

Lattice Smocking: An Innovative Technique for Apparel Designing

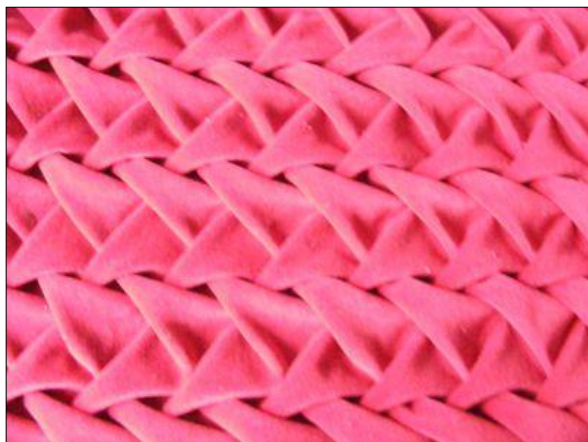
By:
Ms. Shivi Rastogi &
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In today's world of modernization the fashion is changing rapidly. So there is need to bring innovative changes and new designs of garments and accessories. Now-a-days there are many types of garments and accessories, which are readymade and handmade. A need for change in fashion and style has always led the way to execute the creative ideas in different directions. Smocking is an embroidery technique used to gather fabric



so that it can stretch before elastic; smocking was commonly used in cuffs, bodies and necklines in garments. Lattice smocking technique is new invention in different smocking types. Lattice smocking is worked on the wrong side of the fabric creating the unique and constant folds on the front. Four garments and accessories were constructed by lattice smocking and other enrichments such as kundan, lace, stones and bead work. Articles were assessed by 100 judges for overall aesthetic appeal. It was found from this study that the

entire lattice smocking garments and accessories were liked by the respondents.

Introduction:

Habert Spencer said "The consciousness of being well dressed gives peace such as religion cannot give." Dress has become a vital part of our living. Aesthetically dress serves two purposes, it helps to accentuate the beauty of human from towards perfection by suitable emphasis and secondly it also contributes to conceal intelligently which is not shapely.

Clothing is an important part of life. One feels happy, cheerful and confident when one is properly dressed up. Clothes can improve the appearance, hide physical defects as far as possible and also give aesthetic pleasure to wearer through its color, texture, prints, designs, patterns and lines on wide varieties of textile materials. Clothes help an individual to express his or her creative abilities **(Radder, 1995)**. Designing is the art of transforming individual ideas and experiences into tangible forms. It may be described as a way of thinking, sharing the creative process of artists but different in the source of inspiration or problem. **(Lawson 1990)**

Consumers are becoming more fashion conscious, more sophisticated and more self-selective. They expect something new, something in tune with their expectations from the world and society. **(Shan 1993)**

Therefore, investigator thought to undertake a project work on designing through lattice smocking in apparel and accessories for values addition in product line by using

different enrichments techniques such a stone work, bead work, etc., and provide variety of designer garment and to improve aesthetic appeal of an individual also.

There are so many components of fashion which follows many different techniques like smocking, painting, embroidery and printing. “Smocking” it is an embroidery technique which is made through gathered fabric so that it can stretch and elastic easily. Smocking was used in cuffs, bodies, and necklines for decoration purpose in garments. It was use most extensively in the 18th and 19th century.

The late 19th century as with all fold traditional smocking was handed down from generation to generation. When really started we don't know about the term smocking but according to tradition in England “smocking has been around forever.” The smock can old for shift or chemise was a loose fitting garment characterized by evenly gathered pleats on the body and sleeves. The pleat was held in place by simple embroidery stitches. In 18th and 19th century simple embroidery was made on linen fabric only. Smocking was clearly popular during the renaissance in Europe. Many painting from the `14th and 15th century shows men and women wearing smocked garments.



In the study an attempt has been made for the development of apparel such as night gown, evening gown, skirt top and accessories such as purse, belt, hat and band with lattice smocking technique and enchrichments. The topic of the study was set as follows” Lattice Smocking: Innovative technique for apparel designing”

Objectives:

1. To find out consumer preferences for Lattice Smocking for different articles.
2. To develop products designed though Lattice Smocking with different embellishments.
3. To develop some design sheets by combining surface enrichments technique with Lattice Smocking.
4. To assess the marketability of the developed Lattice Smocking articles with respect to its cost and design.



Significance:

1. Present study will be helpful in modern trends by adopting Lattice Smocking techniques among new era people.
2. Study can directly and indirectly increases the means of employment in rural and sub rural areas.
3. Trendy developed designs can be used for designing of other accessories and garments

4. This study will be helpful in commercialization of designer garments

Methodology:

The study was conducted in Banasthali Vidhyapeeth, because of the ease of approachability for the researcher. Three types of samples were selected for the study purpose. A sample of 100 college going girls in the age group of 18-24 yrs were selected to find consumer's preference, to assess and select developed designs and to find out acceptability and marketability of developed Lattice Smocking garments and accessories. These respondents were selected purposively who have knowledge of apparel designing and latest fashion trends. A questionnaire was prepared to collect information about consumer's attitude toward lattice smocking garments and accessories and then the designed sheets were evaluated and after evaluation data was collected. Assessment of sheets were by 5 point rating scale i.e **5-excellent, 4-very good, 3-good, 2- average and 1- fair.**

Basic drafting of garments were prepared by the guide book of Bella Kapoor and then the draftings were adapted for Lattice smocking garments.

Result and Discussion:

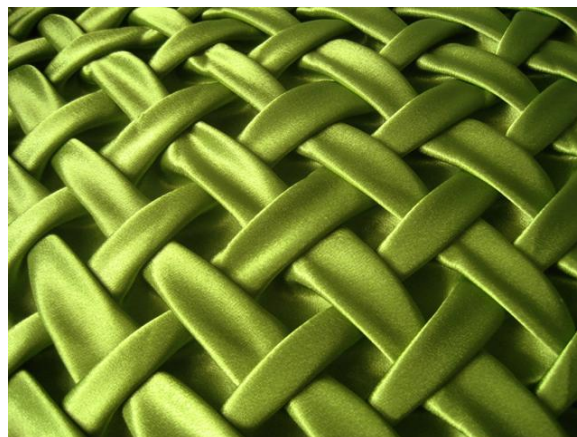
It was necessary to conduct market survey to determine the need of consumer, so the attitude of consumer towards Lattice smocking for garments and accessories were checked out. Result showed that only 25% people have the knowledge and idea of Lattice smocking and among those 25% people, 75% were interested in western dresses. Preferences for evening gowns, suits, skirt top and night gowns were ascertained respectively, from silk, chiffon and satin, satin, net and satin and cotton silk and khadi silk. Respondents also show a great interest in dull colors for Lattice smocking garments and accessories. But 60% were interested in garments and remaining for accessories.



According to the consumer preferences, 7 sheets for each garment and accessories were designed. Sheets were analyzed on the basis of aesthetic appeal and ranked on five point rating scale. Lastly the most preferred sheet was developed into final prototype for garment and accessories.

The below figure 1, shows that the majority of the respondents graded evening gown as excellent to very good in reference to all its parameters. Skirt and top were rated as excellent to good, but the suit was rated as excellent to very good. Last but not the least; the night gown was graded as excellent to good. Now for the accessories, purse and hat, both were rated as excellent to good by the respondents, but the belt was rated as excellent to very good. Lastly the band was graded as excellent to fair. I.e. **5-excellent, 4-very good, 3-good, 2- average and 1- fair.**

S.No	Parameters	Articles	5	4	3	2	1
1.	Parts Of Smocking	Evening Gown	90	10			
		Skirt Top	60	25	15		
		Suit	85	15			
		Night Gown	55	35	10		
		Purse	72	18	10		
		Belt	75	25			
		Hat	85	15			
		Band	5	25	32	23	20
2.	Color	Evening gown	80	20			
		Skirt top	65	30	5		
		Suit	75	25			
		Night gown	60	25	15		
		Purse	62	28	10		
		Belt	80	20			
		Hat	70	20	10		
		Band	25	35	30	10	
3.	Embellishment	Evening gown	75	25			
		Skirt top	50	35	25		
		Suit	90	10			
		Night gown	65	35			
		Purse	55	35	10		
		Belt	70	20	10		
		Hat	75	15	10		
		Band	38	32	25	5	
4.	Over All View	Evening gown	80	10	10		
		Skirt top	70	25	5		
		Suit	95	5			
		Night gown	70	15	15		
		Purse	80	15	5		
		Belt	85	10	5		
		Hat	90	10			
		Band	35	40	25		



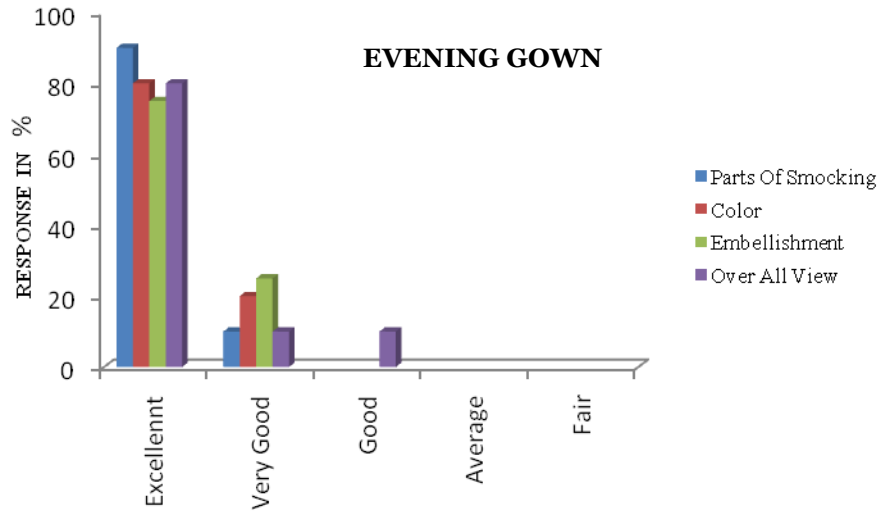


Figure 1: Response in percentage for evening gown

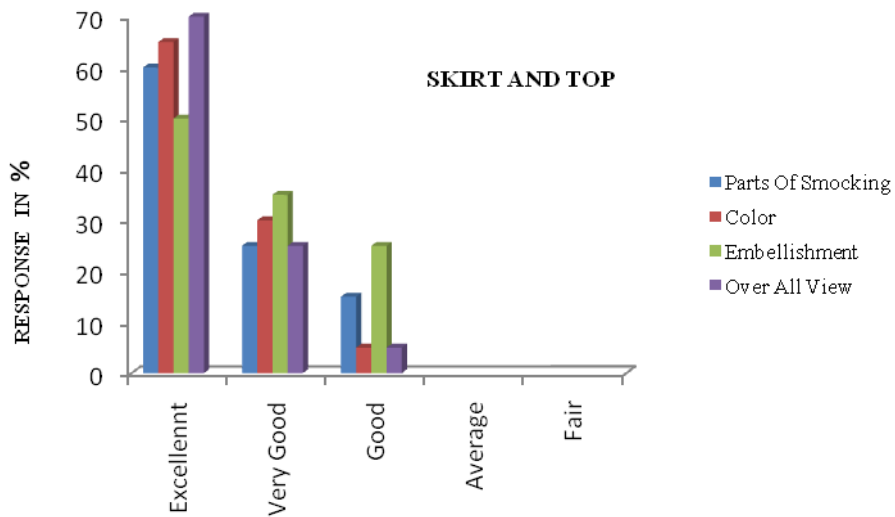


Figure 2: Response in percentage for skirt top

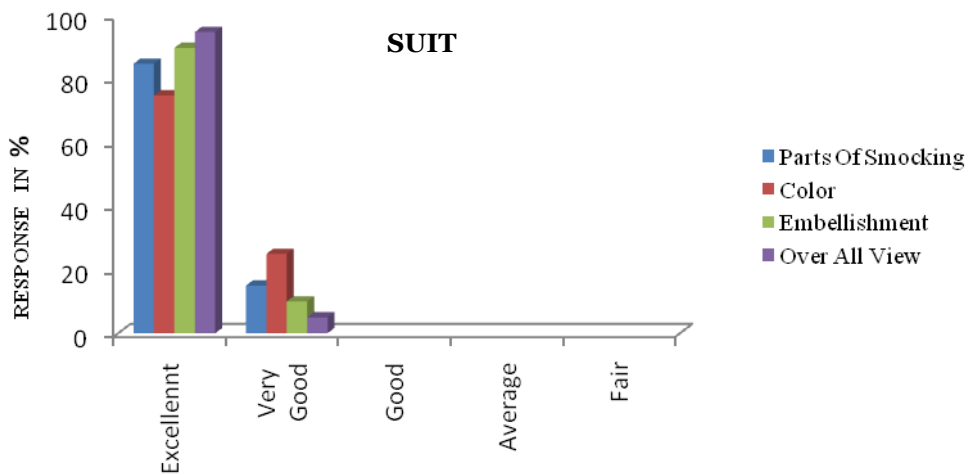


Figure 3: Response in percentage for suit

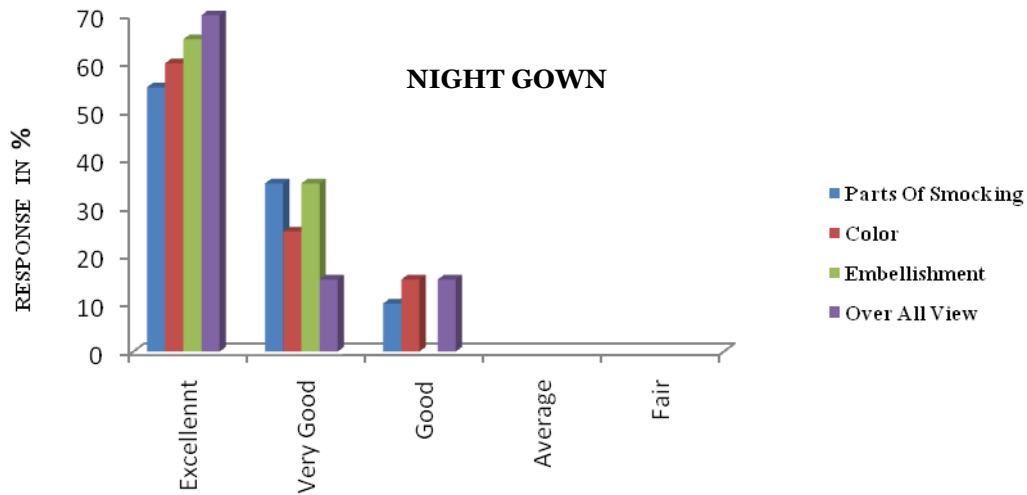


Figure 4: Response in percentage for night gown

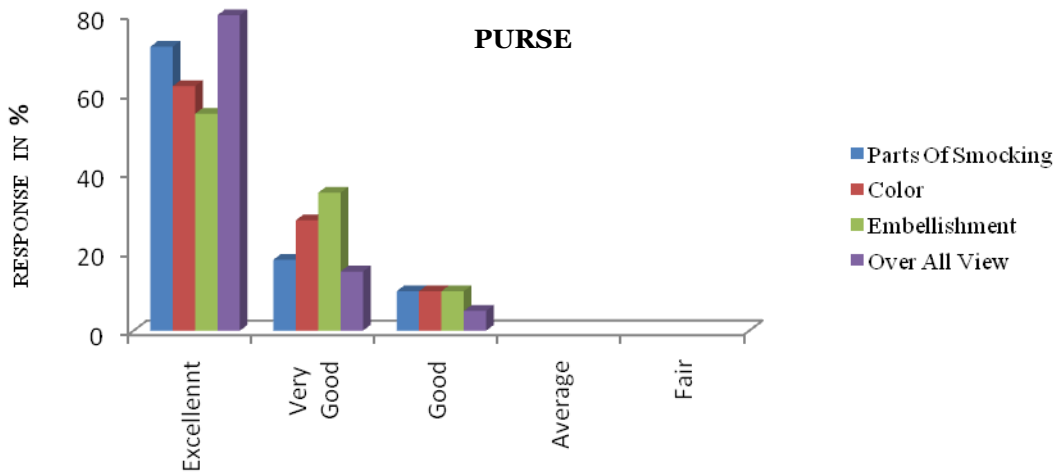


Figure 5: Response in percentage for purse

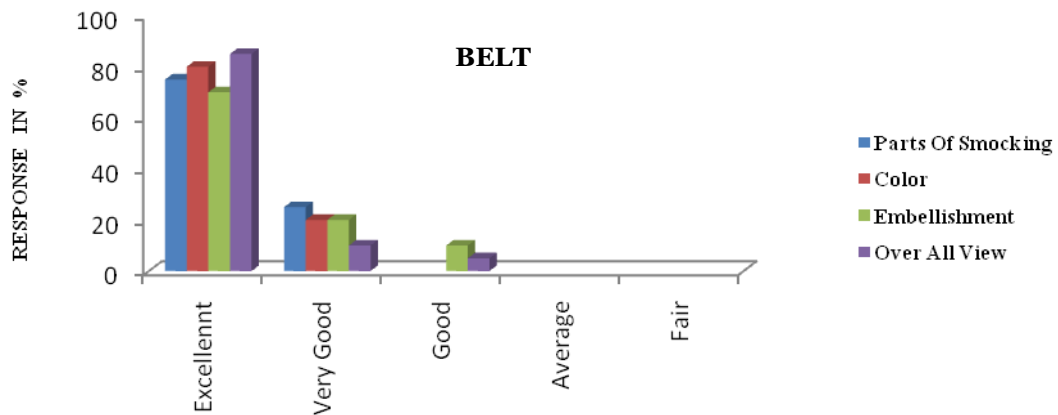


Figure 6: Response in percentage for belt

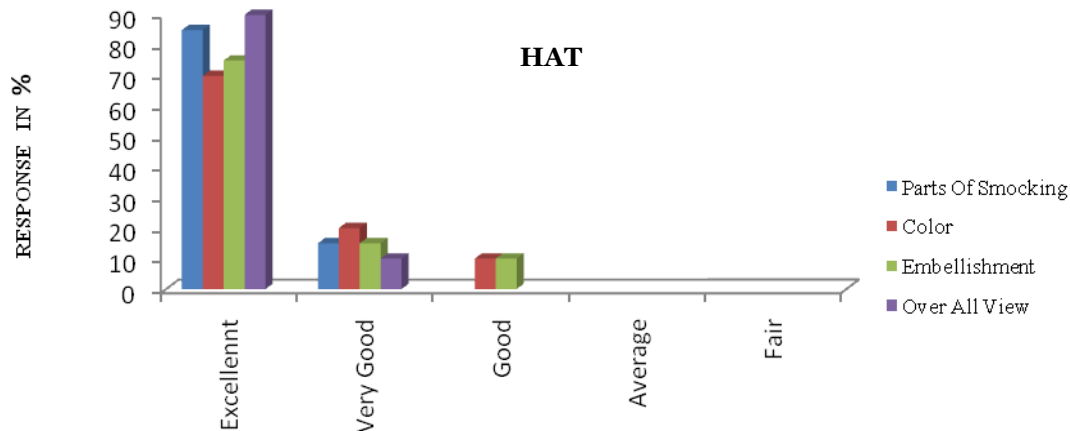


Figure 7: Response in percentage for hat

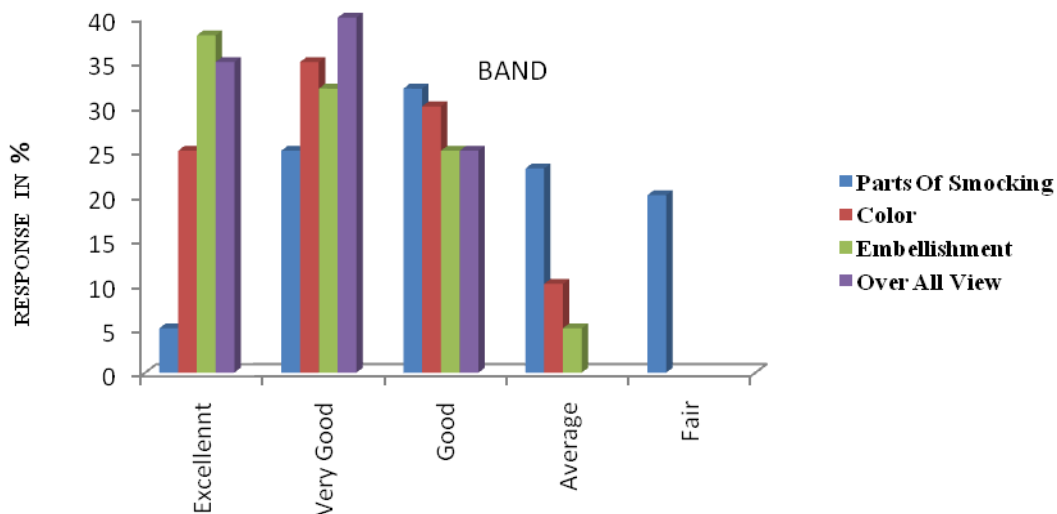


Figure 8: Response in percentage for band

Summary

In today’s world of fashion due to modernization and industrialization, people look for something new and different design in garments and accessories.

Besides Lattice smocking and other enrichments such as kundan, stone, lace and beads worked were selected for different garments and accessories to give gorgeous look and effect in designed garments and accessories. Thus the investigation entitled as “*Lattice smocking: Innovative technique for garments and accessories*” was carried out in the Banasthali University.

A questionnaire was constructed to collect the information and 65 design sheets were prepared on the basis of their preferences. These sheets were evaluated from which eight sheets were selected for garments and accessories construction. Consumer acceptability for developed Lattice smocking garments and accessories were assessed by

visual analysis based on criteria's i.e parts of the lattice smocking, color, embellishment and over all aesthetic appeal.

Conclusion

Present work finding revealed that majority of youth are fashion conscious and are aware of designer garments and accessories. Thematic designing of Lattice smocking garments and accessories was not only liked by majority of the people but garments and accessories were found to have good stability among all.

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