



Draped Armour

Shwetha JM

Introduction

This collection represents a sophisticated dialogue between the structural rigidity of leather and the fluid, mathematical precision of Indian textile draping. It reinterprets ancient garment-making techniques—traditionally performed in lightweight muslins and silks—through a heavy, modern medium.

The collection explores the concept of "Structured Fluidity." It takes inspiration from the rhythmic, repetitive folds found in traditional Indian attire—such as the dhoti's functional pleats, the ghagra's voluminous gathers, and the angarkha's overlapping panels—and petrifies them in premium leather.

The silhouettes are a fusion of utilitarian streetwear and artisanal craft. By utilizing leather, the soft "gathers" of a traditional textile are transformed into architectural ridges and valleys. The color palette of deep espresso, burnt sienna, and ochre mimics the natural pigments used in ancient Indian vegetable-dyeing processes, grounding the high-fashion aesthetic in an earthy, organic reality.



Key Design Pillars

- **The Architectural Pleat:** Instead of soft fabric folds, the collection uses "knife pleats" and "sunburst gathers" executed in leather to create sharp, shadow-casting lines that give the garments a 3D, sculptural quality.
- **Juxtaposed Volume:** The wide-leg cargo pants and gathered-hem joggers (inspired by the salwar) provide a sense of movement, contrasting against the fitted, armored look of the pleated hoodies and bomber jackets.
- **Tactile Contrast:** The collection balances the smooth, matte finish of leather with the repetitive texture of the pleats, creating a garment that feels both protective (like armor) and expressive (like a drape).
- **Modern Utility:** While the inspiration is historical, the application is firmly contemporary, featuring oversized pockets, technical zippers, and hoodie-centric silhouettes for the modern urban dweller.



Design Brief

- Aim - To design a line of Ready to Wear hoodie, jacket & trousers using natural leather fabrics inspired by Draped Pleats & Gathers Techniques of Indian Textiles.
- Objective - To promote the various style of ready to wear leather collections that is comfortable, breathable & stylish according to their body types.
- Category - Ready to Wear
- Inspiration - Draped Armour
- Season - Autumn/Winter 2026-27
- Number of Ensembles - 5 Ensembles Sketches
- Concept - Leather hoodie, jacket & trouser collection inspired by gathers & pleating techniques of Indian Textiles.
- Target Market - Women (Age Group - 25 to 45 years)
- Price Range - Rs. 3,000 - Rs. 5,000
- Materials & Fabrics - Cowhide Leather, Bamboo Vegan Leather, Real Cattle Leather, Vegetable Tan Leather, Cactus Leather, Cork Leather, Polished Wooden Buttons, Metal Zipper, Elastic Band & Drawstrings
- Techniques - Draped Pleats & Gathers
- Colours - Brown Monochrome Colour Palette
- Deliverables - Portfolio, 5 Ensemble Sketches, Technical Specification Details & Photo Shoot



Inspiration Board

Heritage



In Hide

Mood Board

Rugged



Baby

Material Board

Ethical



Conscious

Fashion Palette 1



Inspiration



Final Sketch



Draped Pleats



Hood Collar

Leather Texture



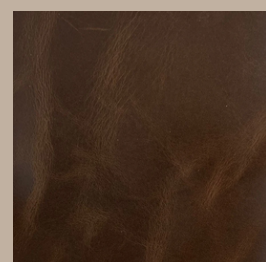
Cargo Pockets



Knife Pleats

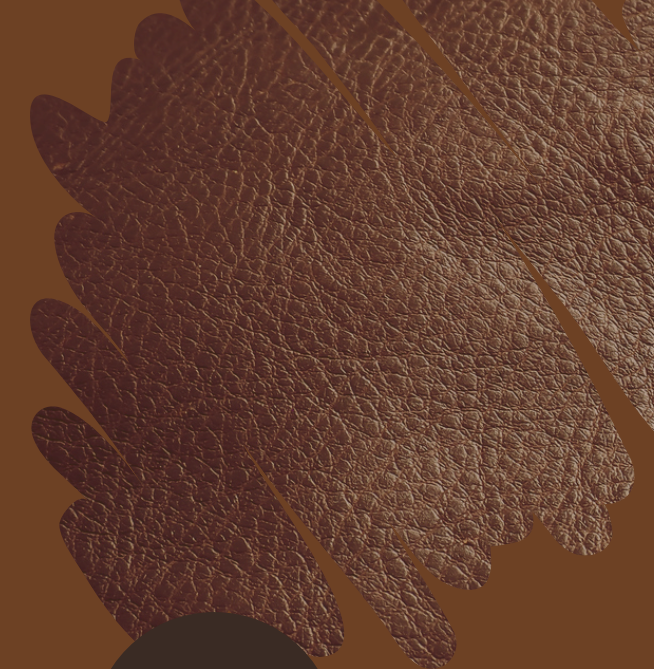


Wooden Buttons

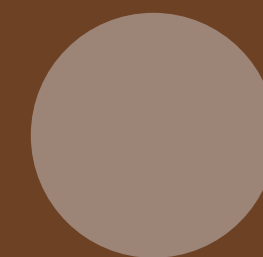


Cowhide Leather

This collection showcases a sophisticated, urban leather ensemble. The model wears a dark brown leather hoodie, distinguished by bold, diagonal architectural pleats that sweep across the chest and back. This is paired with baggy leather cargo trousers featuring deep front pleats and side-flap pockets, creating a voluminous, grounded silhouette. This highlights a fusion of heritage draping and modern utility through its textured leather style and earthy color palette.



Dark Brown



Mocha Mousse

Fashion Palette 2



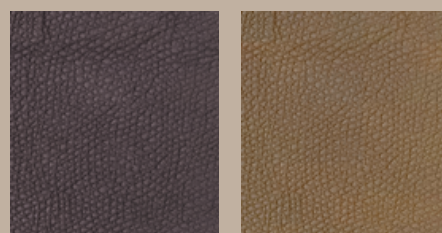
Inspiration



Final Sketch



Metallic Zipper



Real Cattle Leather



Diagonal Pleats

Metallic Zipper



Leather Texture

Elastic Waist Band



Half Kangaroo Pockets



Gathered Cuffs

Dark Brown

Light Brown

This leather collection fuses traditional Indian textile techniques with modern streetwear silhouettes. It features structured outerwear, such as a dark brown hoodie detailed with bold diagonal pleats and a zip-up bomber jacket showcasing radial gathers. The palette emphasizes earthy tones, pairing dark leather tops with voluminous tan bottoms. Key design elements include on baggy leather pants and elasticated, gathered hems on jogger-style trousers. Together, these pieces balance architectural rigidity with fluid draping to create a sculptural, urban aesthetic.

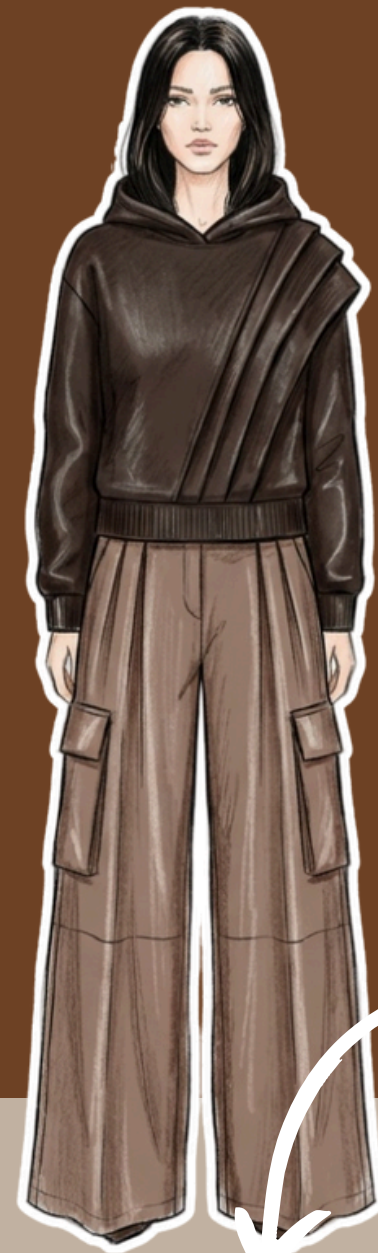
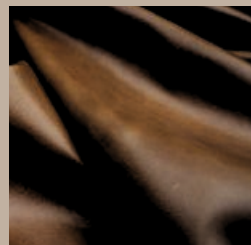
Fashion Palette 3



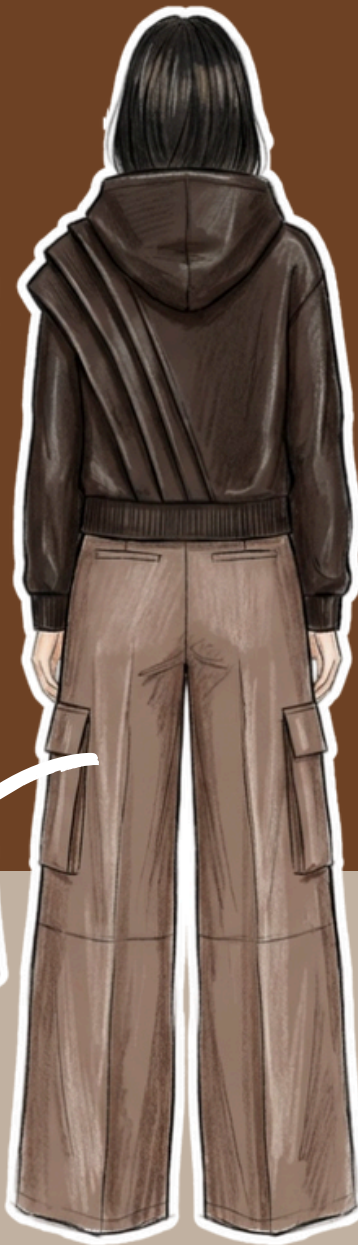
Inspiration



Bamboo Vegan
Leather



Final Sketch



Wooden Buttons



Drawstrings

Drawstrings



Draped Pleats



Hood Collar

Leather Texture

Knife Pleats



Cargo Pockets

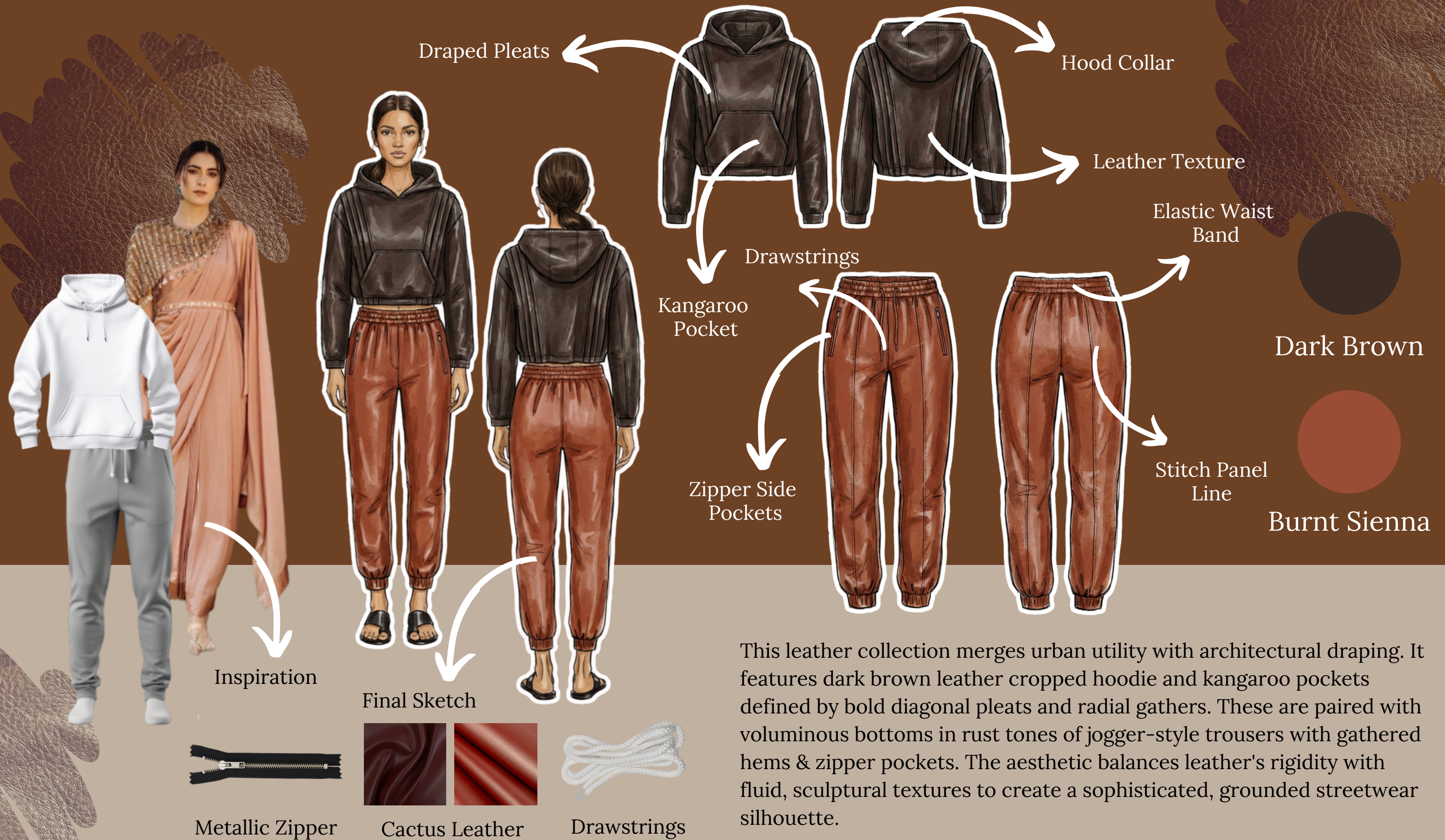
Welt
Pockets

Dark Brown

Mocha Mousse

This collection features dark brown leather outerwear characterized by architectural pleats, radial gathers, and quilted volume. Notable pieces include leather hoodies with bold diagonal folds and cropped jackets with structured radial pleating. These are paired with voluminous trousers in earthy tan and rust tones. Silhouettes range from wide-leg cargo pants with deep front pleats, elasticated, gathered hems. The overall look blends modern utility with fluid draping.

Fashion Palette 4



Fashion Palette 5



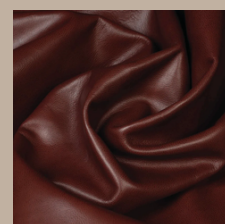
Inspiration



Metallic Zipper



Final Sketch



Vegetable Tan
Leather



Cork Leather
Fabric

Draped Pleats



Metallic
Zipper

Side Kangaroo
Pockets



Round
Neckline



Leather Texture

Knife Pleats



Stitch Panel
Line

Dark Brown

Burnt Sienna

This leather collection interprets Indian textile heritage through modern, utilitarian streetwear. It features structured dark-brown cropped bomber jacket defined by architectural diagonal pleats and radial gathers. These rigid textures contrast with voluminous rust-colored bell bottom leather pants with deep pleated folds. This will explore sculptural volume through traditional fabric manipulations. The aesthetic successfully balances heritage-inspired fluidity with the structural durability of leather.

Final Range

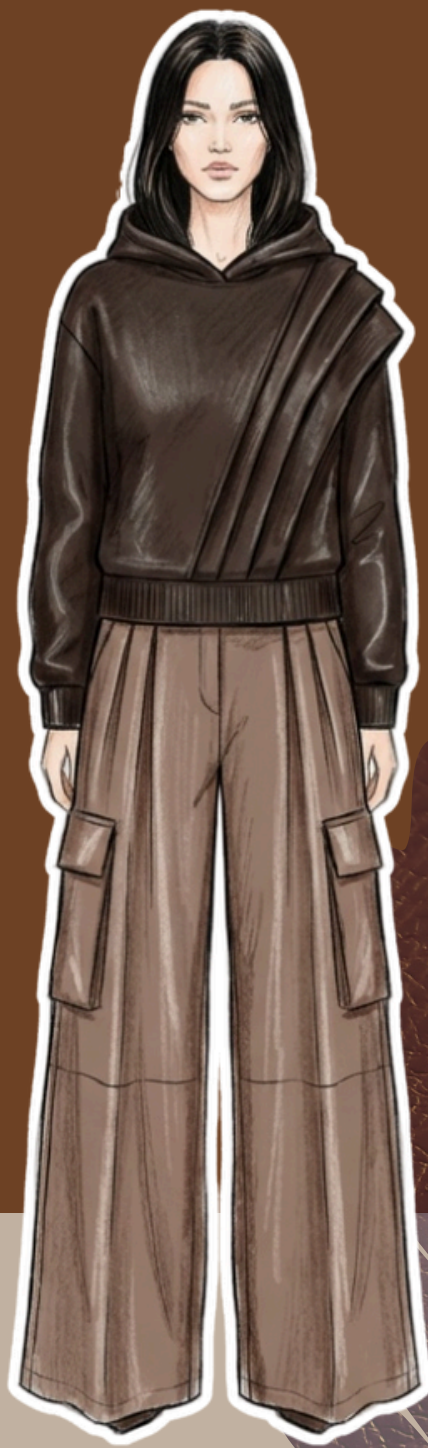
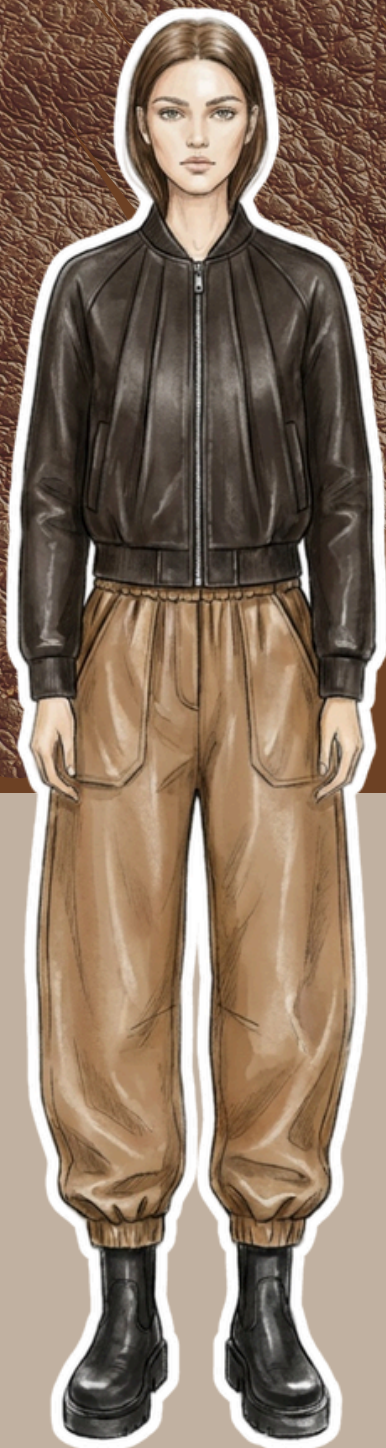


Photo Shoot





Photo Shoot