

More Sewing Tools

1.108

Page 1



SEW-lutions Guidelines

Your Guide
to
Successful
Sewing

© 2008 Sewing & Craft Alliance
Permission is granted to
educators and retailers to
reproduce these publications
as-is as a handout for
educational purposes only.
They may not be altered,
changed or added to in any
manner. No commercial or other
use, distribution, or
reproduction is permitted.

Get free projects and
more SEW-lutions
Guidelines at
www.sewing.org



Whether you're new to sewing, or coming back to it after a few years away, there are some terrific tools to help you accomplish all your stitching tasks easier and in less time than before.

Needle Threaders

Threading a needle can sometimes be tricky, but a good set of threaders can make the task a cinch. Look for well made threaders with sturdy wire attachments. Multiple sizes allow you to insert even decorative threads or ribbons through the needle eye with ease. A thread cutter is also a handy feature, as is a hanging hole so you can attach the threader to a ribbon around your neck.

Markers

Gone are the days of having to wash a project to get rid of tracing paper or ink markings. Check out air- and water-removable markers and papers. Looking like a ballpoint pen or pencil, these handy markers make removal a cinch. Some come with one large and one fine point on the same tool depending on the visibility needed. Be sure to follow the instructions, as some media become permanent if pressed over before removal.



*Clover Trace'n Mark
Water-erasable
Marker*

Other markers are actually erasable—no more waiting for lines to disappear, or worrying about water spotting! Simply uncap the built-in eraser on the pen's end.

Tool Sets

If a tool does multiple tasks, that's always handy—it's a space-saver at home and handy for traveling. Multi-purpose sewing tools often contain a thread cutter,

magnifier, screw driver, seam ripper, measuring tape and other gadgets in a single cylinder just slightly larger than a ballpoint pen.



Fiskars Sew Taxi 12-in-1 tool

Rotary Cutters

If you're not familiar with this ultra-sharp, pizza-cutter-looking tool, you're missing the boat on cutting ease. Available with blades from 18mm to 65mm diameters, there's one for every task, from cutting strips for quilting, to cutting tight curves on a garment section. Many rotary cutters are ergonomically designed, so look for one with a curved handle that naturally aligns your wrist over the cutting area to reduce pressure.



My Comfort Cutter

Slider Mat

Sewing fabrics that tend to be sticky against the machine bed no longer requires the use of tissue paper or stabilizer to keep things moving. A self-attaching, non-stick silicone mat is available to fit any machine. Simply use scissors to trim it to the size you need and cut out a hole for the machine feed dogs, and you're set. Slick trick!

Iron Innovations

Pressing as you sew is important for a professional look, but running back and forth to the ironing board can get annoying. Today, several companies offer small irons that can sit beside your machine for a convenient pressing option. You won't be ironing the family laundry with these mini irons, but they're great for pressing seams and darts in a quick minute. Use a portable pressing pad underneath to protect your sewing surface from the heat, and stow the iron in the handy stand between uses.



Dritz Petite Press Iron

Fusibles

While not specifically a tool, there are so many fusible products on the market today to help streamline your sewing, that they deserve mention. Look for webs by the yard or as narrow tapes, fusible interfacings of all sorts, iron-on appliques and patches; stay tapes for tailoring, liquid and spray adhesives to make your own fusible items, etc. When selecting fusible products, check for the adhesive weight, as some are very lightweight, others much heavier, depending on the use. Follow application and care instructions for a permanent bond. 🖨️



Warm Company fusibles

5