

Wearable Art





Everyone can create wearable art.

What is Wearable Art?

Sometimes the clothes we wear do more than just cover us, they are art. Wearable art may be old or new, and it may be made with gems, pins, paper clips, or other things. This kind of art may be sewn or printed by an artist, someone you know, or even you.

Artists create many kinds of wearable art. Some put gems on coats or shoes or paint pictures on shirts, scarves, or robes. Some sew pictures on jeans or knit clothes in different colors. Some also put pins and beads on hats.

Many people create wearable art so they have clothes that are different from everyone else's. Wearable art is made and worn by people around the world.

Key Notes:

What things can be part of wearable art?



Jade jewelry, an ancient art, is popular today.

Jewelry as Art

One kind of wearable art is jewelry, such as rings. Jewelry that is wearable art can be made from gold or gemstones. It can also be made from things that are in the house. Some people like to make jewelry from paper clips or safety pins. Rings can be made out of twigs or wire. Some people glue together seashells to make pins.

Some wearable art jewelry was worn a long time ago. Today, in museums, we can see jewelry from King Tut's tomb. We can also see jade jewelry that was worn by important people in China. Artists can study jewelry from the past in museums and make new pieces based on what they have seen.

Key Notes:

Why is some jewelry called wearable art?



Clothing shows what
people want others
to know.

Flower Power

In the 1960s, many people thought their clothing should show their ideas. They thought that what they wore should say something about them. Some people who wanted to show they were against war called their idea 'flower power.' These people painted colorful flowers on their faces and clothes and wore flowers in their hair.

Today, people like to show their ideas on t-shirts. They paint flowers, animals, and other colorful things on their shirts and coats. They also wear sayings that mean something to them or names of brands they like. They wear what they want other people to know about them. Wearable arts can help people tell others what they think, what they like, and who they are.

Key Notes:

What was flower power?



Jennifer Stern is known for her easy-to-sew clothing designs.

An Artist of Wearable Art

Jennifer Stern is a sewing teacher. She is also an artist who makes wearable art. Stern uses a sewing machine to make special dresses. She also uses computer software to make dresses that are colorful.

After Stern makes a dress with her sewing machine, she uses computer software to draw flowers on the dress. Next, she sews the colorful flower pictures onto the dress with her sewing machine. Finally, she adds beads of different colors to the flowers, sewing them on one at a time.

Stern might use the same flowers that are on a dress and add them to a jacket to match the dress. She has also won contests for the wearable art she has made.

Key Notes:

What does Jennifer Stern do?

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