

## Friendship dress

Heejae Jin, Oregon State University, USA

Keywords: Friendship bracelet, handmade of embroidery

**The Inspiration**

*The friendship dress* was inspired by the friendship bracelet, which is a bracelet often shared to symbolize friendship. It is handmade of embroidery that uses threads. The embroidery thread presented in various patterns is tightly tied into a knot, so the friendship bracelet becomes a symbol of lasting friendship. I intended to recreate this concept of friendship bracelet as a “friendship dress”.

**The Description of Design**

I selected two different colors of threads to weave into a “Chevron” pattern. These colors illustrate the visual elements of each person’s characteristic, and the harmony of the colors in the fabric shows the friendship. Also, the pattern shows unity because the two distinct threads eventually point in a single direction to produce a sense of unity.



In addition, the mild colors chosen, light pink and white, were selected to represent youth and innocence (“Braceletbook”, n.d.). I could have used pink only, which stands for attachment and friendship, but since I wanted to invoke a sense of naïve adolescence, I added the pure white. This combination of two colors conveys a new meaning, namely, the core elements of childhood friendship that produce unconditional lasting attachment.

The front of the chevron pattern was bladed 2 inches by 9 inches as the core element. The front pieces were designed to merge into a bladed pattern through two different threads on the white chevron-shaped collars and the two top stitches on the front skirt. This continuity is meant to express lasting friendship with the two threads colors appearing as hand top stitching. Also, pink and white threads were continuously used to make a blade on the front piece with top stitching.

For the back view, I applied the friendship bracelets directly onto the back bodice. To

express a bladed pattern, two sashes were implemented using the dual threads colors. I designed a 360 circular skirt since I wanted to illustrate the pursuit of friendship as being “one-world”. In addition, as wide skirt dresses with sashes are commonly worn during one’s early years, I chose this particular dress design.

Also, all materials were cotton, not synthetic, for a natural and balanced appearance.

*The friendship dress* is intended to revive childhood memories because its color, the overall shape of the dress, and the handmade patterns are all reminders of the pure and lasting friendship that everyone seeks and wants to last forever.

#### Reference

Braceletbook. (n.d.). Retrieved from [http://www.braceletbook.com/history\\_of\\_friendship\\_bracelets](http://www.braceletbook.com/history_of_friendship_bracelets)

