

BASIC SEWING KIT

Some members have asked just what should be included in a basic sewing kit that we are often asked to bring along to a class or a workshop.

Some of us have a small soft box we have made, or a bag with lots of pockets, or a basket with a lid, or a tin box with a lid. No two kits are the same as each of us prefers certain items over others. Put your name somewhere on your container.

Please do not feel you have to have all these items right away - you can gather them together over time and as you need them. The items in **bold** are more important!

Needles: a packet of assorted needles gets you started. Plus (if you need them) crewel, tapestry, embroidery, beading, straw, chenille and extra long for passing through soft sculpture dolls etc. A few small pieces of fabric stitched together make a handy storage "book".

Thread: a) Regular sewing thread in white, black, grey and beige.
b) Embroidery floss in a few colours (stranded and/or perle).

Scissors: Small sharp embroidery scissors, larger scissors for cutting fabric, paper scissors. Please put an identifying thread or marks on your scissors.

Thimble: Bring if you use one. Some people like to use a leather thimble.

Measuring Tape/Ruler:

Pins: A magnet, box or pin cushion keeps them handy. Some people like big heads!!

Seam Ripper:

Hoops: Different sizes are useful. One small one, and one 6" or 8" are a good start. Wrap the inner ring of a *wooden* hoop with bias tape and stitch it securely. This keeps the fabric snug in the hoop.

Marking Pencil/Chalk: There are a number of marking pencils on the market today. A good start is a mechanical pencil, a washaway fine tip or iron away pen, very fine black/brown permanent marker.

Embroidery Stitches Book: Coats soft cover of 100 stitches is a good one.

Notebook and Pen: To write notes

Your Nametag: Don't forget this, because we like to know each other!!!

Optional

Beeswax: This is used to coat thread to prevent knotting

Masking Tape: You might be surprised at how often you need this!

Glue Stick:

Eraser: Handy for a number of things.