

## A Study on Exploration of Unconventional Materials for 'Statement Jewellery'

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### ABSTRACT

Handmade Jewellery is been assembled and formed by hand rather than through the use of machines. Jewellery has been around for thousands of years and continues to be a fashionable way to spice up anyone's look. The aim of project was to introduce the unconventional materials for statement jewellery. Sketching of each set was done to portray the design before execution. The materials used for statement jewellery were waste Cd's, and scrap fabric. These materials were amalgamated with the traditional raw materials such as beads, sequins, charms and chains to form unique jewellery sets. The sets were divided into two categories based on the type of raw material used i.e. Category 1: Clef- Cd Jewellery, Category 2: Crumb- Fabric Jewellery. Each Jewellery set consisted of a necklace, a pair of earrings, a ring and a bracelet. The cost of each set was calculated on the basis of materials used.

**Keywords:** Statement Jewellery, Unconventional, Crumb fabric, Cd's.

### INTRODUCTION

Jewellery plays a very important role in society from ancient time. It has been discovered that jewellery was worn for several purposes like show case of social status as well as cultural identities<sup>5</sup>. It is also worn for auspicious occasions in various societies such as marriage ceremony, birth and for formal and informal occasion. Statement jewellery refers to huge chunky necklaces, big earrings, bold rings and massive bracelets in comparison to the traditionally made simple jewellery. It is manufactured using traditional materials such as precious and semi-precious metal like gold, silver, brass, copper, aluminium, steel; stones such as ruby, diamonds, emeralds, rhinestones and beads made of plastic, metals, wood<sup>2</sup> etc. These materials are being used since time immemorial therefore; an attempt was made in this study to explore the use of unconventional material to form statement jewellery.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The market survey was carried out in various places of Bangalore to know the latest trends in market. The researcher came to know that

statement jewellery has taken the world of accessories by storm and people are looking for creative and unique designs. It was found that majority of designs in the market were made of conventional materials such as wire, beads, thread, metal only.

### Pilot Study

Various unconventional material like bubble wrap, CDs, Plastic wrappers, toothpicks, shoelaces, fasteners, hot glue, fabric scraps etc. were available in the market. A pilot study was conducted in department of Fashion and Apparel Design at Garden City College to know the feasibility of material for statement jewellery.

### Selection of Materials

Used CDs and scrap fabric was selected for the execution of the objectives. Chains, jump rings, lobster clasps, stick pins, loop pins and plastic beads were the materials used along with the basic raw materials to give support functionally and enhance aesthetic appeal.

### Tools and Techniques used

The tools used for making the products were – needle, thread, cutting pliers, wire cutters and a

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glass slab. The main techniques employed in the making process were – Braiding, lacing, looping, shaping, embroidery, bead weaving and wire work.

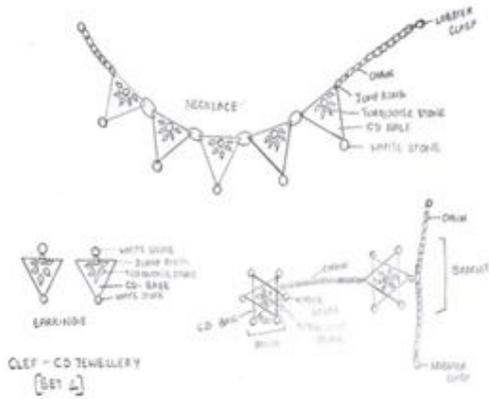
**Selection of Categories**

The jewellery pieces have been classified into two categories based on the materials. They are as follows

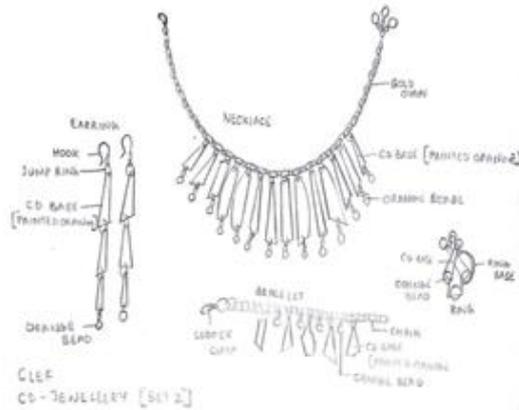
**Category 1:** Clef – CD Jewellery

**Category 2:** Crumb – Fabric Jewellery

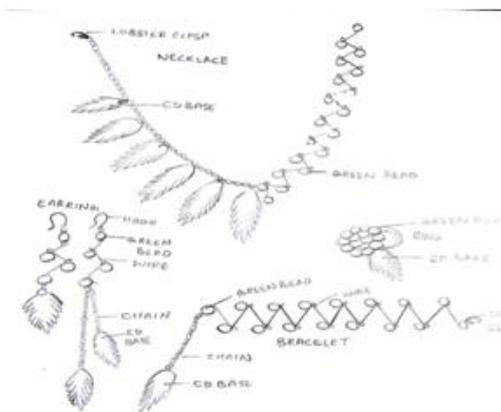
Each of the categories contained 3 jewellery sets which consisted of a necklace, an earring, a bracelet and a ring.



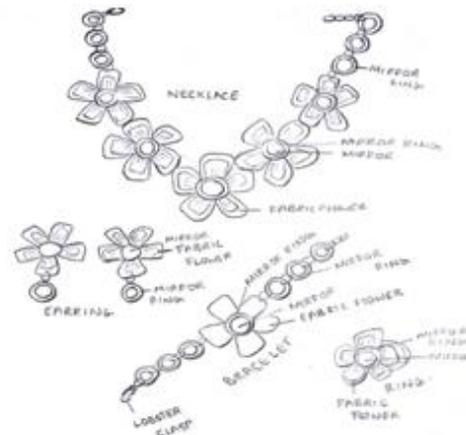
**Fig1.** Clef – CD Jewellery, Set-1



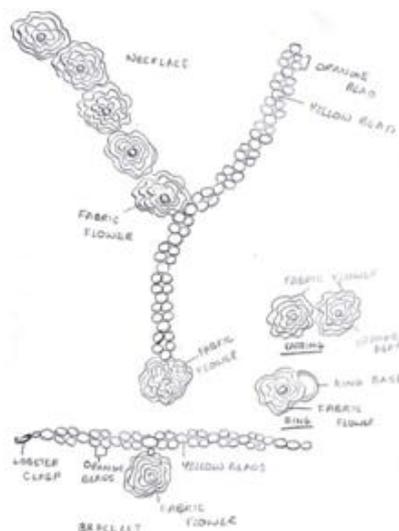
**Fig2.** Clef – CD Jewellery, Set-2



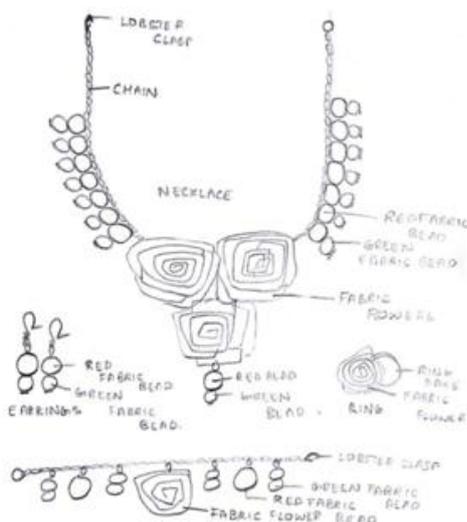
**Fig3.** Clef – CD Jewellery, Set-3



**Fig4.** Crumb – Fabric Jewellery Set 1



**Fig5.** Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set – 2



**Fig6.** Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set - 3

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### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The cost of each set of both categories was calculated depending on their materials used.

**Category 1:** Clef – CD Jewellery –Set 1, Set 2, Set 3,

**Category 2:** Crumb – Fabric Jewellery –Set 1, Set 2, Set 3,

**Category 1:** Clef – CD Jewellery

**Clef – CD Jewellery –Set 1:** Sequined Transparent CD base used in geometric collar style necklace. Hanging earrings and hand cuff with attached ring.



**Plate1.** Clef – CD Jewellery, Set 1

**Table1.** Cost sheet of Clef – CD Jewellery, Set 1

Category 1: Clef : CD Jewellery			Set : 1	
S. no	Material	Quantity	Price/Unit	Cost
1.	CD	1	RS 12	Rs 12
2.	Jump Rings	1 Packet	Rs 10	Rs 10
3.	Chain	20grams	Rs 35	Rs 35
4.	Sequence(white)	1 packet	Rs 10	Rs 10
5.	Sequence(blue)	1 packet	Rs 10	Rs 10
6.	Ring base	1	Rs 15	Rs 15
7.	Lobster clasp	1	Rs 5	Rs 5
8.	Labour cost			Rs 200
Total :				Rs 297
Profit : 60%				
⇒ $60 \times 297 / 100 = \text{Rs. } 178.20$ , Selling Price = cost price + profit = $297 + 178.20 = \text{Rs } 475.20$ , Rounding off ⇒ Rs 480.				

**Clef – CD Jewellery, Set 2:** Asymmetrical necklace made with inter looped beads and Leaf shaped CD pieces placed on a chain, matching bracelet and ring. Asymmetrical earrings of two

different lengths, one consisting of looped beads and a CD leaf, the other has two chains between the looped beads and a CD leaf,



**Plate2.** Clef – CD Jewellery, Set 2

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**Table2.** Cost sheet of Clef – CD Jewellery, Set 2

Category 1 : Clef : CD Jewellery			Set : 2	
Sl no	Material	Quantity	Price/Unit	Cost
1.	CD	2	Rs 12	Rs 24
2.	Beads	20 grams	Rs 20	Rs 20
3.	Jump Rings	1 Packet	Rs 10	Rs 10
4.	Chain	20grams	Rs 35	Rs 35
5.	Ring Base	1	Rs 15	Rs 15
6.	Lobster clasp	1	Rs 5	Rs 5
7.	Labour cost			Rs 200
Total :				Rs. 309
Profit = 60% $\Rightarrow 60 \times 309 / 100 = \text{Rs. } 185$ Selling price = cost price + profit $\Rightarrow 309 + 185$ $\Rightarrow = \text{Rs } 494$ Rounding off $\Rightarrow \text{Rs } 500.$				

**Clef – CD Jewellery, Set 3:** Collar style necklaces made using abstract shaped CD with painted pieces, embellished with orange plastic

bead hangings, 3 tiered earrings, and a chain style bracelet with CD piece hangings and beads and an abstract ring.



**Plate3.** Clef – CD Jewellery, Set 3

**Table3.** Cost sheet of Clef – CD Jewellery, Set-3

Category 1 : Clef – CD Jewellery			SET: 3	
Sl no	Material	Quantity	Price/Unit	Cost
1.	CD	3	Rs 12	Rs 36
2.	Beads	20 grams	Rs 20	Rs 20
3.	Jump Rings	1 Packet	Rs 10	Rs 10
4.	Chain	20grams	Rs 35	Rs 35
5.	Ring Base	1	Rs 15	Rs 15
6.	Lobster Clasp	1	Rs 5	Rs 5
7.	Labour cost			Rs 400
Total :				Rs 521
Profit = 60% $\Rightarrow 60 \times 521 / 100 = \text{Rs } 312.6$ Selling price = Cost price + Profit $= 521 + 312.6$ $= \text{Rs } 833.60$ Rounding off = Rs 890				

### Category 2: Crumb – Fabric Jewellery

**Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 1:** Neckline with fabric roses used as a centre piece placed

centrally on a chain hung with fabric bead hanging with matching earrings. Ring made by placing a fabric rose on the ring base.



Plate4. Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 1

Table4. Cost sheet Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 1

Category 2: Crumb – Fabric Jewellery			Set: 1	
Sl no	Material	Quantity	Price/Unit	Cost
1.	Satin	0.5 meter	RS 150	RS 75
2.	Fabric Beads(red)	1 strand	RS 50	RS 50
3.	Fabric Beads(Green)	1 strand	RS 50	RS 50
4.	Chain	4 meters	RS 20	RS 80
5.	Stick Pins	1 packet	RS 25	RS 25
6.	Ring Base	1	RS 10	RS 10
7.	Lobster Clasp	1	RS 5	RS 5
8.	Labour cost			RS 300
Total :				RS 595
Profit = 60% $\Rightarrow 595 \times 60 / 100 = 357$ Selling Price = cost price + profit $= 595 + 357$ $= \text{Rs. } 952.$				

*Fabric Jewellery, Set 2:* Set consisting of asymmetrical necklace with a row of fabric flowers joined to a strand made by bead weaving, stud style earring made using the

fabric flower, ring made by placing fabric flower on a ring base and bracelet made by a single fabric flower joined to a strand made by bead weaving.



Plate5. Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 2

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**Table5.** Cost sheet Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 2

Category 2 : Crumb – Fabric Jewellery			Set: 2	
Sl no.	Material	Quantity	Price/Unit	Cost
1.	Fabric [ Raw silk]	0.5 meters	Rs 300	Rs 150
2.	Mirror	10	Rs 1	Rs 10
3.	Mirror Rings	1 packet	Rs 40	Rs 40
4.	Jump Rings	2 packet	Rs 25	Rs 50
5.	Lobster clasp	2	Rs 5	Rs 10
6.	Earring studs	1 pair	Rs 10	Rs 10
8.	Labour cost			Rs 300
Total :				Rs 570
Profit = 60% $\Rightarrow 570 \times 60/100$ $\Rightarrow = \text{Rs } 342$ Selling Price = Cost Price+ Profit $= 570 + 342$ $= \text{Rs } 912$				

*Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 3:* Set with two ends of the necklace to finish the look, Necklace made of fabric flowers embroidered matching bracelet, earring and ring.



**Plate6.** Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 3

**Table6.** Cost sheet Crumb – Fabric Jewellery, Set 3

Category 2 : Crumb – Fabric Jewellery			Set: 3	
Sl no.	Material	Quantity	Price/Unit	Cost
1.	Fabric	2 meters	Rs 150/m	Rs 300
2.	Beads [yellow]	20 grams	Rs 20/10gm	Rs 40
3.	Beads [orange]	20 grams	Rs 20/10gm	Rs 40
4.	Lobster Clasp	2	Rs 5	Rs 10
5.	Earring studs	1 pair	Rs10	Rs 10
6.	Labour cost			Rs 300
Total :				Rs 400
Profit = 60% $\Rightarrow 400 \times 60/100$ $\Rightarrow = \text{Rs } 240$ Selling Price = Cost Price + Profit $= 400 + 240$ $= \text{Rs } 640$				

### CONCLUSION

Statement jewellery had influenced the fashion industry in a massive way and at present time it has become an essential part of the fashion industry. It is also being used for commercial

purposes i.e. in fashion shows, styling, and photo shoot for magazine covers, advertisements, etc. The creativity and use of the materials were highly appreciated by the respondents. Majority of the respondents liked the idea and agreed that the cost of each set was affordable.

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