

Fashion Challenge: Rei Kawakubo

Are you ready for some daring dress up? Our first challenge is inspired by the avant garde Japanese designer Rei Kawakubo, founder of the fashion label Comme des Garçons (among others). In addition to making functional streetwear, Rei creates sculptural work with the human form as an armature. Her work has been featured at the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#). You can also see several of her haute couture [runway shows](#) online.

While much clothing adheres fairly closely to the silhouette of the wearer, notice how far Rei is willing to move away from the shape of the body itself. Also notice her bold use of patterned material. For this challenge, use pillows and household textiles to create your own sculptural looks with interesting volume – forms built up and away from the body, surrounding it in novel ways, or projecting from it. See what you can assemble with belts, ties, clips and pins rather than sewing – this is partly an engineering challenge!



Please share photos! Send them to ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov. Photos may be shared online.