



Beginning Sewing Checklist

Project Preparation

- ☐ Comes to class prepared and ready to learn
- ☐ Chooses proper pattern for current skill level
- ☐ Understands how to read pattern envelope/information
- ☐ Chooses proper size based on body measurements
- ☐ Makes a project plan
- ☐ Chooses appropriate seam finishes
- ☐ Procures all supplies and notions before starting project
- ☐ Understands importance of making a test project (a.k.a muslin/toile/mock-up)
- ☐ Prepares pattern properly
- ☐ Prewashes/preshrinks fabric the same way you plan to care for your finished project
- ☐ Reads through pattern before starting
- ☐ Practices proper cutting and labeling/markings of pattern and fabric
- ☐ Takes notes directly onto pattern instructions
- ☐ Follows pattern instructions in order

Basic Sewing

- ☐ Understands, marks and maintains intended seam allowance
- ☐ Understands basic stitches and how to adjust machine accordingly
- ☐ Understands stitch length and width and how to adjust machine accordingly
- ☐ Understands basic troubleshooting (i.e. when to change machine needle, rethreading machine, reinserting bobbin, adjusting tension, adjusting pressure foot pressure, etc.)
- ☐ Winds bobbin properly
- ☐ Threads machine properly
- ☐ Proper use of pins, clips and/or hand basting stitches
- ☐ Begins and ends seams with clean backstitches
- ☐ Uses proper pressing techniques
- ☐ Willing and able to fix sewing mistakes

Skill Building

- ☐ Repeats each project at least once to practice specific skills learned with each pattern
- ☐ Confidence builds with practice
- ☐ Perseveres through setbacks
- ☐ Pairs appropriate fabric with each pattern
- ☐ Compiles and expands textile knowledge
- ☐ Compiles and expands pattern construction knowledge

How To Level Up to Intermediate Sewing

- ☐ Mastery of at least 90% of Project Preparation, Basic Sewing and Skill Building categories (combined)
- ☐ Finishes 12-15 different patterns, building on previously learned skills and difficulty with each pattern
- ☐ Works on projects independently and outside of class
- ☐ Submit 3 of your best completed projects to be evaluated by instructor
- ☐ Instructor approval to move into Intermediate Sewing Class

Instructor Signature _____

Suggested Beginner Projects

Cloth napkin set
Simple tote bag
Elastic waist gathered skirt (no closures)
Top with grown-on sleeve
Pajama/Lounge Pants
Sleeveless Dress (simple shift style)
Apron/Bib
Scrunchie/Headband
Pillow Case
Drawstring Bag
Organizer Roll
Mug Rug/Placemat
Table Runner