



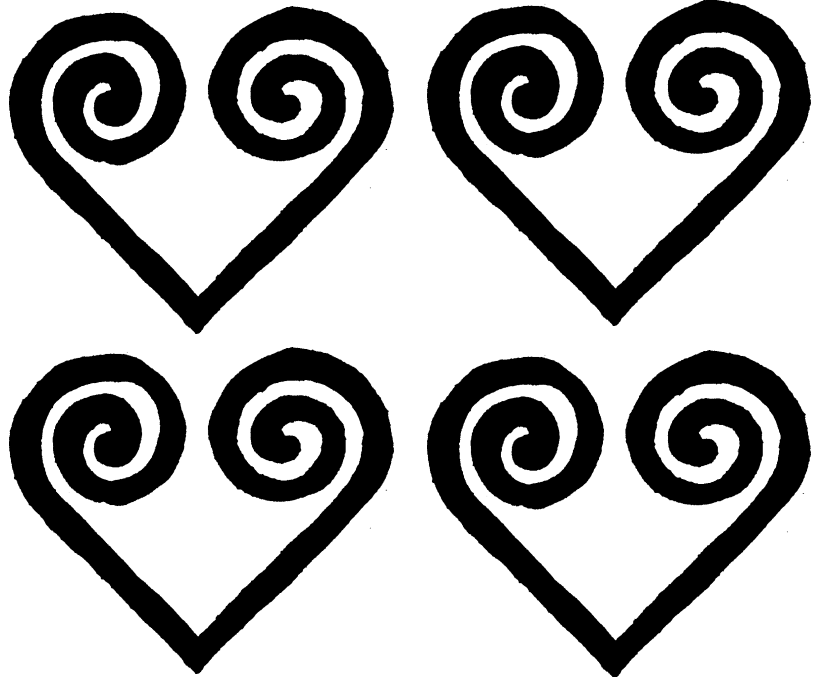
# HMONG CLOTHING & SOCIAL VALUE

## Create a clothing design ▶

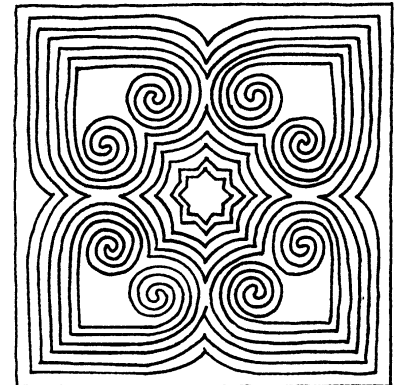
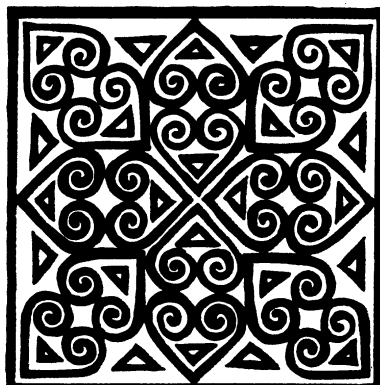
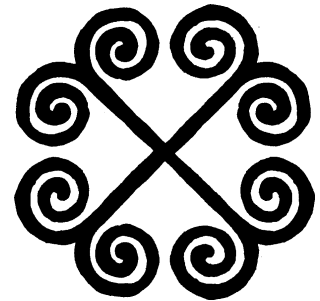
Many Hmong came to the Chippewa Valley after leaving their homeland Laos, which is a country in Southeast Asia. They were our allies in the Vietnam War. They began arriving in the United States in the mid-1970s.

In Laos, clothing plays an important role in Hmong life, and helps display a person's wealth, status, skill, and work ethic. Hmong men and women might show off new clothes at the celebrations of the New Year or at weddings. Many shapes and patterns are combined to produce an elaborate dress. Here is your chance to create a design.

1. Carefully cut out each figure below and keep them in a group.



2. Arrange them like the drawing to the left so that their tips touch and the lines overlap.
3. Tape them together.
4. You've made a design commonly found on Hmong women's clothing.



**Extra fun:** You can also trace these designs on a piece of paper, cut them out and arrange them in rows to make a pattern. Mix and match — just use your imagination!