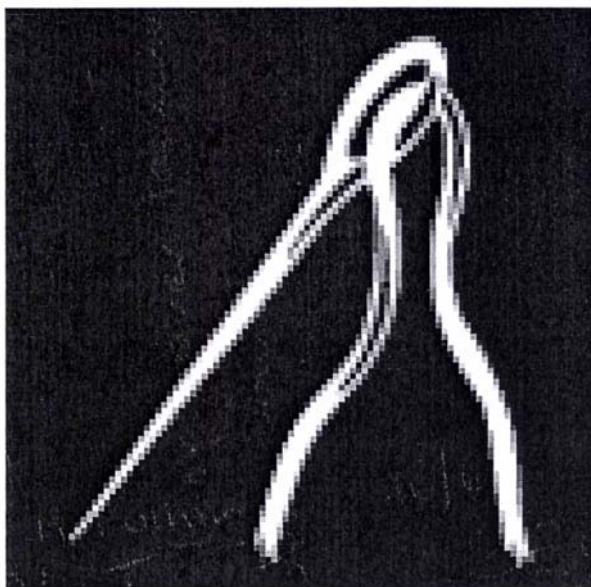


Ready Steady Sew

S1 Fabric Unit



Pupil Information Booklet

Sewing Equipment - Information Sheet

General sewing equipment can be bought from fabric shops, supermarkets and department stores.

The information below gives details about the important design features you should look for when buying sewing equipment. It explains what each piece of equipment is used for in fabric work and gives an idea of cost. Where necessary it gives advice on storage and care.

Cutting Out Scissors

- are used for cutting fabric
- have long sharp blades and cut smoothly and evenly
- should have the lower handle in line with the lower blade – to allow the scissors to sit flat on the table when cutting out
- should be comfortable to hold – a small opening in the handle for the thumb and a larger opening for three fingers
- can be bought for left-handed people
- are used only for cutting fabric (cutting paper will blunt the scissors)
- cost from around £10 and upwards for a good quality pair of scissors
- should be stored separately with sewing equipment

Embroidery Scissors

- are used for taking out tacking threads, cutting threads and trimming fabric
- have sharp blades
- should cut smoothly and evenly
- have pointed ends
- should be comfortable to hold
- can be bought for left-handed people
- cost from around £5 and upwards
- should be stored separately with sewing equipment

Sewing Thread

- is used on a sewing machine and for some hand-stitches
- should be a good quality thread – e.g. Drima or Gutermann
- should match the fabric being sewn
- costs from around £1.75
- should be stored separately to avoid tangling

Tacking Thread

- is usually used for tacking two pieces of fabric together before machining or hand sewing
- is a cheaper rougher thread
- should always be a different colour from the fabric
- costs from around £1.00
- stored separately from sewing thread to avoid mixing

Needles (for hand-sewing)

- are used for tacking, hand-stitching and embroidery
- come in a variety of sizes – the higher the number the finer (thinner) the needle
- come with a variety of eye shapes (for threading)
- should be chosen to suit the thickness of the thread and the fabric
- cost from around £2.00 per pack
- store in packet provided or through a piece of fabric

Pins

- are used for holding two pieces of fabric together before tacking
- should be sharp
- should not rust
- come in different lengths – for everyday sewing should be 2.5 cm long
- cost from around £1.75 a 100g box
- should be stored in a pin box

Tape Measure

- used for measuring fabric, seams, hems etc.
- should be made of strong plastic that does not stretch
- should be clearly marked in mm and cm
- should have a metal end
- should lie flat on the fabric
- costs from around £1.50 for a good quality tape measure
- should be rolled up and kept with other sewing equipment

Tailor's Chalk

- used for marking fabric – for cutting, for the position of details – e.g. buttons, pockets etc.
- can easily be erased
- comes in a variety of colours and shapes – including a pencil
- costs from around 50p
- should be stored in a separate box

Quick Unpick

- used for unpicking unwanted stitches and cutting buttonholes
- should have a sharp cutting edge
- costs from around 40p
- should be stored with other sewing equipment

Setting Targets in Fabric Work

Help Sheet

Behaviour

I will:

- pay attention at all times to the teacher's instructions
- contribute and work well as a member of a group
- be polite to the teacher and pupils in the class at all times
- talk in discussion groups and if questions are asked but not when the teacher is taking
- arrive at class on time prepared to work

Effort

I will:

- complete my work in the given time
- only ask for help when I need it
- keep my folder and unit booklet neat and tidy
- try my hardest to use instructions sheets available
- try to complete the higher levels of worksheets
- always complete my homework

Skills – Practical

I will:

- work safely in a Fabric area
- cut out shapes neatly and accurately
- produce neat and accurate work using a sewing machine
- thread a sewing machine without help
- measure accurately
- set up a sewing machine for a variety of stitches
- hand sew neatly
- confidently use a computerised sewing machine
- leave my work area tidy

Design & Make

I will:

- be creative and original when carrying out a Design and Make task
- research in depth to find the best solution to the Design brief
- be willing to adapt my ideas after discussion with others
- try to stick to the times in my plan of work
- produce a fabric item to a high standard
- when peer testing give detailed suggestions to help my partner
- make helpful comments in my evaluation to help with my next Design and Make task