

Textile Center Supply List

Mastering Machine Tension

Steve "Bobbin Doctor" Pauling

Please bring with you to class:

1. Sewing machine in good working order (straight or zig zag)
2. Sewing machine accessories:
 - a. The operating manual for your machine
 - b. Tool for adjusting bobbin tension – most machines use a small screw driver. Make certain it is the correct size if not original to your machine. If you don't have one, Steve will have a few available for sale
 - c. Lint brush, also available for sale
 - d. 2 extra empty bobbins, also available for sale
 - e. If your machine has one, the single needle straight-stitch plate
 - f. Straight-stitch (optional) and standard zig-zag foot
 - g. If needed, a few cams for zig-zag and stretch/reversing stitch patterns
 - h. Don't forget the cords and foot control!!! (You'd be surprised at how often this happens.)
3. 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)
4. Two contrasting medium/light colors of your favorite/common 50 weight sewing thread (Coats and Clark, Gutterman, 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 ¼ of a bobbin is needed.
5. 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 which 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.
6. 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 at class should you need them.
7. Thread clip/scissors
8. Fabric scissors

9. Paper and pencil for note taking and tracking your tension adjustments.
10. If you need eyeglasses, don't forget to bring them!!
11. Lastly, 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 – these will be reviewed in the Specialty Threads Class only or in a private mentoring session.

*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.