

APRIL IN PARIS

April 2003

Design Inspiration

This ensemble was inspired by a Chanel tweed coat with a custom woven trim. I duplicated the look of the trim by using a combination of fabric and braid.

Fabrics

Coat and skirt: 100

Embellishments

Coat and skirt: braid trim, rayon base fabric.

Patterns

Coat: 108, Burda magazine, August 2000 (modified).

Skirt: Vogue 2565.

Special Sewing Techniques

The jacket and skirt are made with modern tailoring techniques. The edges and seams of both garments are accented with a layered trim consisting of a fabric base and a braid upper layer. The fabric layer acts as a background to highlight the braid, which would otherwise be visually lost against the busy tweed fabric. The fabric base layer is applied using the so-called “magic binding” technique. Fabric strips are seamed to the garment edge at a distance inside the seamline equal to the width of the finished trim. The strips are then folded back towards the edge. The remaining raw edges are caught in the seam that is used to finish the edge. The braid is centered on the fabric trim and stitched by machine to secure.

Exhibitions and Awards

Honorable Mention, Nancy’s Notions Garment Challenge, May 2003.