Josh Jensen

About Me:

I am an aspiring sustainable fashion designer searching for ways to create and produce clothing through upcycling and re-use, while still designing unique and beautiful items. I believe there are better ways to create and design with the environment and social well-being in mind. This is my creative journey.

Pieces:

Pattern Pants

Created with spare fabric from my Grandmother’s quilting

Fringe Blue Jeans

Second hand jeans are upscaled with a simple cutting of the bottom leg hem

Two Toned Jeans

Two pairs of jeans, blue and dark grey, combine to form rectangular wide-leg paneling on one.

Fabric was taken from the bottom of the second pair of grey jeans so that a pair of shorts could be worn.

Black Jean Color Stripe

A pair of thrifted black jeans are touched up with colorful leftover quilt pattern squares to form a mismatched stripe

4 Square Long Sleeve

Black, white, and a bit of pattern from leftover fabric squares are used to form this simple but elegant contrasting long sleeve in an ode to my grandmother’s quiltmaking

Short Sleeve Button Mix

Panels from two old button down shirts and the bottom hem of a pair of black slacks (previously upcycled into shorts) form a mix-patterned T

T-Shirt Stripes

A plain white t-shirt with an obvious stain was altered to form a simple long tee of three blue patterns fabric leftovers

Sweatshirt + Flowers

A plain used grey sweatshirt is brought to life with purposeful addition of patterned light blue fabric scraps

Journey and Inspiration

My journey to sustainable design comes from a love for the natural word and a drive to push sustainability, conservation, and climate change awareness. As a biology major in college, my understanding of the world has been focused on scientific inquiry and preserving the natural world. However, through my exploration of the world and the fulfilment of my personal self and style, I discovered ways in which society and the environment are intertwined. I believe that human well-being can be advanced while preserving our planet and empowering individuals.

Clothing is both functional and inspirational. It is a necessary aspect of our life. It can provide protection from the elements, but it can also allow us to express our feelings and inner selves. Clothing is inherently personal, but its production links the entire world from beginning to end. The environment too is functional and inspirational. Art for centuries has been influenced by nature, and our world provides us with food, recreation, and natural goods like fabric.

My designs and purpose are influenced by my own experiences. In my travels and studies I was inspired by the patterns and unique styles of the traditional dress in Bhutan, the gho and kira. Patterns can clash but still be beautiful and functional. In Jordan, a scarf can show cultural and religious pride and belief, and functionally protect an individual from heat and dust. This multidimensionality in the function of clothes should be applied to their design and reuse.

My journey in design grew from using my grandmother’s sewing machine and scraps when she no longer was able to sew to interest in ways to impact local production and consumption of clothing. But this vision started with my desire to impact people's lives, preserve our planet, and the ability of pieces of clothing to empower my confidence and acceptance of myself and my style.

Contact

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