

DART MANIPULATION BASIC AND CREATING DESIGNS

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ABSTRACT:-

Design forms the integral part of fashion industries. Dart Manipulation presents the designers within range of design options using different principals of cutting and pattern alterations. Interest in this area has grown rapidly in this area. Basically Dart Manipulation means to move darts around the pattern block or sloper where ever you want them. Dart Manipulation aims to develop bodices with different dart placement through dart manipulation and test fit the same. In terms of clothing, this technique has proved as a dressing system that contains several detachable small components. Each component can be adjusted independently and separately without affecting other components. This system can maximize the possibility of each garment by rearranging or transforming components into different combinations. The present study assessed the knowledge of dressmakers on darts in pattern making and garment designing and the application of dart principles (dart manipulation, adding fullness and contouring) in garment designing. The slash and spread technique and panels based modular system are suitable for achieving the research objectives. Dart manipulation technique also adds aesthetic values to the designs.

Keywords:-Dressmakers, principles of darts, garment making

INTRODUCTION:-

Putting the body at the centre of attention may sound obvious when talking about and working with the creation of garments. However, most of the methods and techniques related to pattern cutting presented in the educational literature merely deal with the shapes of patterns, how to alter them in order to achieve a certain familiar garment, or how various two dimensional shapes can be turned into three-dimensional ones, which may then be used to create garments. This is essential knowledge for anyone who aims to use cutting as a method for fashion design. (1.2). Dart manipulation is the most creative and flexible part of pattern cutting. The possibilities are endless and the designer's imagination is the only limitation. Hence it first important to understand about the concept of darts.

Darts helps in shaping the fabric to fit the body and thus provide comfort to the wearer. They provide fullness to natural body curves. Darts are very rarely used for decorative purposes like providing a design line. The fitting, marking, stitching and pressing of darts should be done accurately(3). To create new designs for garments, it is specially used for ladies garments. It save fabric wastage and also use to remove excess fabrics. Darts are used as a means to suppress the fabric to shape the curves and hollows of the human figure, i.e. they enable the flat 2 dimensional shape to become a 3 dimensional form. The dart is formed as a tapered fold. Dart areas are referred to as suppression points. Darts are needed to turn two-dimensional shapes into three-

dimensional shapes and to fit clothes closely to the body. Darts can be characterized into different types depending on the shape and position where it is located. They are classified as Straight dart, Curved outward dart, Curved inward dart, Neckline dart, Double pointed dart and Dart in interfacing. The detailed description of which is given below (Figure 1):

1. Straight dart:

It is a straight line of stitching from the point to the seam line. This can be noticed in the underarm of the front bodice, back skirt, shoulder, elbow and back neckline.

2. Curved outward dart:

The stitch line curves outward along the path from the point to the seam line. This gives a snugger fit to garment. This is sometimes used on a bodice front to make a mid-body fit snug.

3. Curved inward dart:

The stitch line curves inward from the point to the seam line. This facilitates a better fit along the body curve. It is frequently used in pant and skirt fronts.

4. Neckline dart:

This is usually a solid line marking on the back neckline indicating a straight dart of 1/8".

5. Double pointed dart:

This dart is unique as it tapers in a straight line from the middle to both the ends and is clipped at the widest part. It is usually made from the waistline (widest point). It finds application in princess and A-line dresses, over blouses and jackets.

6. Dart in interfacing:

In this case, a slash is made on the fold line. Then the cut ends are lapped along the line of stitching and zigzagged to keep in place.

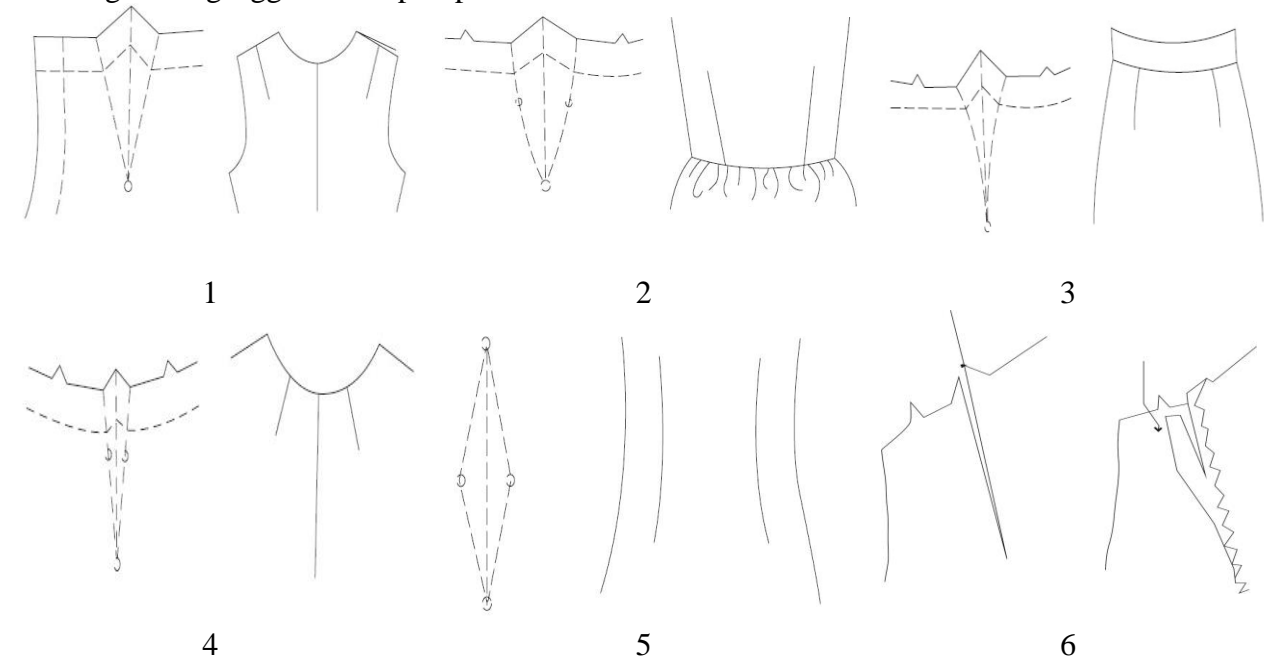


Figure 1: Types of darts

Dart Manipulation-Introduction to design patterns

The technique is applied when the dart of (bodice, skirt, sleeve, or any working pattern) are relocated in the process of creating design patterns. To create a design pattern, the design is analyzed first to identify the location of dart or equivalent before manipulating the pattern. Dart manipulation is one of the most important techniques when it comes to pattern drafting. Fashion Designer must identify the location of the dart before manipulating the pattern and how to manipulate the dart(3). Dart manipulation mainly starts with a basic sloper, which they then convert into their stylish designs. Darts become princess seams, gathers, tucks or cowl necks. New style lines are added or moved, necklines are reshaped. There are three manipulating techniques in flat patterns. These are suitable for manipulating a dart to any location(4,5,6). The slash & spread or pivot method mostly use to transfer darts to the bust, neck, armhole or wherever required.

1. Pin and pivotal dart transfer technique:

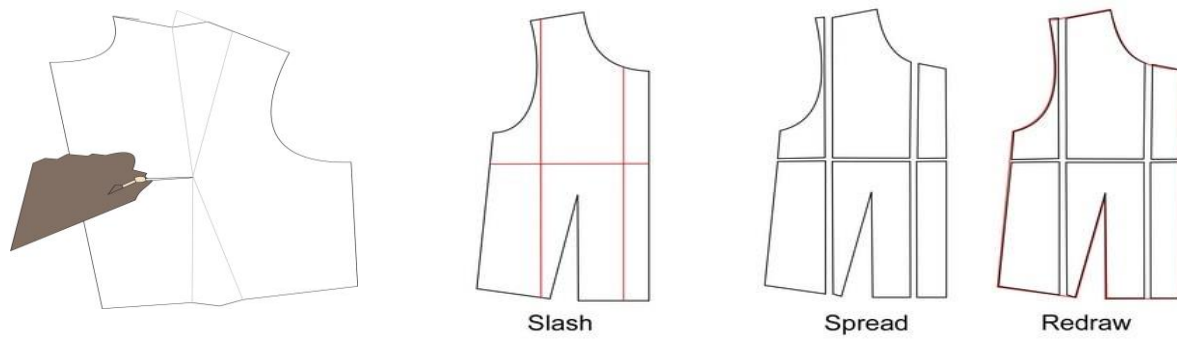
Pattern designers use pivoting methods to make fashion changes. They move darts or add fullness by anchoring the basic pattern with a pin and moving the pattern in, out, and around. The pattern swings back and forth like the pendulum on a grandfather clock. Use this pivoting motion to change the pattern width. In this method does not require the working be slashed in order to change its original shape into design pattern. It is a transfer method and with experience, it is preferred.

2. Slash-spread dart rotation and overlap technique:

Pattern graders use the slide motion to change pattern sizes. They slide patterns up, down, and to the side to gradually increase from one size to the next. Use this sliding motion to add or subtract length. Pivot and slide techniques combine these two motions to fit a pattern simply, yet accurately. You make all of the changes on a worksheet (pattern paper or tissue paper). Keeping the original pattern intact-no more cutting and taping! By changing the pattern equally on both sides of the grain, the seam and the design lines are kept in proportion to the original pattern. Best of all, each change is easy.

3. Dart equivalents technique:

Pleats or gathers in the fabric can be used as for the same purpose as a normal stitched dart. These are called dart equivalents. Darts can also be worked into style lines. The dart excess can be used to create a wide variety of other design features such as, tucks, gathers, pleats, and even cowl necks. Essentially, the dart or its equivalent is always present somewhere in the pattern. The dart or its equivalent will always radiate from the pivot point.



Pivotal Method

Slash and spread method

Figure 2: Dart manipulation techniques

Design option using dart manipulation:

Developing a garment design is an indispensable part of fashion designing. With the help of a basic pattern, patterns suitable to specific body shape and purposes can be designed. Techniques such as pattern variations, pattern alteration, and layout are certain topics included in this chapter for enabling the learners to understand garment design development. All darts can be moved to some extent; the extent depends on the block in question. The Bodice Block has more options for manipulation than do other blocks such as Skirt or Sleeve. This 'movement' of darts is achieved by closing the dart value in one place, and opening the same value in another, with the movement occurring around a central pivot point. Moving, or manipulating the darts, if done correctly, will not change the final shape and fit of the garment. It also help in creating different interesting dress design. The darts can be stitched as new darts, as style lines, can be converted into tucks, pleats, gathers, yokes, etc. The basic fit of the garment is not altered by these manipulations.

Conclusion:

Earlier the thought of making on pattern was daunting. It looked more complicated on time, but the knowledge about the techniques of dart manipulation has given more freedom to the fashion designer to explore newer design dimensions now a days. Every garment, ever made is, made from a pattern. Every pattern is made from a sloper, which is the basic pattern made using a set of custom measurements. Those measurements can come from a person's body or a dress form. This sloper is use as "template", The dart in a sloper can be manipulated to form new design in the custom measurement, creating wonders in the field to designing and leading to higher dimensions in the world of creativity.

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