

## *Opportunities in Clothing and Textiles*

The clothing and textiles project is a diverse project that allows the learner to focus on clothing construction, the consumer aspect of purchasing clothing, and/or the art of designing clothing and accessories. A clothing and textiles project helps you develop a variety of skills, including clothing selection, care, consumer buying, and construction. You will also learn about career options through the study of clothing and textiles and related activities.

Clothing & Textiles Projects are usually conducted throughout the 4-H year, based on the availability of leaders to serve and assist with the project opportunities.

Competitive events related to Clothing and Textiles are held during the spring. Competitive events include Fashion Show, Fabric and Fashion design, Clothing Educational presentations, natural fiber contest, stage design, narrator contest, and recordbook judging. The [4-H Clothing and Textiles Packet](#) includes information for each of these contests. Check with your county Extension office for specific details.

- [Clothing and Textiles Advisory Board](#) – The Texas 4-H Clothing and Textiles Advisory Board offers 4-H members, volunteer leaders, and county Extension agents an opportunity to help determine and expand the 4-H clothing program by recommending and implementing special activities and new project ideas. The Texas 4-H Clothing and Textiles Advisory Board provides the leadership and coordination of the State Fashion Show.
- Jr. Leader – Leadership is a huge skill taught in 4-H. Use the skills that you learn in the clothing and textiles project to teach younger 4-H members. Get involved in the planning and implementation of county events such as workshops and contests.

There are many rewards for youth active in clothing projects and special workshops, tours, camps, fashion shows, and field trips. A wide variety of clothing and textiles community service project are available to 4-H members interested in clothing and textiles. The 2009 state community service projects include:

- [Sew Much Comfort](#) – The 4-H Clothing and Textile Advisory Board would like to challenge every 4-H member to donate a t-shirt this year! Each district will collect the t-shirts and bring them to Texas 4-H Roundup in June.
- [“Anti-Ouch” Pouch – Sew an “Anti-Ouch” Pouch](#). The “Anti-Ouch” pouch is a hanging pillow that is intended to add comfort to people recovering from breast surgery or during radiation treatment. A PowerPoint, [“Breast Cancer Survivor”](#), is available to help members understand breast cancer and see how this community service project helps breast cancer patients.
- [Quilt Challenge](#) – The quilt challenge is an opportunity for 4-H members to create a quilt based on the challenge fabric supplied by the sponsor. All quilts will be displayed at 4-H Roundup. Quilts will then be donated to a cause of their choice.

### **The objectives of the 4-H Clothing program are for youth to:**

- Develop skills in purchasing clothing and accessories.
- Develop skills in wardrobe planning, selection, storage, and care.
- Understand fibers, yards, and processes for making fabric.
- Learn sewing skills by making clothing for themselves and others.
- Develop self-confidence and poise by enhancing personal appearance.
- Explore careers in clothing, textiles, and related fields.
- Develop skills in evaluating garment quality, fit and fashion interpretation.