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Designing and construction of children comfort clothing

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Abstract

The study aimed to design the garment for children according to respective activity they performed in day to day life. Safety and comfort are the first preference for the children clothing. Children skin is so sensitive to reacts from certain fabrics which create discomfort for the wearer. Discomfort garment should not be encouraged to the children in the movements. The garment should give to child sense of security, satisfaction and comfort. The major requirement has considered during designing clothing for children clothing should be given to relief, appearance, activity and growth features. For all these aspects to keeping in mind different size of children garment was designed and constructed by using two different cotton knitted fabric. Cotton knitted fabric was used for summer and flannel cotton knitted for winter for the final construction. Total Four different sizes have constructed for summer and winter. In each size two different garments have constructed for summer and winter. Total sixteen garments have constructed in the study.

Keywords: Children, comfort, clothing, designing, construction, fabric

Introduction

Clothing nature as all times covered the human body to protect from different weather and hazards. It is considered as a second skin. People wear clothing for something special purpose such as comfort and facilitation of activity. Comfort is the one of significant criteria for the children. Clothing comfort is situation of satisfaction indicating physiological, psychological and physical balance among the person. Ashrae, (2014) ^[1] considered that comfort is a major factor which balanced process of heat exchange between the human body, the clothing system and the environment. Children are very playful and their clothes should be durable and suitable according to their respective activities. During the selection of children for clothing should be very careful as the skin of children is usually sensitive and the harsh fabrics might be affect the skin of children and create allergies on the skin of the child. At present time parents are most concern about the children clothing with comfortability, functionality and aesthetic appeal. At present time emphasis on the children clothing designs is similar as in adult clothing. In today world the designers are designing the cloths as their age group, need and development. Injoo & Mikyung, (2002) ^[6] stated that garment construction consider the comfortability, and functionality be derived from these of particular types of fabrics before using them to construct children's apparel.

Clothes are a basic need which provide protection from various climates and give good aesthetic appeal to the person. Children skin is delicate and their need to more attention during the selection of garments. During the designing of children clothing designers need to concentrate on simplicity, comfort, safety and good aesthetic appearance. During the selection of fabric for children garments Safety and comfort are considered as top priorities (Dogbey, 2015) ^[7]. The term 'Comfort' is a nebulous one, which defies definition, but the sensation of comfort is easily recognized by the person experiencing it (Slater, 1979) ^[2]. Comfort is difficult to explain since it is a complex and interdependent combination of physical, psychological and sensorial perceptions and highly depends on the subjective evaluation of the individuals (ISO, 2014). Today the mothers want their kids to look nice, but they really admit they have not given much, thought as to whether the garments are comfortable (Rea, 1950) ^[3]. Clothing is characterized by thermal insulation, air permeability, breathability, weight, thickness, wind resistance and surface area.

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An environmental variable is a relative humidity, air movement, temperature and radiant heat. Variables related to clothing comfort were singled out to defined clothing comfort as a function of the wearer, clothing and environmental attributes (Hollies, 1970) [7]. Barker R (2002) [8] stated comfort measurements of clothing must be based on subjective evaluations of human wearers which integrate the combined effects of all relevant variables of clothing systems on comfort.

Considered factors of comfort during selecting fabric for children clothing

There are several factors that are considering during the time of selection for comfort clothing. It is important to know the fabric was suitable according to their cognitive development and their respective activities. A fabric manufacturing process was considered the most important factor in making children apparel in terms of Construction technique weaving, knitting and other process which affect the comfort of the fabric. Clothing can major reason for the condition of child uncomfortable in warm or cool weather situation. Comfortable clothing will allow for good absorption and proper ventilation so that body dampness can evaporate easily. Children get feel uncomfortable in wearing clothing that limits the body movement. Clothing that is too small or too large can inhibit body movement and interfere while performing any activity.

Methodology

A study based on designing and constructing comfort clothing for the children according to different age group for the summer and winter. The garment was constructing by considering major criteria such as comfortability, functionality with good aesthetic appeal. Children play different activities like crawling, running and walking therefore the garment features must be meet with their respective activities for the comfort and protection. A suitable fabric was used for the fulfilling the different criteria which was necessary for the children comfort. The fasteners were used to keeping in mind children safety and comfortability.

Results and Discussion









The result obtained are reported and discussed under in this. Garments for children were prepared from infancy to 3 years of age for summers and winters. A cotton knitted fabric was used for constructing children clothing in four colours for given the variation. 2 garments were prepared in each category for the summer and winter. Cotton knitted fabric used for summer and for the winter cotton flannel knitted fabric was used. A light and cool colour was used because it gives attractive look and positive vibes. Manually developed pattern were used for the final construction. For the infancy the garments were prepared. A garment was constructing in different silhouettes on the basis of selection and variation was given by adding patches, different shapes of patch pockets, contrast colours straps and decorative plastic soft buttons to increase the overall look of the garments. The sizes for designing and construction garments were used in this study are shown below in table 1.

The table no 1 shows the sizes of garments for designing. The designs were prepared in four sizes. In size 0-6 months, to 2-3 years 2-2 garments were prepared for the summer and winters.




Table 1: Sizes of garments for designing









S. No	Age group	Developed patterns	
		Summer clothing	Winter clothing
1.	0-6 Months	2	2
2.	6-12 Months	2	2
3.	1-2 Years	2	2
4.	2-3 Years	2	2

Design and constructed garments with features (Summers Clothing)

Age group 0-6 months		
Design	Features	Constructed garment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front and lower opening. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening with straps from upper. Side opening from the lower 	
Age group 6-12 months		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> String at waist for adjusting fullness. Elastic at bottom for giving fullness. Opening from the lower. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening with strap from the upper. Elastic at bottom for giving fullness. Opening from the lower. 	

Winters Clothing

Age group 1-2 years		
Design	Features	Constructed garment
	Opening with strap from the upper. Opening from the side.	
	Opening with strap from the upper. Lower front opening.	
Age group 2-3 years		
	Opening from the shoulder in upper garment. String with elastic at the waist for comfortability.	
	Opening with strap from the upper. Side opening given at the waist. Shoulder opening given in the t-shirt.	

Age group- 0-6 months		
Design	Features	Constructed garment
	Opening given at the shoulder and inside the lower legs.	
	Front Opening from upper to lower.	
Age group 6-12 months		
	Front opening with hood. Padding at the knees.	
	Opening at the shoulder in upper garment. String with elastic at the waist for Comfortability	

Age group- 1-2 years		
Design	Features	Constructed garment
	String at the waist for adjusting fullness. Opening from the lower inside the legs	
	Front opening from neck to crotch line.	
Age group 2-3 years		
	Front opening with hood. String with elastic at the waist for comfortability.	
	Opening from the shoulder in upper garment. String with elastic at the waist for comfortability	

can be easy to wear and remove on the children. At the age of toddlers clothing is preferred with padding which is given at the knee and elbow part so that they might be protect from injuries during the crawling. Easy handling fasteners are preferred for the children clothing and pointed. A collection which was the right mix of being made of comfortable fabric, good design, and silhouettes, along with best of the quality was developed.

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Conclusion

Total sixteen garments were constructed, in each category two garments were constructed according to summer and as well as winters also. For the children clothing soft and comfortable material was used in light colours children skin are prone to infections and skin allergies although knitted material was found to be most preferred for the children clothing. A knitted fabric has properties like cooler, softer, more absorbent and breathes better, keeping them cool in summer and dry in winter. The fabric is durable, versatile and easy to care for. It is the ideal fabric perfect for children. In designing part functionality of garment was considered at top therefore an opening was given at front, shoulder and in crotch area so it