

# Woven Disaster Shelters Are Powered with Sun-Absorbing Fabric

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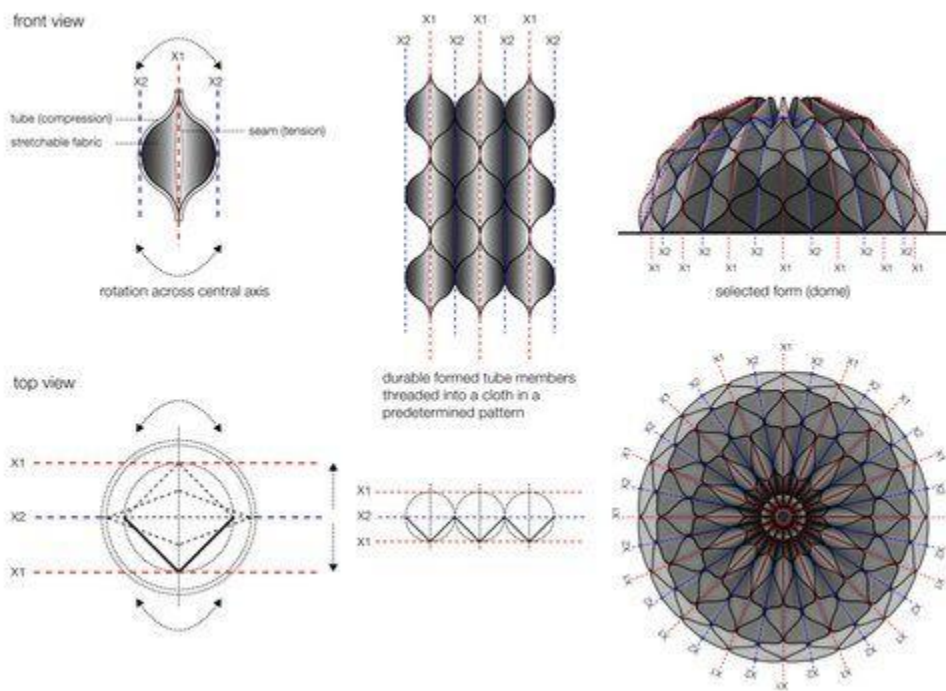


© Abeer Seikaly/2013 LEXUS DESIGN AWARD - Abeer Seikaly - weaving a home

Innovative disaster shelters have run the gamut of materials like [recyclable plastic](#), to [flat pack wonders](#), to [affordable bamboo homes that float when it floods](#). Jordanian-Canadian designer [Abeer Seikaly](#) turns to solar-absorbing fabric as his material of choice in creating woven shelters that are [powered by the sun](#) and inspired by nomadic culture.

The use of structural fabric references ancient traditions of joining linear fibers to make complex three-dimensional shapes – the resulting pattern is easy to erect and scale into various functions, from a basket to a tent. the project incorporates technological advances and new methods of assembly of the material, envisioning a system composed of durable plastic members that are threaded to form a singular unit. These flexible envelopes fold across a central axis, with the hollow structural skin enabling necessities such as water and electricity to run through it, similar to a typical stud wall.

See Ted Talk here: [https://youtu.be/tYFzy1\\_EmBM](https://youtu.be/tYFzy1_EmBM)



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Utilizing the structural principles of tensegrity and biomimicking the blooming action of a flower, the structure can open and close from its center point. Probably one of the most elegant disaster shelters we've ever come across — check out many more images and drawings over at [Designboom](#) and [Abeer Seikaly](#).

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