

combed cotton yarn	fibres of long, even lengths; noticeably softer and higher in quality than carded cotton
communication	the ability to impart an understanding or meaning using text, speech, visual signals or behaviour
computer-aided design (CAD)	various technologies, both hardware and software, that can be used to create fashion illustrations or pattern design
computer-aided manufacture (CAM)	various items of technological equipment or machinery that can aid in the production of textile design and construction
contemporary influences	current trends, such as concern for the environment, sustainability and attention to ecodesign

contrast

an unexpected change in the visual elements of a design; created through colour, shape, line or texture

core-spun yarn

yarn with a centre or core of one fibre composition, around which another fibre is spun or wrapped

corset

a bodice stiffened with buckram, wood or metal

cotton

a cellulosic fibre produced by the cotton plant, which is a member of the Hibiscus family

cotton gin

a drum with fine, hook-shaped wires projecting from it that held the seeds back while the cotton lint was pulled away; invented in 1794

couching

the process of attaching decorative yarns or cords to fabric

course

a horizontal row of loops in knitted fabric

crinoline

a stiffened hoop or petticoat that provides a structural support for a skirt; often creates a dramatic silhouette

cultural influences

the influence of a culture's dance and movement, its art, social life and practising artists, such as musical icons or celebrities

culture

a system of shared beliefs, values, customs, behaviours and artefacts that are unique and transmitted from generation to generation

dart

formed from triangular shapes on the pattern piece that taper to a point; used to shape the fabric to fit the body, found at the bust, waistline and hips

decorative technique

a technique to enhance a design that is also appropriate to the end purpose

denier

a unit of weight that measures the fineness of a yarn

design

a process that uses a combination of aesthetic and functional components to create solutions for an identified need; a sketch or plan for work so a project can be developed

design for environment (DfE)

an initiative that encourages businesses to give greater thought to the design of products to avoid or minimise significant environmental impact; also sometimes called ecodesign

design image transfer	a process by which a digital image is transferred to a textile item using a paper medium and heat
dimension stability	the inability of a fabric to shrink or stretch
direct digital printing (DDP)	printing directly onto fabric using inkjet technology and computer-aided design (CAD) systems and programs
direction	how the eye is led around a design, determined by the type of line used and the direction of the line produced in the design
drape	how a fabric hangs or falls