Fashion and Pattern Coloring Book

City of Austin
Asian American Resource Center
Produced
Inside you’ll find friends from Nine Asian countries.

Like you and me, they all have clothes for different occasions: for school, for holidays, for weddings and other important events.

Some of these styles are very similar to each other.

Some can only be found in certain parts of these countries.

Some connect these friends to their ancestors, but every generation makes the style their own.
In winter, Armaan never leaves home without putting a pakol on his head. He has lots of these warm, woolen hats in many shades of brown, but you can also find them in grey, black and white.

Palwasha wears a chador to cover her hair. It reminds her of her grandmother, who always looked elegant while working hard. She has many different styles: plain, solid colors, others with shapes or flowers, even some funny ones with mustaches.
In Bhutan, everyone wears ghos and kiras at school. Kunzang wears her half kira, a heavy skirt, with beautiful designs woven by hand. Her favorite kira has mirrors sewn into it.

Rinzin wears a kabney, or scarf, over his left shoulder. The king of Bhutan wears a saffron kabney and judges wear blue. Rinzin likes his white. What color is your favorite scarf?
Loung and Sichan like to wear sampot chang kben to weddings. The silken fabric of Loung’s wrap is nine feet long. She ties it at the waist and lets it drape down three feet, showing off beautiful patterns. Sichan’s pants are similarly baggy, with designs repeated across the fabric.
Haruki and Joy wear kimonos to special events like the fire festival every summer. Often you can tell what season it is by the design and patterns on the kimonos. Joy’s has lotus petals and little splashes of water. Haruki prefers his plain, with simple stripes of different colors.

Mai wears this dress with a hat and pants mostly for special occasions like Tết. Her brother’s is similar but thicker and usually blue. They look forward to Tết and other holidays because they get to wear clothing similar to their elders.
Whenever there is a big wedding in the family, Carlos and Evelina wear their fanciest Filipino clothing: the barong tagalog and baro’t saya. Evelina sometimes likes to wear her brother’s old barong tagalogs, too, but whenever she wears the baro’t saya her grandmother gave her, she always gets compliments. Her grandmother made sure the saya (skirt) had little, colorful flowers sewn across it. Can you add some flowers to Evelina’s saya?

In Laos, every major occasion in someone’s life—birth, death, marriage, the new year, moving away or coming back—is marked by a ceremony called Baci. At the ceremony, strings are tied around that person’s wrist for good luck. During a Baci, Nor wears his favorite purple salong, or big pants. Kulap wears a sinh, like a skirt. Its body is called the phuen sinh and usually has one or two colors. Kulap’s favorite colors are red and yellow. The bottom of the sinh is called the tin sinh and has special stitching. The designs on Kulap’s tin sinh are only found in the part of Laos where her family lives.
Nur and Mamat always receive new clothes during the month of Ramadan. Nur wears her baju kurung to school, wrapping with a shawl to keep warm in winter. Mamat sometimes wears his baju melayu to school, but always wears it to Friday prayers and on important holidays. The outfit is not complete without his songkok, a dark cap.

Shreyeska and Indra like to wear these clothes during big festivals. Indra’s long, flowing shirt is covered with a vest, and his pants are baggy up top and tight at the ankles. His grandfather always gives him a new topi, or hat, with a new pattern, at each festival. Shreyeska received her first gunyo cholo, a sari and blouse, in a special ceremony when she was 7 years old, marking her growth into another stage of life.