

Participant Information Sheet

Study Title: Zero Waste Shirt Workshop

Lead Contact: Rohil J Dave, MEng Student, Dyson School of Design Engineering
PI: Rebecca Stewart, Senior Lecturer, Dyson School of Design Engineering

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish.

Part 1 tells you the purpose of this study and what will happen to you if you take part. Part 2 gives you more detailed information about the procedure of the study.

Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether you wish to take part.

Thank you for reading this.

Part 1 –

- **What is the purpose of the study?**

The aim of this study is to evaluate our zero waste garment construction method as it relates to customisation, fit preferences and the suitability of our base pattern.

The fashion and textile industry is one of the most polluting economies. One facet of unsustainable practice in the industry occurs at the point of garment manufacturing where millions of tons of fabric end up as waste annually. The concept of zero waste pattern making centres around fabric efficiency i.e. using all the starting fabric to make the garment. The nature of zero waste garments is inherently loose-fitting. Fit and style preferences are essential factors consumers consider when deciding to purchase clothing. Customised garment production workflows can lead to more sustainable practice encouraging consumers to be more conscious shoppers. The garment is bespoke, only produced for and bought for the individual who wears it.

The challenge is balancing the fitting trade-offs that come with zero waste garment design. This study will involve you creating your own zero waste collared shirt where the pattern is generated based on body measurement and sizing preference parameters.

The study is being conducted for Rohil J Dave's Master's project.

- **Why have I been invited?**

You are being invited because you joined the DE Fashion and Textiles Group and have self-selected interest in the topic.

- **Do I have to take part?**

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason.

- **What do I have to do?**

There are no lifestyle restrictions to take part.

Part 2 –

- **What is the procedure of the study?**

The workshop and study will take place over three 3–4-hour sessions in the ACE Workshop (Room: ACEX 151M) on separate days within the first three weeks of May 2024. The research will last until the end of the 23/24 academic year (end June 2024). You will need to be present for all sessions as they continue to build on from the previous one.

Following an introductory overview in the first session, participants and the study leads will assist each other in taking body measurements and desired sizing measurements (e.g. shirt length, max chest/bust circumference, arm circumference) needed to create the customised pattern. These parameters will be passed to our program that will generate and output the pattern for you with dimensions annotated so that you can draw your pattern on the starting fabric and begin cutting the pattern pieces. The first session will also go over learning how to sew basics and participants will be assisted during the garment sewing process.

The second session will be focussed on continue the garment sewing process. We may only have 3 domestic sewing machines and as some sews are complex, ample time is needed to ensure everyone progresses. The third session (if needed) will continue sewing until the garment is completion. Upon completion, participants will be given time to wear the garment and freely move around the room before we conduct a focus group discussion and survey on your perceived fit and comfort of the garment. Finally, we will take measurements of the give of garment around the bodice, arms,

shoulders, and neck. This will complete the activities of the workshop and your participation. We will focus on constructing the bodice and sleeve elements of the garment as they are essential for the fit analysis. The remaining elements will be pinned during this evaluation if not fully constructed and sewn into the garment. The aim is that the workshop will equip you with the skills and instructions to complete the full garment design at your own time if the allotted time for the sessions does not allow for it. Participants will be able to keep their garment if they desire.

Depending on whether participants still need more time to complete sewing of the garment, we may add another session to get all participants finished with the workshop.

- **What is the information that will be collected?**

Body measurement data: We will need to take certain measurements that drive the pattern generation process. No data will be identifiable to you. We will provide unique IDs to ensure measurements belonging to a single body can be related but these will remain anonymous and unable to be traced about to you.

Focus group and survey: We will record your responses rating the perceived fit and comfort of the garment on scales of (1-5) along with qualitative descriptions you provide. We will record responses during the discussion to questions on what you value more in the trade-off between fit and eco-conscious consumerism and on possible strategies that may improve fit with the zero waste base pattern.

Give measurement data: We will take measurements of give of the garment while you are wearing the garment. This will be used to compare the true give of the garment for differing body sizes to derive relationships between them and fit.

Photos: With your consent, we would like to photos of you wearing the garment in two stances (arms relaxed and arms at 45 degrees) from three profiles (front, back and side). The pictures will be de-identified if requested (e.g. by blurring faces).

We will make sure no-one can work out who you are from the reports we write. No other personal data will be recorded.

- **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

There are no risks for the participants to take part. This study is part of a larger workshop held by the DE Fashion and Textiles Group aimed at those want to learn to sew and the basics of working with e-textiles. We foresee no negative societal consequences for taking part in the study. The only risks involved are low level risks regarding the use of machinery (e.g. domestic sewing machines and clothing irons) for which we have the appropriate controls in place with risk assessment approved.

If you are harmed by taking part in this research project, there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for a legal action. Regardless of this, if you wish to complain, or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you have been treated during the course of this study then you should immediately inform the Investigator (Becky Stewart r.stewart@imperial.ac.uk). If you are still not satisfied with the response, you may contact the Imperial College Research Governance Integrity Team (rgitcoordinator@imperial.ac.uk).

Contact for Further Information

Principal Investigator: Becky Stewart email: r.stewart@imperial.ac.uk

Project Lead: Rohil J Dave email: rd1120@imperial.ac.uk

Thank you for taking part in this study!

A copy of the written information and signed Informed Consent form will be given to you to keep.

LEGAL BASIS

As a university we use personal information to conduct research that will either be in the public interest, or the 'legitimate interests' of Imperial College whose interests are to conduct world leading research and innovation aiming to deliver transformative impact for society.

Our legal basis for using your information under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018, is as follows:

- Imperial College London - "performance of a task carried out in the public interest" or 'legitimate interests' held by the controller;

Where special category personal information is involved (most commonly health data, biometric data and genetic data, racial and ethnic data etc.), Imperial College London relies on "scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes.

We will conduct scientific research in compliance with the law and the recommendations and guidance published by the UK Information Commissioners Office (ICO). Scientific research should serve the public interest, which means that we have to demonstrate that our research has societal impact serving the interests of society as a whole.

WHAT ARE YOUR CHOICES ABOUT HOW YOUR INFORMATION IS USED?

You can stop being part of the study at any time, without giving a reason, but we will keep information about you that we already have because some research using your data may have already taken place and this cannot be undone.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW YOUR INFORMATION IS USED

Imperial College London

You can find out more about how we use your information:

- by asking one of the research team
- by sending an email to rd1120@imperial.ac.uk

COMPLAINT

If you wish to raise a complaint about how we have handled your personal data, please contact the research team first by sending an email to r.stewart@imperial.ac.uk.

Following our response, if you are not satisfied please contact Imperial College London's Data Protection Officer via email at dpo@imperial.ac.uk, via telephone on 020 7594 3502 and/or via post at Imperial College London, Data Protection Officer, Faculty Building Level 4, London SW7 2AZ.

If you remain unsatisfied with our response or believe we are processing your personal data in a way that is not lawful you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) via www.ico.org.uk. The ICO does recommend that you seek to resolve matters with the data controller (us) first before involving them.