

Textile Treasures: Designing My Fabric Product

Learning objective: To design a functional textile product by considering materials, construction techniques, and user requirements.

Welcome! Max the monkey is busy calculating the cost of materials, and Zara the zebra is looking for patterns. Use this design sheet to plan your own textile product. Think carefully about why you have chosen your materials and how they will be joined together to ensure your product is sturdy and fit for purpose.

Word bank: template · seams · stitching · durability · texture · fastening · aesthetic · functional · cotton · felt · polyester · joining

1. The Design Brief: Describe what you are making and justify why this product is useful for your chosen target audience. (3 marks)

2. Material Selection: List two fabrics you will use. Explain why these fabrics are suitable for your product, considering their texture and durability. (4 marks)

3. Construction Method: Explain how you will join your fabric pieces together. Why is this method better than others for this specific design? (3 marks)

4. Budgeting: Max the monkey needs to know the cost. If your fabric costs £1.50 and your fastenings cost 80p, what is the total cost? Show your working. (2 marks)

5. Design Evaluation: Compare and contrast your chosen design with a simple alternative. Why is your design more effective? (4 marks)

6. Predictive Thinking: What might happen to the stability of your product if you chose a fabric that was too thin or stretchy? Justify your answer. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an entrepreneur. Create a 'Product Pitch' for your design. Explain how you would improve the sustainability of your product by sourcing recycled materials, and describe how you would package it to ensure it is attractive to customers while remaining environmentally friendly.