

# Comparison of Snapper Scales as Embellishment in Couture

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**Abstract** In 2017, snapper scales was first processed by Riyani Putri. In her research, she focused on processing snapper scales as beads, and applying them using embroidery techniques. Based on the results of the above research, the writer see an opportunity to be able to further explore snapper scales material as a new alternative material, especially embellishment material for fashion products. The writer will then expand the exploration to focus on developing and optimizing snapper scales material as one of the embellishment material innovations applied to couture, which is the highest level in fashion classification pyramid. This level is influenced by several elements including the choice of material used i.e. the quality and luxurious embellishment material. The aim of this study is to prove that snapper scales can be process, functioned and used equally compare to other embellishment. The unique characteristic of the scales itself makes this material worth selling and can be applied to fashion couture using embroidery design technique. The writer will then make further exploration by developing series of steps according to snapper scales characteristics based on embroidery technique and with the application of embellishment material in general. The result of this exploration is expected to be an innovation and new material variation that can be developed in couture design. Methodology used in this study is comparative method by comparing snapper scales with other embellishment materials in general including beads, sequins, and stones. Based on this comparison we will get new information about what is the most appropriate technique snapper scales can be applied into couture clothing.

**Keywords:** embellishment, embroidery, design techniques, snapper scales, couture

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Background

Couture is the highest level in the fashion classification pyramid, because this type of fashion is produced using the best and luxurious material/fabrics, and specifically/ perfectly designed for certain client individually. How each item/ pattern is put into the design is carefully made based on client personality, body proportion, type of stitches and finishing.

Bases on research by Deoringer and Crean, (2005) Couture is the highest level in the fashion classification pyramid. At the level of clothing, this is produced using a selection of the best material and fabrics, luxurious, and is specially designed perfectly for individual clients. The design is very calculated according to the client's personality, body proportions, type of stitching and finishing of clothing, the proportion of laying items on clothing, laying motives. Special attention to the details of surface material applied to clothing. "The clutches are made with high degree of hand finish finish by patites mains, telented seamstresses to a couture house" (Rebecca Arnold, 2018:123)

The special selection of surface material that will be ap-

plied on the product is the thing that makes this clothing at the highest level. Material that becomes the most important thing in the essence of luxurious are: beads (cut beads, seed beads, bugle beads, lozenge, roundel, round, faceted), sequins, stones. Those are the embellishment material that considered high value and are the main factor in Couture being fashion that has a high selling value, based on Retno (2011: 23).

Based on previous research by Riyani Putri, (2017) this study produced processed snapper scales as a material that functions as a material embellishment similar to deads of sequins. Therefore, this research will prove that snapper scale material can be functionable as an embellishment material that will be applied to Couture using the embroidery technique. This research will use a comparative method by comparing embroidery techniques of general beads and snapper scales.

### 1.2. Outcomes

The results of this research are expected to be a guide to the development of research by subsequent researchers. And can be useful for publications, journals, articles and other data in academics and education in Indonesia, especially

Bandung.

### 1.3. Formulation and Limitation of Problems

Formulation of the problem:

1. How to prove the feasibility of snapper scale material as an embellishment material in fashion products?
2. How to know the value of snapper scales as an embellishment for couture fashion?
3. How to design couture with the application of snapper scales as embellishment material?

Scope of problem:

1. To prove the feasibility of snapper scale material by comparing it with the types of beads, sequin and stone embellishment materials.
2. Optimizing the application of snapper scale materials with beads, sequin, and stone embellishment material using the embroidery design technique.
3. The final result is one design of couture collection consisting of three looks with a particular theme.

## 2. Research Methodology

### 2.1. Research Methodology

The methodology that will be used in this research is to use a comparative method, :

1. Comparative literature study as secondary data (beads and snapper scales material using embroidery techniques)
2. Observation / field studies regarding the application process for exploration or application of snapper scales on couture.

### 2.2. Data Processing Technique

Data Processing Techniques The process of data collection is done by:

1. Data collection by exploring embroidery techniques applied to couture done by sequin craftsmen to obtain data on the process and results of the application of snapper scales as embroidery material.
2. Interview with several couture designers to get responses and information regarding the purpose of this study.

### 3.3. Success Indicator

The long-term success indicator (LTSI) of this research are:

1. Processing the snapper scale material in clothing can be more developed.
2. Processing of snapper scales as new material can be accepted in the world of creative industries, especially in

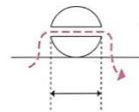


fashion industry.

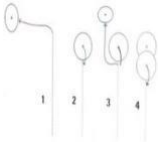


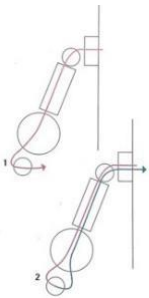



## RESULTS AND ANALYSIS:

This research uses a comparative method by analyzing the feasibility of snapper scales as embellishment material based on data collection that refers to research topics. Which will become the basis of the study in the form of further exploration of this research. The starting process of the study was conducted by recognizing the basic character types - beads, stones, sequins, by using Embroidery beadwork as details. Analyze the character of the advantages and disadvantages of snapper scales.

This process is expected to optimize the application of snapper scales as an alternative material embellishment that is applied to couture, based on Kenneth, (2006).

**Table 1.** exploration technique

No	Technique	Results
1	<p><i>Running stitch</i> is the basic technique in applying beads</p> 	<p>-Exploration beads material technique</p> 
		<p>-Exploration technique of mix beads material and snapper scales</p> 

2	<p><i>Sequins stitch</i> is the technique used in applying sequin beads.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exploration technique of beads material</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exploration technique of mix beads material and snapper scales</li> </ul> 
3	<p><i>Dangle stitch</i> using basically the same as the basic stop stitch technique but distinguished by the number and type of combination of beads along the seam.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exploration technique of beads material</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exploration technique of mix beads material and snapper scales</li> </ul> 
4	<p><i>Stop stitch for flat- back gems.</i></p> <p>This installation is intended for flat back stones. In general, the installation is combined with seed beads. put it back into the hole to get a tighter result.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exploration technique of mix beads material and snapper scales</li> </ul> 

Based on the comparison of exploration techniques in the table above it can be concluded that snapper scales are equivalent to sequins. In this case snapper scales can be used as an alternative to sequins.

Based on the exploration that has been done both the results of the combination with other beads material makes a more dimensional shape. This is proved by the character of the fish scales itself which is basically a thin, flat, strand with waves at the ends of all sides, and the result of drying. This gives the impression that the scale of the scale is dimensionless. However, these fish scales do not have holes, therefore perforation process is needed before applying it to the fabric surface.

In this case it is an advantage to achieve new shape, manual or natural punching processes using thin needles so as not to damage the texture of fish scales itself becomes an opportunity to get more innovative forms of embellishment sequencing using existing sewing techniques.

### RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Based on the exploration results that have been done above as a preliminary of this study obtained:

1. Result of first observations of the snapper scales is the character have a resistance that can be processed and further developed

2. The results of the first observations of snapper scales' character have a unique color, shape, texture resulting from drying. Snapper scales have dimensions in a modular form of scales. After the first exploration, using a combination of embroidery fish scales is less optimal. Therefore the selection of other supporting techniques needs to be considered again. After exploring the composition of snapper scales with other types of beads, it can be concluded that fish scales can be combined and their application can use beads work techniques. Besides, the results are more interesting and create more dimension.

3. The results of the exploration can be developed and considered that snapper scales have the potential to be a material embellishment alternative to fashion products, especially in Couture fashion. Where this processing can be considered with a long process and is worth a high craftsmanship.

### 3. Conclusion

To answer the conclusions from the first exploration of the compatibility of the types of snapper scales beads as embellishment are as follows:

1. Based on the initial observations, the results of drying snapper scales have their own peculiarities and uniqueness. Among them are based on color, texture, shape and resistance of fish scales.

2. Based on further exploration of observations of snapper scales, preliminary exploration shows that there is an opportunity to process snapper scales as an alternative to embellishment.

3. Based on the exploration of processing fish scales by composting the type of beads in general it produces a more interesting shape, so it can be concluded that fish scales

have more value as aesthetic element.

4. There are innovation opportunities in the work process or design in the world of fish scales industry as embellishment material.

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