

ANALYSIS OF DESIGN ELEMENTS IN SKI SUITS¹

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Abstract

Popularity of Ski Sport in 19th century necessitated a new perspective on protective skiing clothing against the mountain climates and excessive cold. Winter clothing were the basis of ski attire during this period. By the beginning of 20th century lining cloth were used to minimize the wind effect. The difference between the men and women's ski attire of the time consisted of a knee-length skirts worn over the golf trousers. Subsequent to the First World War, skiing suit models were influenced by the period uniforms and the producers reflected the fashion trends to the ski clothing. In conformance with the prevailing trends, ski trousers were designed and produced for the women thus leading to reduction in gender differences. Increases in the ski tourism and holding of the first winter olympics in 1924 resulted in variations in ski attires, development of design characteristics, growth in user numbers, and enlargement of production capacities. Designers emphasized in their collections combined presence of elegance and practicality in the skiing attire. In 1930s, the ski suits influenced by pilots' uniforms included characteristics permitting freedom of motion, and the design elements exhibited changes in terms of style, material and aerodynamics.

In time, the ski attires showed varying design features distinguishing professionals from the amateurs. While protective functionality was primary consideration for the amateurs, for professionals the aerodynamic design was also a leading factor. Eventually, the increased differences in design characteristics were exhibited in ski suit collections, World reknown brands were formed, production and sales volumes showed significant rise. During 20th century the ski suits influenced by fashion trends to acquire unique styles reached a position of dominance to impact current fashion trends, and apart from sports attires they became a style determinant in the clothing of cold climates. Ski suits worn for sporting activities survived significant progressive changes in a century long design and development period. Identification of these changes is deemed valuable both for the ski sport and fashion trend variations in terms of sports attires.

This study aims to examine the evolution of ski suit models from its earliest days to the present. The data of the study consists of attire illustrations, pictures and photographs obtained through documents analyses. Data obtained are resolved by visual analyses of models and design characteristics. Due to increased popularity and impact of ski attires on the current fashion the study is considered to be significant and interesting.

Key Words: fashion, trend, winter sport, ski suits, design characteristics

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KAYAK GIYSİLERİNİN TASARIM ÖZELLİKLERİNİN ANALİZİ

Özet

Kayak sporunun 19.yüzyılda popüler hale gelmesiyle birlikte, kayak süresince vücudu dağ iklimi ve aşırı soğuktan koruyacak nitelikte giysilere ihtiyaç duyulmaya başlanmıştır. Bu dönemde, kışlık giysiler kayak giysilerinin temelini oluşturmuştur. 20.yüzyıl başlarında kullanılan kayak giysilerinin içine rüzgâr geçirmesini engelleyecek astar kumaşlar kullanılmaya başlanmıştır. Bu dönemde kadın ve erkek kayak giysileri arasındaki fark; golf pantolon üzerine giyilen diz boyu eteklerden ibaretti. Birinci Dünya Savaşının ardından kayak giysi modelleri üniformadan etkilenmiş savaş yıllarını takiben üreticiler moda trendlerini kayak giysilerine yansıtmaya başlamıştır. Dönemin trendlerine uygun olarak kadınlarda kayak giysisi olarak ta pantolon tasarlanmaya ve üretilmeye başlanmış, böylece kayak giysilerinde cinsiyet farklılığı azalmıştır. Kayak turizminin büyümesi ve 1924 yılında ilk kış olimpiyatlarının yapılması kayak giysilerinde çeşitlilik ve tasarım özelliklerinin gelişmesine, kullanıcı sayısı ve üretim hacminin büyümesine neden olmuştur. Kayak giysilerinde şıklık ve kullanılışlılığın bir arada bulunması gerektiği tasarımcılar tarafından koleksiyonlarında vurgulanmıştır.1930'larda pilotların üniformalarından etkilenen kayak giysileri hareket özgürlüğüne de katkı sağlayacak hale getirilmiş tasarım özellikleri stil, malzeme ve aerodinamik açıdan değişim göstermiştir.

Kayak giysileri zaman içerisinde amatör ve profesyonel kullanıcılar için farklı özelliklerde tasarlanmaya başlanmıştır. Amatör kullanıcılar için daha çok koruma işlevi gözetilirken, profesyonel kullanıcılar için aerodinamik yapı da dikkate alınmıştır. Zaman içerisinde kayak giysi koleksiyonlarında tasarım özelliklerine yönelik farklılıklar artmış, dünya çapında tanınan markalar oluşmuş, üretim ve satış hacmi ciddi oranda artış göstermiştir. 20. Yüzyılda genellikle moda trendlerinden etkilenerek kendi stilini oluşturan kayak giysileri günümüzde moda trendlerini etkiler duruma gelmiş, spor aktiviteleri dışında kullanılan soğuk iklimlerin günlük giysilerinde stil belirleyici olma niteliği kazanmıştır. Sportif aktivitelerin ihtiyacı nedeniyle kullanılmaya ve tasarlanmaya başlanan kayak giysileri yüzyılı aşkın bir gelişim süresinde önemli değişiklikler yaşamıştır. Bu değişikliklerin belirlenmesi; hem kayak sporu hem de moda trendlerinin spor giysiler açısından değişimini ortaya çıkaracağı için önemli bulunmuştur.

Bu çalışmada kayak giysilerinin kullanılmaya başlamasından günümüze kadar model değişimlerini incelemek amaçlanmıştır. Çalışmanın verileri doküman analizi ile elde edilen giysi illüstrasyonları, resim ve fotoğraflardan oluşmaktadır. Elde edilen veriler görsel analiz çözümlemesiyle model ve tasarım özellikleri açısından incelenmiştir. Günümüzde kayak giysilerinin moda etkilerinin anlaşılması ve giderek artan popüleritesi nedeniyle çalışmanın önemli ve ilgi çekici olduğu düşünülmektedir.

Anahtar kelimeler: moda, trend, kış sporu, kayak giysileri, tasarım özellikleri

1. Introduction

Skiing is one of the most common and well known winter sports. Skiing sustains its development either in Turkey and World wide in sense of professional and hobbyist. Skiing is a sport branch which is went through its typical skiwears. Skiwears having cold and wind resistant has started having characteristics of design as being affected by fashion as time goes by. In the present study; observing of design specifications of skiwear in sense of history is purposed. Design specification of skiwears of historical periods has been observed according to particular methods determined by visual examination and studying a short history of skiing, reviewing the literature.

History of Skiing

The first historical information about resource had been seen on unofficial stories of Greek historian Herodotus. The “Ski” has been found on documents written by Teophanes in 552, written by Pelvius Dianus in 700 and documents written by Alfred the king of Britain. Also some information about ski has been found on “Geography and History of North Countries” written by Uladimagrous, priest for Uppsala (Tanyeri, 2000; akt, Toy, 2013: 3).

Siberia, Mongolia and Altai regions are the first places where skiing has been emerged and used, America, The Balkans, Anatolia and Northwestern to Scandinavia and Iceland had been the second regions where skiing had been used. In Unal (1987)’s opinion; It has been proved through findings found by archaeological excavations that Turkish people, lived in Central Asia, Ural Mountains, and around Baikal Lake, were the first people going skiing (Unal, 1987: 3).

According to Toy (2013); The primitive ski (hoting ski), made of pine tree found in Sweden in 1921, is 4500 years old. Turkish people had called ski as “Çana” which is used by people for slogging through snow. The device underlying skiing had been used for slogging through winter around Baikal Lake in 4000 before christ... The device using for ski was called as “ivik” by Turkish villagism in Anatolia at Ottoman period. Even it is known that there is an Ivikler Bazaar where those devices were being produced in Bursa (Mızrak, 2011: 5). Ski, used as transportaion vehicle in Norway, Sweden, Finland and in some Eastern Europe countries for the first time, had been used for military by Sweden, Norway, Poland and Russia as of the 15th century. The first skiing event was organized in Cristina in 1879 as result of it has been adopted as sport utility, ski jumping events were organized by a bigger organization organized in Oslo in 1879 due to the first one attracted attention. In the sense of generalizing and legalization of winter sports in the world, International Skiing Federation (Federation International de Ski), its headquarter in Bern, was established and skiing has been incorporated in Winter Olympics organization in 1924, Events of “Alpine Skiing” organized by FIS in 1925 for the first time and “Alpine Skiing” organized in 1931 are being organized once in every four years in different places in itself (Tanyeri, 2002;Toy, 2013:4-5).

Specification of Skiwear

Skiwears may be divided into two parts as a combination of jacket and trousers or a one part of ski suit. It is possible to protect body from negative effects of sweating and cold through wearing undergarment. There are three periods of Skiing sport as competition, spring and interim seasons. There are three different wearing conditions for those periods.

Competition Period Wearing

Wearing is different for downhill and slalom races. Full-face mask and one part suits, providing security, not effecting aerodynamics and speed, are preferred. Having full-face mask is a crucial factor of downhill races from mountain for racers. One part suits, formfitting, have a structure providing optimum speed, shearing wind. Slalom racers must pull on glove protecting hands of racer, not effecting speed of racers.

Spring Period Wearing

Spring period of a year when defrosting and smooth snow is the best skiing period for skiers. Most of skiers prefer wearing minimalist wears due to increasing air temperature. Skis, boat and baton are indispensable ski materials in this period. Special sunglasses must be used for protecting retina from potential damage arising out of reflection of snow in spring skiing periods.

Interim Period Wearing

In interim period; a combination of polar jacket and trousers with waterproofing, wooly skiing socks, sunglasses protecting eyes from ultraviolet light of sun is seen in this period. Also, stronger wind on mountain makes skiers require to don a hat. (http://www.ehow.com/list_6720571_ski-wear-tips.html).

2. Materials and Methods

Observation of model changing beginning by skiwear usage up to today is purposed. Data of studying is composed of wear illustrations, Picture and photographs revealed by documentaion analysis. Data gathered are observed by visual analysis in the sense of model and design specification

Visual analysis is composed of three different stages. The first stage; gathering theoretical data, the second stage; classifying wear illustrations, Picture and photograph historically and getting sufficient number, the third stage; wears are evaluated according to criteria of visual analysis in the sense of collar specification, sleeve specification, dressing specification, number of wear part, kind of fabric, design specification, colour specification and decoration specification of wears. Pictures and illustrations selected; are analysed through classifying as 1890-1920s, 1930-1949s, 1950s, 1960-1970s, 1980-1990s, 2000 and modern day and results are presented on findings section.

3. Findings

In this section of the study, wears have been evaluated according to criteria of visual analysis in the sense of collar specification, sleeve specification, dressing specification, number of wear part, kind of fabric, design specification, colour specification and decoration specification of wears as it has been classified historically.



Figure 1. Skiwears in 1890- 1920s

a-National Library of Norway via Flickr (<http://www.businessinsider.com/amazing-vintage-ski-photos-2011-12?op=1>),

b-c-d- <http://www.shrimptoncouture.com/blogs/curate/11703497-history-of-ski-wear-part-one-maria-echeverri> ,

e-<http://thevintagetraveler.wordpress.com/2008/11/17/a-short-history-of-ski-clothing/>

f-Encyclopedia of Clothing and Fashion vol 3 sayfa 188-190 Lucy Johnston 2005

Observation pictures on Figure 1 according to criterias of visual analysis form; wears of male skiers are similar to casual winter clothes. It is composed of three parts as a jacket formfitting, Wrap like a overcoat, trousers and undergarment. Those wraps with double-breasted or straight dressing, setttable sleeve, neckband or shirt-blouze are made of wollen cloth as well as trousers are made of wollen cloth. Dark colours are domineer even if colors can not seen well due to pictures are white and black. When researching women's wears; the most riveting specification is to wear a-line skirt by skiers. Wears, composed of skirt, undergarment, jacket and made of woollen cloth; are decorated with setttable shirred sleeve, without pocket, formfitting, with shirt-blouze or shawl and with fur.

International Skiing Federation (Federation International de Ski), its headquarter in Bern, was established and thus skiing has been incorporated in Winter Olympics organization (Toy, 2013:5). Incorporation of skiing in olympics caused skiwears to change. A skiwear for women were depicted on issue of Vogue Magazine in 1924 by Figure 1. When reseaching the Picture according to criteria of visual analysis form; trousers were worn instead of skirt for women's skiwears. It is understood that skiwear is composed of three parts of trousers, wrap and undergarment. Overcoat with setttable sleeve, straight dressing, formfitted with handles and with plaid and a loose trousers with light colour, constricted bottom up to knee, in are elements constituting women's skiwear.

There were skiwears composed of three parts including neckband, zipper, formfitting style, dark colour, tight-fitting trousers, applique pocket on breast and front sides at the end of 1920s.



Figure 2. Skiwears in 1930-1940s

a-c-<http://www.shrimptoncouture.com/blogs/curate/11703497-history-of-ski-wear-part-one-maria-echeverri>

e-b-<http://thevintagetraveler.wordpress.com/2008/11/17/a-short-history-of-ski-clothing/>

f- <http://coutureallure.blogspot.com.tr/2010/10/vintage-sportswear-1936.html>

g- <http://www.shrimptoncouture.com/blogs/curate/11757741-history-of-ski-part-two-maria-echeverri>

h- <http://www.businessinsider.com/amazing-vintage-ski-photos-2011-12?op=1>

It has been seen that functionality of women's skiwears come into prominence as women's skiwears keep up with the times in 1930s. It has been possible to design knitted trousers made of flexible string through invention of "Lastex" in middle of 1930s. Trousers including double tones of colors as well as combinations of different colors of jacket and trousers. Wears are made of cotton and woollen fabrics (<http://thevintagetraveler.wordpress.com/2008/11/17/a-short-history-of-ski-clothing/>).

In researching of sport and rural wearing trends of 1935 year; there are sport wears made of woollen clothes with plaid and spot (Blackman, 2013: 146). There are pictures and illustrations of skiwears in 1930s by three pictures and pictures and illustrations of skiwears in 1940s by four pictures in Figure 2. When researching data according to criteria of visual analysis form; it is determined that wears composed of three parts are made of woollen cloths and tricots with vivid colors (blue, red, orange, green), with settable sleeve mostly, men's wears; polo, tshirt or with crew neck, women's wears; male, shirt-blouze or with crew neck. There are trouser pocket with stitch for men's skiwear and flap applique pockets are predominated for women's skiwears. Clothes are double-breasted, straight dressed and formfitted with belt mostly. It has been seen in 1940s that women and men skiwears had similar specification through having "x" form. Trousers models with wide trouser leg, writs length, tightening trousers leg and formfitted on waist with pincers had come into prominent.

Becoming of military clothing which was the fashion of the time the most popular style is a reality can not be ignored (Kass, 2011: 13). When researching fashion trends in 1940s; members of group called as "Londra Anonym Fashion Designer Assosication 1942" were appointed to establish a good wardrobe and they had designed smart suits similar to military clothes (Blackman, 2013: 164-165). Clothes designed with flap pocket, belt on waist, straight dressing, formfitting tight-dress were similar to skiwears of the period. Also, Robert Piguet had designed refuge clothes in 1939 – 1940 through being inspired from skiwears (Blackman, 2013: 156-157).

There is a picture, taken in 1940, of "The Proctor Akademi" ski team in Figure 3. It has been seen that skiwears of skiers on the Picture were similar to amateur skier when skiwears were researched.



Figure 3. Skiwears in 1950s

a-b-c- <http://www.shrimptoncouture.com/blogs/curate/11757741-history-of-ski-part-two-maria-echeverri>
 d-<http://thevintagetraveler.wordpress.com/2008/11/17/a-short-history-of-ski-clothing/>
 e-<http://www.businessinsider.com/amazing-vintage-ski-photos-2011-12?op=1>

Increasing area of usage of nylon in 1950s affected skiwears as well. Bogner, from Munich and is skiwear designer, introduced “strech” ski trouser into skiers in 1953. Skiwear dealers have sold wears made of light but warm fabrics during 1950s and 1960s (<http://thevintagetraveler.wordpress.com/2008/11/17/a-short-history-of-ski-clothing/>).

There are pictures of skiwears of 1950s in Figure 3. When researching those wears according to criteria of visual analysis form; those wears composed of two parts, with shirt-blouze, settable sleeve, zipper, undergarment made of formfitting “strech” fabric, wrap is produced with “h” form or formfitted on waist with lastex. There are wraps with “double face” including different colors on each side of clothes which is made of vinyl. Also, skiwears made of vinyl kept its place in 1950s as well. Those wears; are formfitted and produced with shawls collar, settable sleeve, straight dressing, dark color. Piping was put at tip of sleeve and collar as decoration.

When researching skiwears of professional racers on picture of “The Proctor” academy taken in 1954; it has been seen that wears composed of two or three parts have shirt-blouze collar, settable sleeve, zipper, formfitting “x” style. Hoodie coats has been used as wrap.

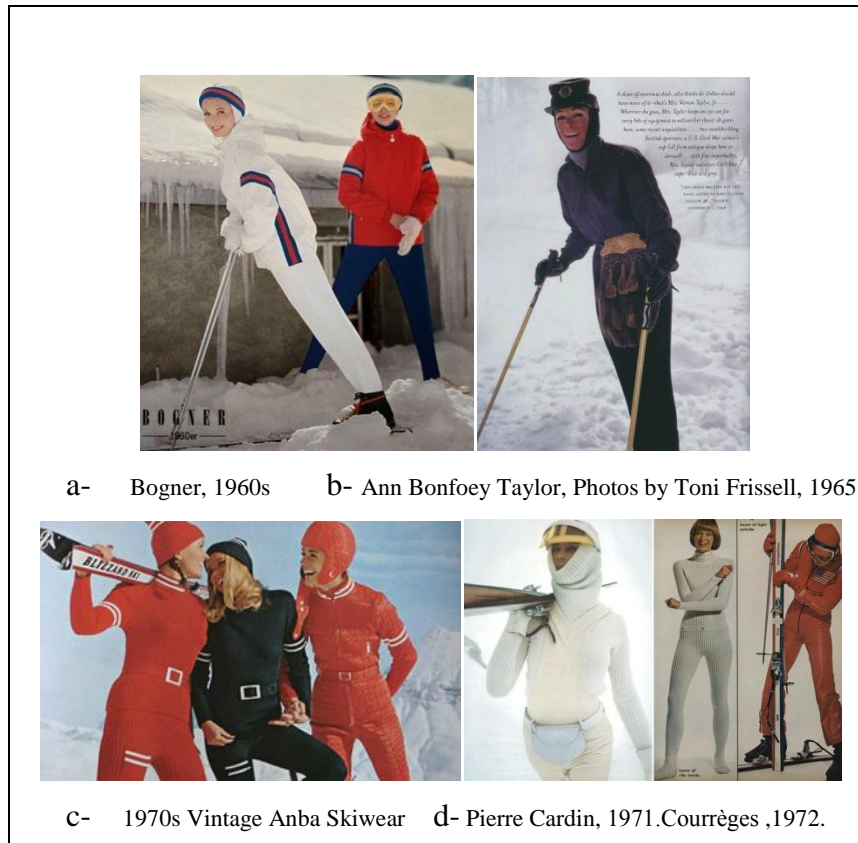


Figure 4. Skiwears in 1960s and 1970s

a-c-d- <http://www.shrimptoncouture.com/blogs/curate/11757741-history-of-ski-part-two-maria-echeverri>

b- <http://www.shrimptoncouture.com/blogs/curate/11703497-history-of-ski-wear-part-one-maria-echeverri>

When researching Figure 4; skiwears at the earlier of 1960s are with hoodies, settable sleeve, zipper and wrap is with stitching pop-up pocket and trousers are formfitted. Commonly used colors for skiwears made of vinyl are red, dark blue and white and colors are used with discrete coupes for sleeve cap and stitches. Another detail about 1960s is berets like shawl, dressing under hat and protecting ears. There were skiwear made of tricot with neckband, settable sleeve, formfitting, applique pocket on upper leg at closing to 1970s. Also, skiwear made of vinyl as “slim fit” style with neckband, settable sleeve has specification of those times.



a- Obertauern in 1980



b- The Movie, 1984.



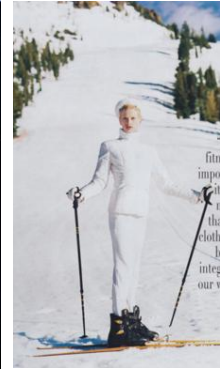
c- Bianca Hanau-Schaumburg, 1985.



d- ELLE France, 1987, Vogue, 1985.



e- 1988 Ski Suits



f -Vouge 1996



g- TheProctor Academy 1984 ski Team.

Figure 5. Skiwears in 1980-1990

a-g-<http://www.businessinsider.com/amazing-vintage-ski-photos-2011-12?op=1>

b-c- d- f- <http://www.shrimptoncouture.com/blogs/curate/11757741-history-of-ski-part-two-maria-echeverri>

e- Ski'88 Buyer's Guide September 1987

When researching Figure 5; Skiwears among 1980 – 1990 were better off in sense of design according to criterias of visual analysis form. It is understood that bright bands and bright colorful which provides to be realized are used in an snowy environment. Wears composed of three parts generally; are made of nanotechnology fabric with hoodie, shirt-blouze or neckband, settable or reglan sleeve, formfitting form, zipper, in colors of such a

vivid red, blue, yellow, green. When researching ski pants as undergarment; pants fitting on leg in form of “stretch” tight and loose pants in form of using with undergarment were preferred. It is determined that pants preferred by public were decorated through bands with different bands on upper arm and trouser leg, fashion designer used asymmetric closure and printing technique on skiwear.

There is a picture, taken in 1984, of “The Proctor Akademi” ski team in Figure 6. When researching skiwear of the team; It has been seen that wears composed of two parts; are with neckband, settable sleeve, zipper, two colours, formfitting. Also, it has been seen that it was similar to amateur skier’s wears.

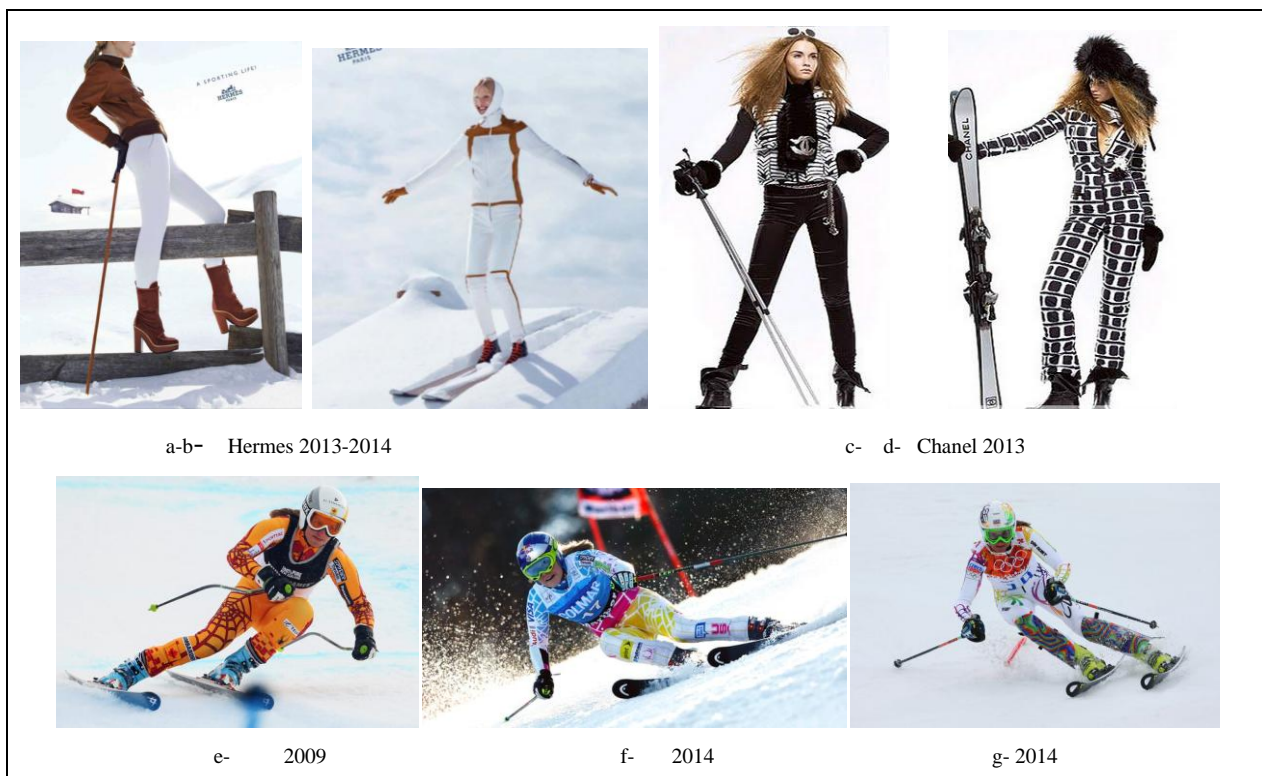


Figure 6. Skiwear in 2000 and Today

a-b- <http://www.hermes.com/>

c-d- <http://www.thefashionablyfamous.com/tag/chanel/>

e- <http://www.zimbio.com/pictures/bbElyrNtFx3/Winter+Games+NZ+Day+5+Alpine+Skiing/5WJuTEof8NP/Britt+Janyk>

g-http://www.zimbio.com/pictures/gYwKBN3_cSj/Winter+Olympics+Alpine+Skiing/EuXaro4oINW/Sarka+Strachova

f-<http://www.bbc.com/sport/0/winter-olympics/25213838>

There are skiwear of fashion designer who exhibited their ingeniousness and wears dressed by Professional racer in ski competitions in Figure. When researching fashion designers’ skiwear according to criteria of visual analysis form; Skiwear of 2013 – 2014 season skiwear collection of Hermes which is one of the most famous fashion brand is composed of two parts, formfitting, neckband or shirt-blouse collar, settable sleeve, zipper, pocket opened by cup stitch, browning cup parts stitched on white fabric and transverse cuts. Pants; It has been seen that an image providing visual closure is created through “skiny” form. When researching 2013 skiwear collection of Chanel’ in 2013; It has been seen that white and

black dominated wears composed of three part or jumper; are decorated with neckband or hoodie, zipper, formfitting, as white and black colors dominated, with fabric figured (zebra and square), chain or fur.

When researching skiwears of professional racers; it has been seen that wears composed of one part have zipper, vivid colours providing to be realized when snowy, formfitting and were decorated with fabric developed technologically, print technique with spider design and random lines.

4. Conclusions

Knowing historical cycle of skiwears and determination of design specification had qualification leading clothing brands in design processing of brands. When summarizing results of studies gathered by aiming at it;

When researching skiwears in 1890- 1910s; the most notably specification of wears is to use jacket-skirt or coat skirt for women's wear. Producing those wears with woollen fabrics and being similar to casuals reflecting fashion trends of the time are accepted as skiwears just started developing.

When researching skiwears in 1920s; It has been seen that women started dressing pants instead of skirt for skiwears composed of two parts. It is thought that contribution of incorporation of skiing into olympics is very crucial.

When researching skiwears in 1930- 1940s; Introducing Lastex fabrics into market was crucial effect to observe skiwears. Effect of war reflect on skiwears and using of tight dressing, vivid colours had been begun. Also, skiwears in that period, had effected fashion trends as source of inspiration. Introducing "Stretch" ski pants into skiing World by Bogner in 1950 and 1960s effected skiwear fashion of that period. Formfitting pants had been completed by top clothing made of vinyl.

Skiwears in 1960 – 1970s; using of knitted fabric came into fashion. Formfitting clothes had emphasized fashion colours of the period through using red, dark blue and white colors together. When researching specifications of skiwears in 1980 – 1990s; design path of fashion had been more effective. Printings, techniques, details and different coverage come into prominent on formfitting clothes with vivid colours.

From 2000s until today, Skiwears, created by famous fashion designer, are produced of fabrics made through nanotechnology, combined with double colours, come into prominent through decoration with chain, fur and leather decoration materials.

When researching skiwears of professional racers; it has been seen that skiwears of skiers on the picture with 1940 – 1954 and 1984 date had similar specification with amateur skier of the same period as well as it differs from amateur skier through wears made of fabric with cold resistant, not blocking speed, decorated with vivid colours while coming to today

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