

# Art Activity

## Quick Fashion



### Time for reflection and fun

Over the course of the exhibition, *Fashion Nirvana: Runway to Everyday*, we challenged groups from teachers to medical students to create instant fashion using only paper, tape, and markers. Working in a small group, one person serves as the model while the other members of the group construct the clothes and accessories. You can easily do this at home with your family, even your pets! Our projects had a 90s theme since that's the time period of *Fashion Nirvana*. We suggest playing with the materials and just seeing what crazy things you can come up with.

1

### SEARCH

Search your home for the suggested materials.

2

### CREATE

Get creative with each step and think outside the box.

3

### ENJOY

Enjoy your creation and share with others.



McNay Connection  
Leslie Dill's The Big Suit from Worst Case Scenario, 1998



McNay Connection  
Robert Indiana's Costume for Susan B. Anthony in The Mother of Us All, 1976



McNay Connection  
W. Graham Robertson's Costume Design for King with Armor in Richard II, 1903

## Suggested materials:

- Paper—you can use any kind of scrap paper you have laying around. Wrapping paper, butcher paper, newspaper, even tissue paper will work great. Mix and match your “fabrics”!
- Tape—the tape can also be just what you have handy. You probably want heavy duty tape for thicker paper. Experiment to see what works best.
- Scissors—grab a pair of scissors. Try tearing the paper for a different effect.
- Markers—markers can be handy for drawing on buttons and other details.
- Stapler—use a stapler for the areas where tape isn’t cutting it.
- Embellishments—do you have recycled foil you can use for jewelry? Buttons? Look around your house and your recycling to get creative.

## Instructions:

- Get started: spend a couple of minutes planning your outfit and gathering pictures of clothes you might want to create.
- Decide if you want a time limit. At the museum we give people a strict time limit of 20 minutes. At home, that part is up to you.
- If you have four or more people living with you, think about dividing up into teams and making it a competition. You can work in different places and surprise each other with your results.
- Create your look! Cut, tear, and tape away and start building the parts of your outfit.
- Strut your stuff: One thing for sure is that you must strut your stuff. At the museum, the models showed off their teamwork on the runway. Clear a space in your living room, cue the music, and walk with attitude! Video chat with a friend or family member to decide the winner.

## Need more ideas?

Have a favorite celebrity? Are you studying a historical figure? Recreate one of their signature looks.

Don't have these supplies?

No problem! Stage a wacky runway show using clothes from your own closet. One of the themes of 90s fashion is more is more. Run with that!

