You can use a sheer on the bottom and make the top pieces look like they are floating, as I did for the gown I designed on Season 10, Episode 1 of "Project Runway."



Option 2: You can even use a pattern on the bottom, with a complimentary solid color on the top.



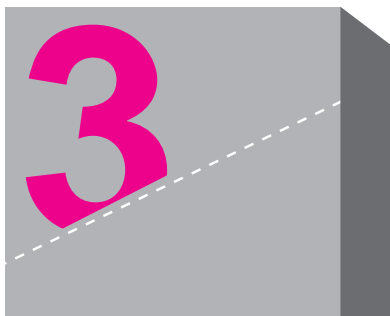
Option 3: Use different weights of fabric, such as charmeuse and chiffon, to create a beautiful ensemble, similar to the one I created during the Lord and Taylor challenge on Season 10 of "Project Runway."



I started by taking both wool materials, laying the patterned over the solid. Using my scissors, I cut both the front and back of the skirt out with about 2" seam allowance.



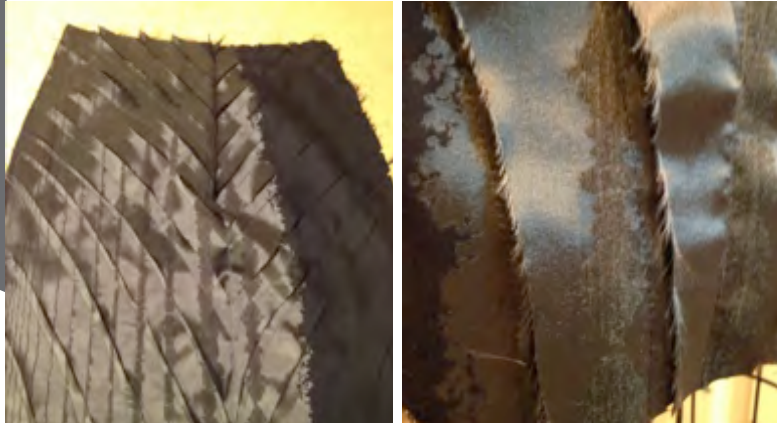
With a chalk dressmaker's pencil, I drew a line down the center-back and center-front of both pattern pieces and some sewing guidelines.



Sew down the lines.

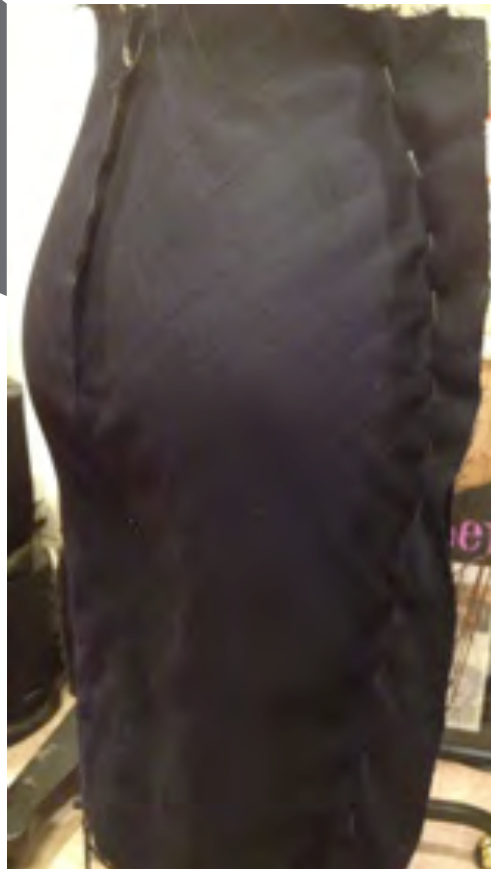


Cut about 1/4" above the line, giving it this illusion.



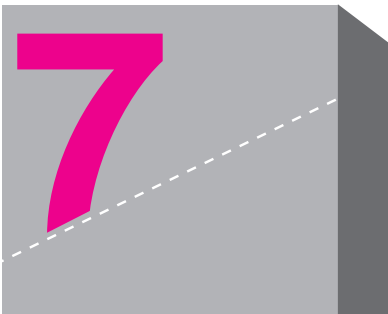
Do this to both the back and the front.

(Note: In a way, the more it frays the better; it gives it more of a delicate, effortless control.)

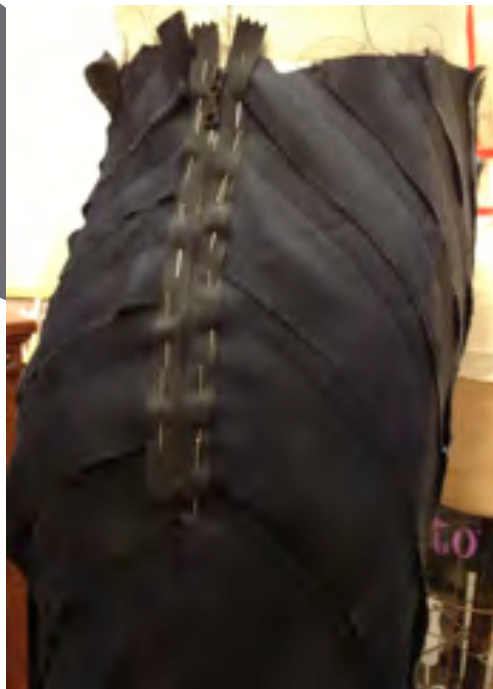




Take the pieces and pin them on the dress form inside out to determine the side seams.



Sew the pieces together, leaving an 8" opening on the side for a zipper.





8

Hand pin the zipper on the skirt and top stitch it down.



9

Now add the leather trim around the waistband and also top stitch that down.

(Note: Remember to leave excess near the zipper to add a snap closure or hook and eye.)





For the hem of these feathering garments, I like to cut them clean and leave them fraying a little to add to the feathering. The finished garment should look something like this!



(This project was created from the designer's perspective.)

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