


Costume Design & Technology

Design? Technology?

Costume Design Process

- ▶ Read Script
 - ▶ Attend Production Meetings
 - Work within Director's artistic vision
 - Work with other Production Team members
 - ▶ Analyze Script and Characters
 - Answer essential questions
 - ▶ Research
 - ▶ Organize
 - ▶ Sketch/Render
 - ▶ Present/Get Approval
 - ▶ Shop and Produce
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Read Script

- ▶ First time is for story
- ▶ 2nd and subsequent times read for analysis and clues
- ▶ Example from *The Glass Menagerie*
 - What clues can you find?

Attend Production Meetings

▶ Production Team

- Director
 - Scene Designer
 - Costume Designer
 - Lighting Designer
 - Sound Designer
 - Technical Director
 - Choreographer/Music Director (if musical)
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Analyze Script and Characters

- ▶ Answer Essential Questions
 - Use this form each time we read a play

Research

▶ Historical

- Where and when in the world is play set?
- What is social context?
 - Anything important going on at that time that effects mood or setting?

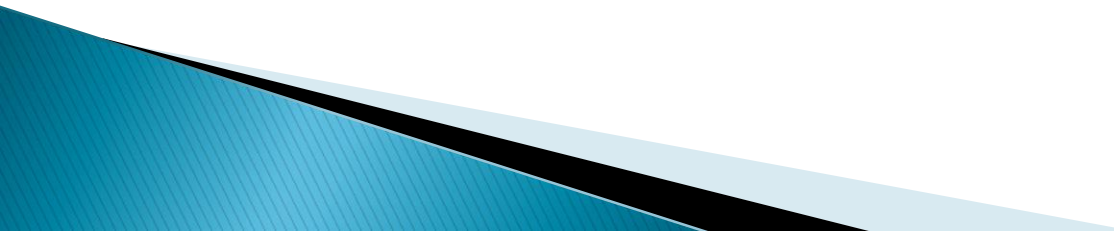
▶ Character

- What items of clothing might the characters in the play be wearing?
- What colors/textures/shapes do I imagine fitting into the world of the play?

Organize--Create the **Costume Plot**

Characters	Act/Scene	Act/Scene	Act/Scene	Act/Scene
List characters in this column in order of appearance	If character is in scene: make detailed list of every costume item		Continue for every character and every scene of the play	
		If character not in scene: Place X in the space		
Character 1	Hat, overcoat, suit, tie, shirt, socks, shoes, belt, watch, cane	X	Bathrobe, pajamas, slippers, hankie	


Sketch / Render

- ▶ Designer's drawings are not meant to be works of art, rather they are meant to communicate ideas
 - ▶ Hand drawn/painted renderings
 - ▶ Computer aided drawings
 - ▶ Digital collages
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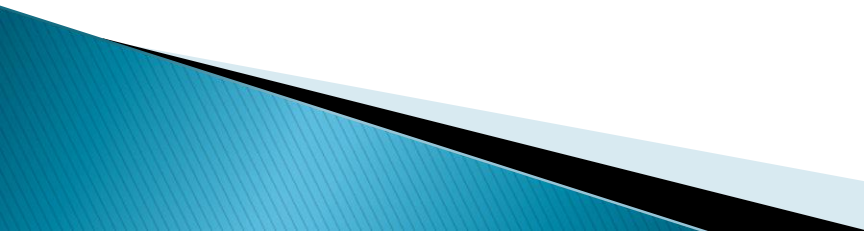
Present/Get Approval

- ▶ After researching and sketching, designer shares ideas with Production Team
 - Considers feedback from director and others
 - Makes adjustments, if necessary, to designs
 - Creates final renderings

Shop and Produce

- ▶ If show is modern dress, shop for ready-made garments
 - Catalog
 - Thrift store
 - Retail
 - Costume stock (if theatre maintains one)
 - ▶ If costumes are to be rented, coordinate rental
 - ▶ If costumes are to be built, shop for fabrics and trims
 - Meet with Costume Shop personnel to begin the process
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Costume Technology Process

- ▶ Costume Shop—place for developing and constructing theatrical costumes
 - ▶ Receive design renderings and conference with designer
 - ▶ Plan the production schedule
 - When are patterns/mock-ups due?
 - When will first fittings occur?
 - Final fittings?
 - 1st Dress Rehearsal?
 - ▶ Begin the build
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Costume Technology Terms

- ▶ Let's try matching terms and explanations

Now what?

- ▶ Read/analyze *Steel Magnolias*
 - ▶ Work in teams to create digital collages
 - ▶ Quiz over introductory material
 - ▶ After that we will move into Costume Technology!!
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