

Textile Treasures: Designing a Functional Fabric Item

Learning objective: To design a functional textile product by considering material properties, user requirements, and decorative techniques.

Use this writing frame to plan your textile project. Think like Max, who loves solving problems with precision, and Zara, who finds beauty in patterns. Ensure your design is practical and fit for purpose.

To create a high-quality textile product, I must first consider the specific needs of the user and the environment in which the item will be used.

Word bank: durable · aesthetic · sustainability · fastening · appliqué · synthetic · natural fibres · tensile strength · ergonomic · environmentally conscious · furthermore · consequently · in contrast

1. Product Purpose and User Needs: What is the primary function of your textile item, and how have you tailored your design to suit the intended user? Start your answer by stating... (2 marks)

2. Material Selection: Justify your choice of fabrics. Why are these materials suitable for your product, considering factors like durability, texture, and comfort? Explain why... (3 marks)

3. Technical Construction: Describe the methods you will use to join your pieces of fabric together. How will you ensure your fastenings (such as buttons, zips, or velcro) are functional and secure? Start by explaining... (3 marks)

4. Decorative Techniques: Compare and contrast two different methods of decoration (e.g., embroidery, fabric paint, or appliqué) that you could use to enhance the aesthetic appeal of your design. (3 marks)

5. Sustainability and Cost: If you were to produce your item for sale at £5.00, how would you ensure the materials are sourced responsibly and cost-effectively? Justify your answer... (3 marks)

6. Evaluation and Improvement: What might happen if your chosen fabric was not fit for purpose, and how would you adapt your design to solve this problem? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine your product is being showcased at a school exhibition. Write a persuasive 'blurb' for a display card that explains why a customer should purchase your item, focusing on the quality of the materials and the uniqueness of your design.