

BASIC SEWING TOOLS – CUTTING TOOLS

SAFETY WARNING – Please keep away from Children and Pets.



Please read our T & C's – www.rosamaycrafts.com

DISCLAIMER: Please note this is my very own guideline, there are so many guides and tips, use which one you feel works for you.

To start sewing you will need the very basic tools, each tool has variations with different tools. The list below is what I would call my starter kit for beginners. You may need more or a variation of a specific tool, but start with a few basics and as you become more confident or specialise in a specific direction, you will need more tools and variations of those tools. I have counted over 80 tools, which include the variations, such as fabric scissors – large heavy scissors, lighter smaller scissors, right and lefthand scissors. Boggles the brain. Several tools have the same uses, with an added extra, going with the cutting tools again – embroidery scissors are great for cutting threads and buttonholes, but so are snips. At the end of the day, it your choice, I have both – embroidery scissors and snips, but find the embroidery scissors easier to use, whereas others find them difficult to use.

PLEASE NOTE: Depending on the type of sewing craft you will be doing, the tools will vary and be specific to that craft. For instance, you will need specific tools for Quilting and most tools will be different to Fashion tools. Ask and research, I am always happy to help – message me on Facebook or email me – nadia@rosamaycrafts.com.

My 'must have' additional sewing Tools

- Sewing Machine and sewing machine needles – visit – www.rosamaycrafts.com
- Sewing needles, threads and needle threader – visit – www.rosamaycrafts.com for more information
- Pins and safety pins
- Magnetic pin cushion
- Scissors, paper scissors and pinking shears
- Tape measure
- Marking pen/chalk
- Hem picker
- Storage containers (recycled jam jars, ice cream containers...) – perfect for storing buttons, needles
- Chopsticks – help with turning out corners
- Pony tail holders/hair bands – great for holding tools together or stopping threads from unravelling.

We will now go into a more detailed list of sewing tools

Sewing Tools – See Tips and Tricks – please visit www.rosamaycrafts.com

- Sewing Machine
- Needles – Hand and Machine
- Pins & Safety Pins.
- Cutting tools
- Marking tools
- Measuring tools
- Pressing tools

CUTTING TOOLS

1. Fabric Scissors – cutting fabric, wadding, felt, threads, ribbon, lace, etc
2. Paper Scissors – cutting your paper patterns
3. Embroidery or small scissors – clipping, notching
4. Pinking shears – The zig-zag cut stops fabric from fraying, perfect for finishing off edges of projects.
5. Rotary Cutters – great when cutting several layers at one time and cutting faux. Do not use for paper.
6. Seam Ripper – great for unpicking, cutting open buttonholes.
7. Snips – perfect for cutting threads, cutting stitches.
8. Applique Scissors – perfect for applique projects.
9. Rotary cutters and mats.

Fabric Scissors



There are so many different types of fabrics scissors available, some are lightweight – 81 g and others heavier – 130g. You have scissors to cut cotton fabric, and you have scissors to cut silks, chiffon and other slippery fabrics.

Some scissors are heavy duty so that you can cut through the heavy weight fabric – denim or multiple layers. Personally, I think one should go into a fabric shop and test the scissors, I have bought scissors online and they were so heavy. I know you can return, but how many times do you return scissors before find the one that is comfortable and suitable for you and your sewing craft. You will see scissors with various lengths of the blade, the longer blade is so that you can cut more fabric in one cut and the shorter blades are for smaller projects and cutting curves.

Please remember to only use fabric scissor to cut fabric, nothing else. They will go blunt very quickly or may even damage them.

Paper Scissors



The biggest difference between fabric and paper scissors is the sharpness. Fabric scissors are much sharper than paper.

You will find paper scissors in various weights and lengths. Keep your paper scissor to cut patterns and any other paper related projects.

Seam Rippers and Snips



There are two types, but both have similar uses. The seam ripper is perfect for unpicking, opening buttonholes. Snips are great for cutting threads, opening buttonholes, cutting notches or clipping.

Pinking Shears



The scissor blade is not smooth, it is a zig-zag blade. They are used to cut zig-zag pattern on fabric and helps to slow down the fraying process – overtime all fabrics fray, not matter how they have been finished. They are wonderful to use on felt. I love them my pinking shears for all my craft projects.

Applique Scissors (sometimes called Duck billed)

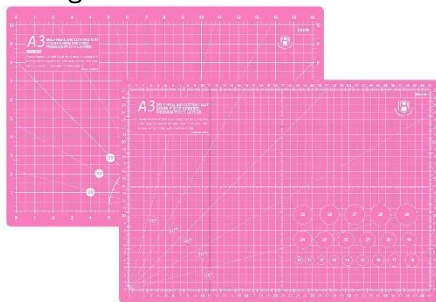


You have one side of the blade that is flat/straight and the other side of the blade is rounded. These scissors are very useful when you need to cut close to the stitching, for those who applique will understand this

Rotary Cutter

Rotary cutters are mainly used for cutting through multiple layers of fabric. As with all cutting tools there are variations, they have different handles, various blades sharpness and thicknesses. They can be used for lightweight to heavy weight fabric.

Cutting Mat



When using a rotary cutter, it is highly recommended you purchase a cutting mat. First of all, for me, you are protecting your table/work surface, but you will a nice, clean cut. It has several other uses also.

TIPS

1. It is always best to have a variety of scissors for each specific use.
2. Try not to cut 'pins' as this will cause 'nicks' in the blades.
3. Always wipe each blade at the end of the day.
4. For safety reasons, keep your scissors in a container.
5. Place a drop of oil on the screws and wipe off.
6. It is always best to get your scissors sharpened by a professional, particularly your expensive scissors.

Other Sewing Tools

There are so many of incredible sewing tools out there, you will find them as you go along, each craft, style or type of sewing you will need specific tools. Here a few others to look at.

Bodkin



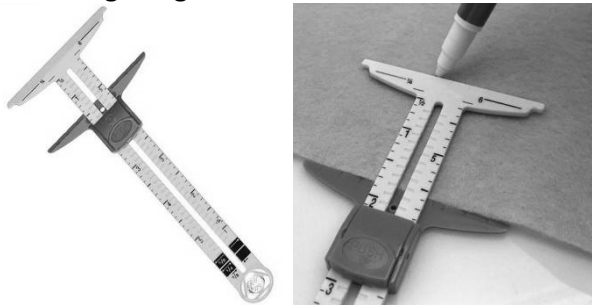
These are great for pulling elastic, cords or turning strips of fabric. You will find cord threaders, elastic threaders, fabric turners.

Fabric Weights



Pattern weights are used to hold your fabric or patterns in place when cutting. You can either buy or make your own using large bolts or a can of food.

Measuring Gauge



This tool is used for creating accurate hems widths, spacing between buttons holes, making pleats that all same size/width.

Pin cushion



Fabric or metal with a magnet or make your own.

Sewing Clips



These are useful when you are sewing a hem or creating quilts, placemats or other projects with multiple layers. It holds all the layers in place



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