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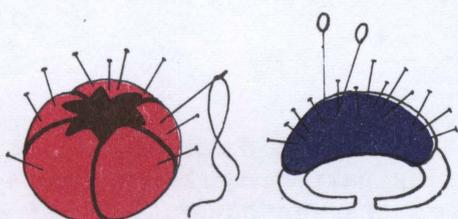
Sewing Tools

YOU WILL NEED

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Always have a pincushion full of fine pins near at hand. When you are fitting a garment, attach a pincushion to an elastic or plastic clip band and wear it on your wrist.

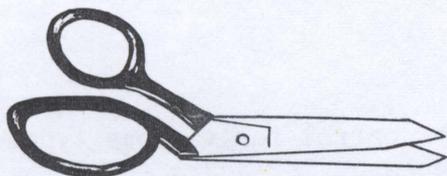
Your pins should be rustproof, sharp and fine -- sizes 14 to 16.



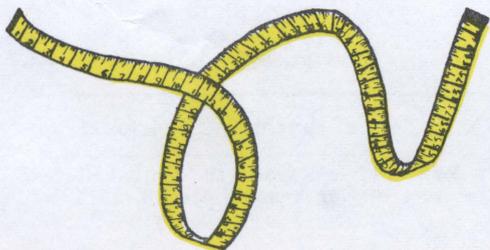
Have an assortment of fine-quality needles. A package of graduated sizes, 7 to 9, will take care of your hand-sewing jobs, or buy a package of No. 7 and one of No. 9.



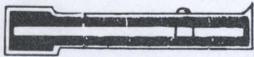
Select a lightweight thimble to fit the middle finger. A thimble should serve as a protector to the finger and as an aid to speed and accuracy in hand sewing.



Work with a good pair of scissors. Cutting scissors should be at least 7 inches long, with bent handles and lower blade straight. This type permits the fabric to remain close to the table during cutting. The blades of the scissors should be joined by a screw so that they can be adjusted easily.



A 60-inch, metal-tipped tape measure should be a part of your sewing equipment. Have a tape measure that can be read from either end. Select a stiff linen tape that will not stretch and will stand on edge to measure curves accurately.

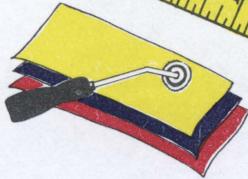
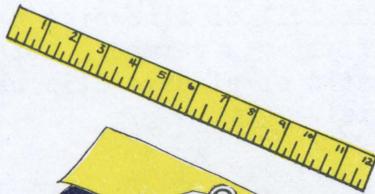


A 4-inch metal gauge is useful for measuring and marking tucks, buttonholes and hems.

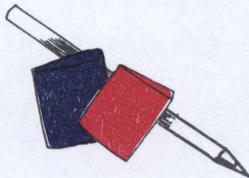
Your thread should match your fabric; one shade darker on the spool usually is a good match after stitching.



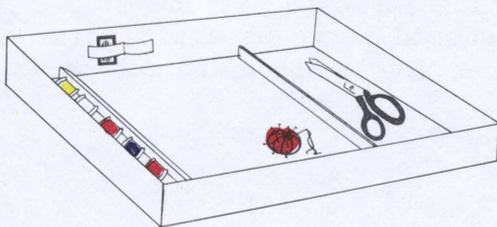
- A. Mercerized cotton thread can be used on many fabrics -- particularly cotton, linen and rayon.
- B. Silk thread has elastic, long-wearing qualities; it is recommended for silk and wool fabrics.
- C. Nylon thread is very strong; it is essential to use nylon thread on nylon fabric.



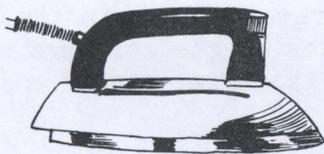
A tracing wheel and dressmaker carbon are desirable for transferring pattern marks. Buy a package of vari-colored tracing paper, so that you will have a color selection for different colors of fabrics. A 12-inch ruler will be needed for accurate marking.



Tailor's chalk or a dressmaker's pencil is helpful in marking perforations and fitting lines.



Keep your small sewing tools in a box so that they may be found easily and stay in good condition. Select one that is large and strong enough to hold the tools. Pockets around the inside edges will take care of smaller pieces. Dividers will help to keep tools in place. A 1-inch-wide piece of flat molding fastened to the bottom of the box along one end makes a good spool rack.



A good iron with heat control for various types of fabrics also is necessary. Place a sponge in a bowl of water on the ironing board to dampen fabric if you do not have a steam iron.