

**Level:** ages 14 and up

**Instructor:** Christina Harrigan

# INTRO TO SEWING

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## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

This class meets once a week for 8 weeks, 2 hours per session, and there is required homework, so please review the dates prior to signing up as missing a class will impact your ability to finish the project. Topics will cover assembling a basic sewing kit (and why quality matters); sewing safety; sewing terminology; fractions review; understanding fibers and fabrics; how to select fabrics, thread and needles; understanding the parts of your sewing machine and how they work; machine care and maintenance; measuring to fit a pattern; how to layout a pattern; fabric care; following pattern instructions; using a sewing machine and your tools to construct a simple garment (measuring, cutting, threading, stitch settings, construction techniques to include seams, narrow hems, stay-stitching, under-stitching, top stitching, easing & gathering, curves, grading, clipping curves, casings, ties, pockets and other skills specific to the designated project); pressing vs. ironing; various machine techniques; and hand sewing basics (mending, hems, and buttons). Please plan to arrive 10 min early to set up, so we can start on time. Refer to Class FAQs on the website.

## YOUR SUPPLY LIST (WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING):

***PLEASE ensure your machine is in good working order PRIOR to the first day of class.***

Bring your machine in to the store for a tune up if you are not sure how long it has been since it was used. Allow 1-2 weeks for servicing (times may vary).

Fabric quantity will be determined once you are measured and can be purchased at Berger's – it's part of the planning experience! ***Please do not buy generic items without first understanding the purpose of their use.*** Assembling a "Sewing Kit" is part of our first class and it is fine to wait until after this session to purchase your notions. Poor quality supplies and tools will be frustrating to work with, and you will get discouraged from sewing. Good quality supplies and tools will make sewing easy, productive, and FUN!

All required supplies can be purchased at Berger's (including sewing machines).

- ✓ A **sewing machine** that is clean and in good working condition, which includes a power cord, foot pedal, several bobbins and bobbin case (These are all ***specific*** to your make/model of machine). The operating manual is also needed, and can be downloaded if you cannot locate the original.
  - Machine tool kit – small screwdrivers, other accessories that were included with machine
  - Presser feet
  - Bobbins – at least 3
  - Schmetz machine sewing needles – Universal size 80/12
- ✓ **Sewing Kit** which includes the following notions. This will be reviewed during our first class:
  - 7-8" Fabric Cutting Shears
  - Small 3"-5" scissors, very sharp point (not curved tip)

- Glass-head straight pins (must indicate “glass”)
- Pin cushion or magnetic pin catcher
- Measuring tape, 60” long
- 6” metal sewing gage
- Fabric marking pencil (color should contrast your fabric selection)
- Seam ripper
- Cleaning Brush
- Mettler Metrosene Thread, 100% Polyester (Need one spool for our first class)
  - one color to match your project fabric (fabric shopping is class #2)
  - two contrasting colors
- John James hand sewing needles, “Sharps” or “Milliners”
- A sturdy container to organize and store sewing tools and notions
- Small notebook & pencil for taking notes
- Clean project tote bag to transport items (not used for groceries, homework or snacks)

✓ **Optional Notions:**

- Sewing Machine carrying case
- Stubby screwdriver
- Bent-nosed tweezers

✓ An **iron and ironing board** for home use