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Garment Analysis: Shein Pleated Mini Skirt



The garment that was chosen was a baby blue plaid skirt from Shein, which is an Asian-based fast fashion online store. This skirt is a gendered garment and even though other genders can wear it, it is geared and advertised towards women and teens. The garment can only be worn as a skirt because of the way it's designed, it won't be able to be used for anything else. This skirt is about the size of 2 iPad Pros that are 11in in length. It is made out of 100% polyester so it doesn't have any other fiber composition besides polyester. The central colors of this skirt are different shades of light blue, brown, black, and white. The only design on the skirt is the plaid design. The only label is the logo tag which shows who made it, the size, and the location it was made.

The skirt is a pleated mini skirt that goes right above the knee. It has a 90's style to it since back then pleated plaid skirts was a trend along with mini skirts as well. It's slim fitting at the top where the pleated part is and gets wider as it passes the hip. The size is a medium, the length is 17in and the width is 17in on the pleated part and 24in on the unpleated part. The structure of the garment emphasizes the waist part of the body since the pleated part is made to fit the waist and open up around the hip and thigh area. The materials are put together quite well for a fast fashion

garment. The only issue is that in some parts of the garment, the plaid design doesn't line up together but it's not that noticeable. There's no loose threads and it's not falling apart and I had it for about 2 years now. This skirt has a zipper closure which was also put on well and has no pockets.

There is no lining on this skirt, it is just the patterned fabric. The skirt doesn't weigh a lot since it's very light when I wear it and flies sometimes when the wind blows. When it was being examined, there was no evidence of the skirt being altered, repaired or damaged. The skirt is still intact and doesn't look like much was done to it besides being put together. It doesn't show any wear, discoloration, fading, or staining since this skirt isn't worn often. It's usually worn at least 5 times a year and most of the time it's when the weather is nice. There's only one label on this skirt and it shows that the skirt was made in China for the company Shein and is a size 6 in US.

The scent of the garment is mostly detergent because it is washed more than it's worn, the texture is smooth and soft, the fabric doesn't irritate the skin and it's very light weight. The skirt doesn't have a sound to it because of how light and short it is. There are no functional elements within this garment and the quality of the construction is good to last a couple years with minimal usage. The maker most likely wanted to express sexuality and emotion since it's a mini skirt. They most likely wanted to boost a woman's confidence and make her feel good. I like the way the skirt makes me feel every time I put it on. It makes me feel confident and beautiful when I complete the outfit with a nice top and sneakers. I can either dress it up or dress it down. As a researcher, looking at a model wearing this garment, it will show me how the garment is used by different people and see if the outfits are similar to other people's outfits. It will show me that it's mostly a semi casual outfit that can be worn to different outings such as dates, school, or just a day out.

A researcher would speculate that America in 2022 are using different trends from different eras and bringing it back into the more recent trends. Pleated mini skirts always been in style since the 90's. America is finding more versatile garments that can be worn for different occasions. It also shows that America is more into fast fashion than sustainable clothing. This garment is special to the wearer because of the design of it. It makes the wearer feel good about themselves and makes them feel confident in the skirt. Every time it's worn, it always brings the wearer compliments because the outfit is always nice. This is a garment that will look cute

whether it's with a graphic tee, a plain body suit, or a crop top. No matter the style it's being worn in, it always looks good no the wearer knows that which is why it's special to them.

The message this garment is conveying is confidence and sexuality. The mini skirt used to be a controversial thing but now it has been accepted into the fashion world and is always being worn when the wearer wants so feel sexy and wants some attention. The use life of this skirt would be four or five times a year depending on if the wearer wears this mostly in the spring or summer seasons or if they also wear it in the early phases of fall. This isn't a skirt that you always wear, this is a garment you wear on occasions. A fashion theorist will interpret this garment as a fad because it could be in style this year but may no longer be in style next year but if the wearer doesn't follow trends like that it could worn with almost any style. A fashion theorist will also believe this is a versatile garment because it can be worn with many different outfits in different ways.