

## **Intro to Sewing- Materials List (VMFA)**

Instructor: Catherine Southall

Thank you for registering for a class at the VMFA Studio School and welcome to *Intro to Sewing!* I am really looking forward to meeting you and working with everyone! Following is the list of materials you will need for the class. If you have materials from a previous class or from your own sewing experience, please bring those with you as well. If you have questions regarding materials, we will review the list in the first session and materials will be available for everyone to use. **You will need to purchase all of your materials following the first class!**

Note: Most sewing tools can be purchased for approximately \$50 depending on how much you spend on your scissors. We will also be discussing pattern and fabric selections for your personal project in the first class. Please plan to purchase your pattern and fabric before the third class and have ready for class that week.

The studio is equipped with sewing machines. However, if you would prefer to work with your own machine, please bring it with you. Don't forget your attachments, foot peddle, cords and instruction booklet!

**Special Note: I will be providing the first two in-class projects and there is a materials fee of \$15.00 per student. Please plan to bring your \$15.00 materials fee to the first class. Thank you!**

Tools:

Scissors: Gingher- bent trimmers with an 8- 9" blade are the best! (*Fiskars are also good*)

Small pointed scissors- for clipping threads

Pinking shears (optional) Fiskars are lightweight and easy to use.

Paper scissors

*Note: Please make sure your scissors are sharp!*

Pins: Dressmaker- flat and pearl heads (Please do not purchase short pins!)

Needles: An assortment is best including long and thin needles with small eyes.

Milliners are my favorite!

Seam ripper: short handle for light weight fabrics and long handle for heavier fabrics

Measuring tape: 60"

Tailors chalk: combo package with blue and white

Graph ruler: clear with blue or red markings, 18" x 2"

Sewing gauge: short, metal ruler 6" long with a plastic slider

Elastic: 1 package, narrow, 1/2" swimsuit elastic for taking measurements (tan color)

3-ring binder: for sewing notes, instructions, patterns, & textile info

French curves: for pattern alterations and drafting (*will review in class*)

Tracing paper: for pattern and fabric marking

Tracing wheels: blunt and serrated blades

Point turner: for making sharp corners

Tube/loop turner: long, thin, metal stick with small hook on the end

Pencil & eraser: for notes and pattern alterations

Felt tip marker: for pattern alterations

Alpha numeric pattern paper: only available in town at Plaza Art (*we will review in class*)

Pattern weights: for project layout (*we will review in class*)

Artist tape: for altering patterns

If you have any questions regarding materials, please contact me at [thefashionoffice@gmail.com](mailto:thefashionoffice@gmail.com).

The best source in town for purchasing your sewing supplies is Joann Fabrics at Westchester Commons (Midlothian Turnpike and 288). They have the largest selection and best prices. There is also a second location on West Broad Street near Glenside Drive. Joann's online is also a good resource for supplies. Get the Joann's App and save a bundle!

Plaza Art on Grace Street near VCU is also a good resource for drafting supplies, sewing notions, and tools. They are very helpful in store and can also be found online at [plazaart.com](http://plazaart.com). They have competitive prices! Ask for their student discount card when you are in the store!

