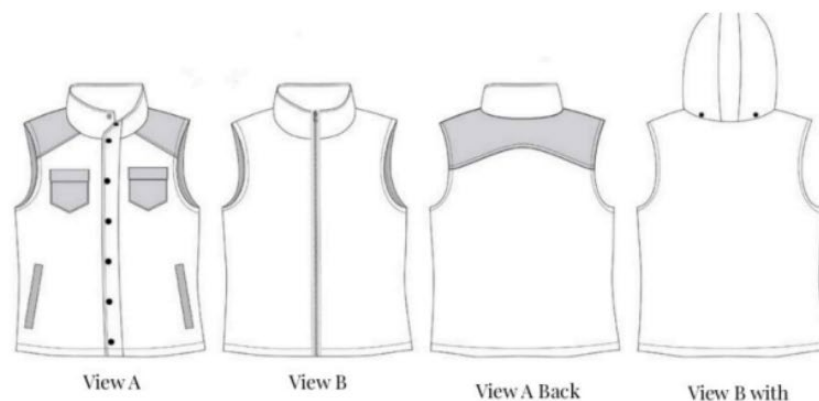


Low Achieved

Intended for teacher use only

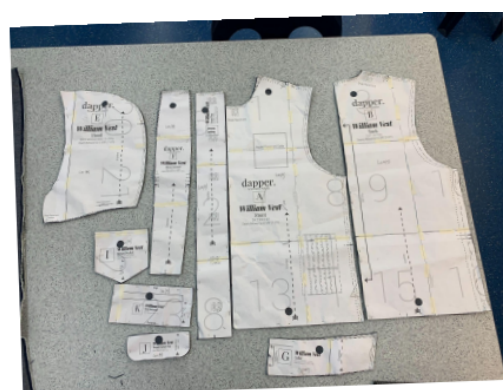
To start off my garment I choose to do a sleeveless denim jacket. I had to choose a template to start with;



The fabric I used was **denim** for the main fabric and **cotton with a floral pattern** for the lining, all from Fabric Warehouse. The denim has minimal to no stretch as does the cotton lining. I fit a medium size. While cutting out the pieces I learnt that you want to cut in the same direction as the stitch so the fabric does not tear while cutting.

I was new two fashion so I didn't have much sewing machine experience so I had to ask my fellow peers and the teacher for help throughout the process, but I got the hang of it pretty fast.

I tried a range of seams to get the hang of the machine and how the fabric handled. I decided to use a 1cm seam width and 2.5mm stitch length but no overlocking was needed as the vest is lined. I started to sew the main parts of the garment together like the front two pieces and the back two pieces. I followed closely followed the instructions giving to me throughout the sewing process.



I had to be safe in the fashion workshop. I made sure I always had shoes that covered my feet and that my jewelry or clothing never impeded my use of the machine. Because I was new to sewing I was really slow at first which was safest. I learned to pass scissors safely by the blade and never cut over pins. The iron was easy to manage as I always iron my clothes at home and check the temperature first.

First complex procedure: Changing the characteristics of the fabric; Interfacing/collar assembly

- Interfacing is an additional layer applied to the inside of garments or other sewing projects, in certain areas only, to add firmness, shape, structure, and support to areas such as collars, cuffs, waistbands and pockets; and to stabilise areas such as shoulder seams or necklines, which might otherwise hang limply. ①
- Interfacings come in two main types (fusible or sew-in), three main weaves (non-woven, woven and knit), and indifferent weights (light, medium, heavyweight). It is important to choose the correct type of interfacing for your garment; if you are using a pattern, they will normally indicate if interfacing is required and what type you need

I had to add interfacing onto the collar piece to add some strength to it so it could stand up by itself. I wanted to test which interfacing fabric would best strengthen the collar piece without adding too much bulge or thickness to it, I tested out three types of interfacing with the two main types (fusible or sew-in), the first one I tested was knit, which gave good strength to the collar piece and wasn't interfering with my fabric at all, it stuck on very well and created a layer of sturdiness needed to support the collar. The second one I tested was non-woven, which held up pretty well but did make the collar piece thicker than I'd like it and created it harder to sew with because the denim fabric plus the non-woven interfacing made it pretty thick to sew through while using a regular needle on the machine. The third one I tested was woven which did not provide the strength it needed to hold up the collar piece in the right way, it was very light so it was a bit too flimsy when put up against my denim fabric. The one I went for was the knit because it changed the characteristics of my fabric in the right way to create the strength needed to support the collar piece without making it too thick or flimsy. The interfacing helped it not flop down when zipped down.

Second complex procedure: joining materials with different properties; Lining.

The second complex procedure was lining, my lining was this pinky/purple floral pattern cotton with no stretch. I choose this floral pattern because I wanted it to be something that would contrast from the plain denim and give a pop of colour to the jacket.

Sewing this onto the main fabric was not too hard because the fabrics work well together and were not too thick to go through the sewing machine while together. What was complex was having to sew the lining onto the main part of the vest (denim) then flip it inside out hoping none of the lining would show on the outside. I got the teacher to help me make a mock up to test how to do this. It helped but the actual vest proved me wrong when I did flip it through because it did show so I had to sew one centimetre in the inside of the lining to pull it back into the inside to tuck it away from the front. Like this:

③



**Third complex procedure: managing the inclusion of structural or style features;
Pockets.**

2

I was debating whether or not I should add pockets to my garment throughout the whole process of making it but in the end, I decided to add one pocket on the top left side of the garment. I did leave this until the last step so I did face some challenges while adding it. Before putting the pocket on the jacket I did need to figure out the size, shape and how to construct the pocket itself. I did this quite easily and learned a new hand-sewing technique along the way. It was the slip stitch technique.



While testing the pocket I also learnt that using a top stitch is the best option to sew it on because it ends up with a clean finish and its the most efficient way to put them on, Ending up with a finished product like this:



At this point the main structure of my garment was finished and looks like this:

4



Note - I decided to not add a hood even though the template had a hood because I didn't think it would fit with the style I wanted my garment to be. In the future, I am going to add a bunch of additions to my garment to make it look less plain and fit with the theme of punk rock/grungy.