Costume Display System Checklist
Articulating Bodies—NEMA Session, 2015
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For each garment you wish to display, it is critical to weigh the following factors as you choose the best display system for your collection of historic dress.

Cost Effectiveness	What is the budget for your costume mounting project? What funding is needed for conservation treatments in order to stabilize and ready pieces for display?
Archival Safety	Are the costume mounts made of archival safe materials that will not harm the garment? What level of care is necessary for the garment?
Garment Condition	Does the garment have any tears, weak areas, unstable elements, stains, or fading that might make them unsuitable for display?
Garment Silhouette	Does the size and shape of your mount support the historic silhouette of the garment? If not, how easily can it be manipulated to correctly support it? Does the garment have a relatively simple silhouette that is straightforward to research and mount, or does it have more intricate details that require expert handling and knowledge?
Versatility	Is the costume mount intended for one time use or can it be repurposed for other exhibitions and garments? What size, shape, or gender is the costume mount compatible with?
Time	What kind of timeline does your exhibition need to meet? How much time can your staff set aside to safely dress each garment for display?
Staff Expertise	Does your museum staff have working knowledge of handling textiles and basic sewing skills? How much curatorial research will be needed to accurately interpret the garments for an engaging display?
Exhibition Space	Will your exhibition space accommodate a full 3D form or do you require a solution for a shallow space?