

Fashion w/ Function

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Fashion with function simply put is wearable technology. Wearables are portable computers that are worn on and act as an extension of the body. Wearables are only on the body and not in the body, those technologies are classified as embeddables. Wearables have become very common in today's world, from the semi popular smartwatches like the apple watch or samsung gear, to more artistic designs that are more involved with our actual clothes. Many wearables are equipped with sensors that can access your bodies properties as numerical values, such as your heart rate, breathing, or temperature. Other wearables are involved with your other senses, like your sight. These include augmented and virtual reality. In virtual reality your entire environment is replaced with the digital, allowing you to explore your computer like never before. In Augmented reality digital objects are overlayed in the real world, allowing you to place screens anywhere or even change the color of your shirt! With enough graphics on screen it could be argued that the lines between augmented and virtual reality become blurred. Wearables are a completely new medium and alter the way we work with technology. For example in 3d modelling: In the present we 3d model using 2d screen and are constantly having to change our point of view to achieve an accurate or pleasing model, but even now VR modelling is coming into the field allowing one to see a floating 3d model right in front of them, and mold it like we mold a piece of clay in real life. Currently this has not surpassed our current way of 3d modelling but it will, eventually. There are key factors when designing a wearable that must be considered, such as its visibility, display, its targeted user and most importantly its interaction. Designers must consider how their technology is worn and not only how it is used, as with fashion we know users to get creative in their use. Wearable fields like VR and AR are simply babies in terms of mediums and will begin to achieve things we never dreamt possible. This could lead to very serious ethical, more and design issues but as long as we consider both their function and their aesthetic, much as we have with smartphones in the past years.