

Fashion Garment Inspired by Greece

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My brief for this practical was to design and create a fashion garment inspired by Greece and the culture of the country. The final design includes a two-piece set in a silk like fabric.

In the initial research stages I began exploring the tropical summer vibe of Greece. I looked at textures, colours and patterns of rock formations, buildings, water, flowers, and cultural symbols and used this as inspiration for my idea generation. Within my designs I started to explore patterns inspired by the work of designers such as Owen Jones, Armi Ratia and William Morris. I explored their use of bold, colourful, and detailed patterns to help me generate my own designs inspired by the colours, textures and building formations of Greece. I also took inspiration from fashion designers Madame Vionnete who inspired layering of fabrics creating a smooth texture, movement, and flow within my designs. I took inspiration from different fashion eras such as the 1970's flared pants and jumpsuits. I explored unique styles and forms within the garment design which was inspired by Greek architecture.

My final design is a two-piece pant and top set that reflects a modern Greek aesthetic whilst also incorporating ancient Greek culture, and architecture. The flowy, effortless structure of the garment resembles the carefree lifestyle and the enchanting blue waters of the islands. The soft white fabric and thin blue pattern not only represent Greece's national colours but also gives the idea of the simplicity of the Greek lifestyle. The boning in the off the shoulder neckline is inspired by ancient architecture and the structure contrasts against the loose-fitting and flowing garment. The style of this garment works well in terms of functionality as the light breathable fabric hangs elegantly off the wearer resembling the flow of the enchanting blue waters. This structure also allows movement in the soft, warm breeze of a Greek summer.

The fabric design of repeated thin vertical and horizontal lines within the pattern, along with the organic continuous swirl resemble the Greek columns found in ancient architecture. The eye on either end and within the middle of the pattern represents the evil eye which is a part of Greek culture and is deeply ingrained among Greek people. This simple blue design was repeated to create an intricate pattern inspired by the architecture, culture and colours of Greece. The blue contrasts against the white of the fabric and resemble the colours associated with the ever-popular town of Santorini.

During this practical I learnt new skills such as fashion illustration, pattern design using digital technology and sewing and garment construction. I developed my digital skills further using Adobe Photoshop to create repeat patterns inspired by William Morris' work. Overall, my final design was successful as I have been able to not only design fabric that resembles Greece but also the style of the garment is functional for the climate and lifestyle.