

CHAPTER 2

HAIR ACCESSORIES FROM OLD CLOTHES

Dr. Annie Ninan (Co-Author)

Associate Professor, PG Department of Home Science,

Korambayil Ahamed Haji Memorial Unity Women's College, Manjeri

Bahira M., Bahaboodiya CT., Hasna AK., Hasna M., Bushra Minnath.

Undergraduate Students, PG Department of Home Science

Korambayil Ahamed Haji Memorial Unity Women's College, Manjeri

INTRODUCTION

A textile is a flexible material made by creating an interlocking bundle of yarns or threads, which are produced by spinning raw fibers (from either natural or synthetic sources) into long and twisted length. Textiles are then formed by weaving, knitting, crocheting, knotting, tatting, felting, bonding or braiding these yarns together. A fabric is a material made through weaving, knitting, spreading, felting, stitching, crocheting or bonding that may be used in the production of further products, such as clothing and upholstery, thus requiring a further step of the production cloth.

The textile industry plays a significant role in Indian economy by providing direct employment to an estimated 35 million people, by contributing 4% of GDP and accounting for 35 % of gross export earnings. The textile industry in India covers a wide gamut of activities ranging from production of raw material like cotton, jute, silk and wool to providing high value added products such as fabrics and garments to consumers. The industry uses a wide variety of fibres ranging from natural fibres like cotton, jute, silk & wool to manmade fibres like polyester, viscose, acrylic and multiple blends of such fibres and filament yarn.

Textile product mills convert raw textile into finished products other than apparel. Some of the items made in this sector include house hold items such as carpets and rugs, towels, curtains, and sheets, cord and twin, furniture and automative upholstery, and industrial belts and fire

houses. The apparel manufacturing industry transforms fabric products by textile manufacturers into clothing and accessories.

Hair accessories are functional or ornamental objects wrapped, tied, twisted, inserted, or otherwise attached to the hair. Infinitely varied in shapes, sizes, and materials, examples of hair accessories include: hair rings or bands, ribbons and bows, hairpins, hair combs, barrettes, beads, thread or string, hair spikes and sticks, and other affixed miscellaneous objects (shells, jewels, coins, flowers, feathers) perceived to have aesthetic or social and cultural value. Hair accessories have been worn by people of all ages and by both genders.

Fashionable men also adorned their long tresses with ribbons and bows. A "love lock" was a lock of a man's hair grown longer than the rest, and then accentuated with a ribbon. Hair rings and hair bands are cylindrically shaped hair accessories wound around the hair, designed to hold hair away from the face, or otherwise confine strands of hair. Some of the earliest hair rings were found in Great Britain, France, and Belgium at the end of the Bronze Age. These objects were solid gold or gold-plated clay, bronze, or lead. Ancient Egyptians wore similar rings during the New Kingdom Dynasties 18-20. Examples have been found in Egyptian tombs.

In the twentieth century, the use of rubber and other manufactured elastomeric fibres made hair rings (now called hair bands or ponytail holders) more flexible. They were covered with thread or fibres to make them less likely to break strands of hair. "Scrunchies" were some of the most popular hair bands during the 1980s. These fabric-covered elastic decorative bands were used to create ponytails in the hair of young girls and women. Now a day's hair accessories are worn by women around world and are available in a variety of shapes, sizes, materials, great for keeping hairstyle in place, others are ideal for getting bangs out off your face and then there are decorative pieces that are perfectly well as hair adornments. Now they are a part of youth culture.

FASHION ACCESSORIES

An accessory can be said to be anything you wear or carry other than your clothes. In fashion, an accessory is an item used to contribute, in a secondary manner, to an individual's outfit. Accessories are often chosen to complete an outfit and complement the wearer's look. They have the capacity to further express an individual's identity and personality. Accessories come in different shapes, sizes, hues, etc. Fashion accessories can be loosely categorised into two general areas: those that are carried and those that are worn. Traditionally carried

accessories include purses and handbags, hand fans, parasols and umbrellas, wallets, canes, and ceremonial swords. Accessories that are worn may include jackets, boots and shoes, cravats, ties, hats, bonnets, belts and suspenders, gloves, muffs, necklaces, bracelets, watches, eyewear, sashes, shawls, scarves, lanyards, socks, pins, piercings, rings, and stockings. The type of accessory that an individual chooses to wear or carry to complement their outfit can be determined by several factors, including the specific context of where the individual is going. Similarly, an individual's economical status, religious and cultural background would also be a contributing factor.

Accessories aim to enhance the effect of clothes you wear- whether they succeed or not depend on your sense of style, the trend in fashion at that particular time and the context.

These accessories are just as much a part of fashion history as specific types of apparel. There are classic, timeless accessories that remain in fashion year after year, as well as trendy items that quickly become popular, then fade as new looks are introduced to the scene.

USE OF FASHION ACCESSORIES

Fashion accessories are vital for fashion design in terms of creating total look and presenting a fashion statement. Fashion accessory is an item used to contribute in a secondary manner, to the wearer's outfit often used to complete an outfit. Accessories are important details to complete each appearance. Accessories and cloths are more important than you think. Accessories and clothes are equally important in your outfit, working together to create a harmony that expresses your style and who you are. Accessories offers unlimited opportunities for cloths. Never underestimate the power of accessories. They are touches to an outfit that express individuality and style. Clothing experts predict accessories will be more important as style become more classic and investment dressing a necessity. Wise consumers can no longer afford to purchase clothes having a short fashion life, they are buying fewer clothing items of better quality. Accessories make basic clothing versatile by changing the mood and image of an outfit. Using accessories is an art. By experimenting with belts, shoes, bags, scarves etc, we create a total look. The next step is to plan the clothing presentation, just like an artist plans a picture, we must design and plan your clothing image. Choosing accessories requires the careful blending of elements and principles of design. Each accessories should enhance the features and contribute to the unity and harmony of our clothing.

Majority of the accessories are used daily as per types of the dress. Footwear are the most preferred fashion change accessories followed by wrist watches and earrings. People change their handbags-as per types of their dress and are influenced about-the use of fashion accessories by their friends and media. Accessories are as important as clothing, offering a whole new opportunity to express yourself .Accessories can create a fluent style waves up from head to toe. Accessories are your best friends. Eye-catching accessories can also create a strong style statement.

HAIR ACCESSORIES

Hair accessories are functional or ornamental objects wrapped, tied, twisted, inserted, or otherwise attached to the hair. Throughout the history types of ornamentation and the materials from which they were made indicated religious significance, social class, age group, and level of fashion awareness. Infinitely varied in shapes, sizes, and materials, examples of hair accessories include: hair rings or bands, ribbons and bows, hairpins, hair combs, barrettes, beads, thread or string, hair spikes and sticks, and there affixed miscellaneous objects (shells, jewels, coins, flowers, feathers) perceived to have aesthetic or social and cultural value. Hair accessories have been worn by people of all ages and by both genders. Hair rings and hair bands are cylindrically shaped hair accessories wound around the hair, designed to hold hair away from the face, or otherwise confine strands of hair. Some of the earliest hair rings were found in Great Britain, France, and Belgium at the end of the Bronze Age. In North America, hair binders were made of pliable materials such as silk or cotton covering lead wire (Cox 1966). In the twentieth century, the use of rubber and In other manufactured elastomeric fibers made hair rings (now called hair bands or ponytail holders) more flexible. They were covered with thread or fibers to make them less likely to break strands of hair.

TYPES OF HAIR ACCESSORIES

1. Pearl hairband

They're one of those sophisticated gemstones that add charm to your personality much like these pearl hairbands. A fine addition to a woman's hair accessory collection, pearl hairbands can be put to test when you need to pretty up your party-fit or a fancy dinner look. Wear these with laced dresses, tops and more especially with a jewelled neckline.

2. Knot hairband

Do not underestimate the power of fashionable hair accessories for women. Particularly the versatile ones. They're refined but with an added sass. Style it with your messy buns and middle-part hairstyles for a look on the go. They are great for amping up a simple brunch look.

3. Braided hairband

A step further to knot hairbands, braided hairbands is the latest fad in the hair accessory for the girls' department. They're super stylish and extremely gorgeous. These can be used to jack up an otherwise plain outfit. It's a lovely hair accessory mostly worn with bland work wear clothes or a very basic t-shirt/shirt dress. With these crowning your head, no extra jazz is needed.

TIARA-STYLE HAIRBAND

Tiara-style hairbands have been amongst us for a long time now, and they have managed to steadily get better with time. They're artful, elegant and super cute. It's a hair accessory for women befitting all sorts of party/wedding outfits. Furthermore, these hairbands for women go with any length and quality of hair.

JEWELLED FANCY HAIRBANDS

More of a rager, jewelled fancy hairbands are a top-of-the-line hair accessory for women who like to set trends. These are big, chunky and frankly tricky to style. However, one certain thing about owning these fancy hairbands is that they'd look best with loose, slightly wavy hair.

BOW HAIRBANDS

An occasion is made brighter and happier with bows. The whimsy is true for bow hairbands. It's a part of a hair accessory for girls that are adorable.



PRINTED HEAD-WRAPS FOR LADIES

Head-wraps are a great hair accessory for spring and summer! They look super-chic with t-shirt dresses, maxis and long shrugs. And it is one of the best outfits for the hot days. Styled in a myriad of ways, head-wraps are fun to experiment with and are very comfy. Mostly coupled with long, messy hair to create a boho-chic look perfect for brunch dates, a day-out with girlfriends or for a fun visit to the beach. A cute bow-knot at the top will keep the ensemble cool and classy all through the day.

SHAPE CLIPS

Shape clips are also a part of the latest hair accessory for womens' trends. A minimalistic accessory every lady should have at her disposal all the time. These are quite handy and adorable to wear. Pick a shape you love, pair it with your buns, loose or half-tied hair, and make heads turn!

PEARL-WHITE BEADED HAIR CLIPS

The charismatic grandeur of pearl is known to all and they go interestingly well with chic and classy ensembles. These hair clips for girls offers a rich, classy look with a pinch of elegance. Use these to complete your first-date look or a super-cute party outfit

STONE STUDED LETTER HAIRPINS

Stone studded letter hairpins are a glam jam for the hoarder of stunning hair accessories for women. These letter hairpins are just a few years old and they don't fail to show off the sassy, OTT side of you. A single pin or maybe two with words so wise that they describe you are enough to make a fashion statement. These work out best with a fancy outfit specially made for rocking parties.

BOW CLIPS

Bows were one of the quintessential hair accessories for women that never go out of style. They still possess the old-world charm we never get bored of. It's a fashion commitment you don't move on from. They're super cute, too adorable and mostly go with sundresses and casual brunch-date outfits.

PRINTED SCRUNCHIE

They are soft on our tresses but hold three times more volume which, technically is pretty impressive. More than that, scrunchies are an important part of the hair accessories for women list because you can't go living a life without at least a bunch of these in your drawer. However, to make a style statement, remember to pick the cute, printed ones.

HISTORY OF HAIR ACCESSORIES

Architectural findings and historical evidence indicate that hair accessories date back to prehistoric times. Hair accessories have been found in ancient cultures around the world. The Ancient Greeks and Romans used crowns made from twigs, foliage and flowers. In Ancient Africa shells and beads were the materials of choice for making hair accessories. Even to this day shells and beads made from natural materials are used to make various jewellery and head pieces in various African tribes. For the Native Americans headdresses were made using animal bones and feathers. A lot of materials they used held symbolic meanings and power.

Hair ties are one of the oldest and most commonly used hair accessories. Hair ties are said to date back to between 10,000 and 8,000 BC. Elastic bands did not exist yet back then, but in Ancient Europe, hair rings were made using precious metals such as gold and silver. In Ancient Egypt, hair rings were made using pottery, alabaster or jasper.

One of the earliest known examples of a hair accessory is that of a diadem worn by the Priest King of the Indus Valley Civilization circa 2200-2600 BC. Since then, hair accessories of all shapes and sizes have been used for fashion, function and symbolic purposes all throughout history and up to the present. In the UK, horseshoe-shaped headbands are sometimes called "Alice bands" after the headbands that Alice is often depicted wearing in through the looking glass.

Things changed around 20th century, when rubber and elastic fibers began to be commercially produced. Soon after, elastic bands and scrunchies became popular, making inflexible hair rings obsolete and hair ties we know today to flood to markets.

CONCLUSION

Hair accessories have stayed throughout history and made it into the modern day because they are not only ornamental and decorative, but they are also functional. Two of the biggest differences between the hair accessories of the ancient world and today are the materials that they are made of, and the purpose other than functional usage. Today, most hair accessories such as hair clips are made using plastic and spring. Back then some hair clips were deemed to be status symbol especially the ones made of gold, silver and other precious metals and gems. Today hair clips are mainly made used for functional, decorative and styling purposes. From the humble beginnings to the everyday objects that most people have in their dressers today, knowing about the history of the favourite hair accessories will give a whole new appreciation for them.

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