

A Study on the Grading Methods for Design : Focused on Blouses

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Grading is to enlarge or reduce the size of a master pattern to keep the designer's original intention, but it is not easy to keep it and clothing manufacturers have different grading methods. Most of manufacturers use their own grading methods they have tested or a few skilled graders or pattern makers make grading methods with their own experiences. The purpose of this study was to find out the grading methods of blouses to keep the designer's original intention.

The sample blouses of 3 different styles were selected for a sensory evaluation and comparison of patterns to find out a blouse which kept an original silhouette the best. The grading methods used in this study were 2; one was usually used by clothing manufacturers which is the grading method in proportion to bust girth, and the other was developed by previous studies which is the grading method to be focused on the body measurements. The sizes for a grading were 8 and 10 of dress forms. In order to find out the differences among the master pattern of size 10, the graded pattern from size 8 using the grading method of manufacturers, and the graded pattern from size 8 using the grading method of previous studies, these 3 patterns were compared. The sample blouses which made of graded patterns were compared through the sensory evaluation.

The results of this study were as follows:

1. The shape of the pattern of clothing manufacturers was close to the shape of master pattern of size 10. On the contrary, previous method of grading shows the increase of bust compared to all the other parts that made upper part of bust differ from the center line.
2. The ease of hip girth of manufacturers was larger than that of previous studies, and the neck circumference of manufacturers was smaller than that.
3. As for a box style blouse, the blouse of previous studies had better evaluation, and as for other 2 style blouses, a princess blouse and a two darted blouse had better.

These results showed that grading methods suited to designs should be used.