

Textile Center Supply List

Mastering Machine Tension **Steve Pauling**

Please bring with you to class:

Sewing machine* in good working order (straight or zig zag), with power cord

Sewing machine accessories:

- Operating manual for your machine
- Tool for adjusting bobbin tension – most machines use a small screwdriver. Make certain it's the correct size if not original to your machine. If you don't have one, Steve sells them for \$1 each.
- Lint brush
- Lubricant for hook/shuttle, if required for your machine
- 2 extra empty bobbins
- If your machine has one, the single needle straight-stitch plate
- Straight-stitch (optional) and standard zig-zag foot
- If needed, cams for zig-zag stitch patterns
- Don't forget the cords and foot control! (You'd be surprised at how often this happens.)

Light colored terry cloth hand towel (to keep those tiny screws from bouncing across the room, should they fall out while adjusting your bobbin tension)

Two contrasting medium/light colors of your favorite/common 50 weight sewing thread (Coats and Clark, Guterman, Metrosene, Sulky, etc). Make certain all threads are of the same manufacturer, type, and size. Do NOT choose black, red or other dark or intense colors. Pre-load a bobbin with one of the colors – no more than 1/4 of a bobbin is needed.

Several squares (8-12) of cotton muslin or other medium weight/gauge cloth. Approximate size 6" X 6" minimum or larger. Medium weight plain cotton muslin is best or light solid colors that contrast with your thread colors will make it easier to see your stitches. Bring extra fabric scraps of other materials to use and trade with others for a variety of test samples.

Universal point needles to fit your sewing machine, sized appropriately for your fabric/thread.

Size 80/12 or 90/14 is best for standard 50 weight sewing thread. Steve will have a few packs of assorted needle sizes available for sale (30% off retail prices) at class.

Thread clip/scissors

Fabric scissors

Paper and pencil for note taking and tracking your tension adjustments

Eye glasses (if you need them!)

Bring a desire to learn new skills, a positive "can-do" attitude, and a sense of humor!

Optional: Additional scraps of challenging fabrics, with appropriate type and size needles. No specialty threads!

**We recommend bringing your own machine for this class. However, if you are unable to bring a sewing machine, please contact Textile Center for rental options.*

Please try to arrive a few minutes early to set up your workstation. The studio will be open 10-15 minutes before the start of class. The sooner we can get started, the more time you will have to practice!! If you have any questions prior to the class, you may contact the instructor at Steve@bobbindoctor.com.

There will be time reserved at the end of class for clean-up. Please help this process go quickly by assisting the instructor.

Parking is available in the lot directly behind our building, as well as our newly purchased lot at 3018 University Ave SE. Look for the green signs.