

## **HAND SEWING NEEDLES.**

**SAFETY WARNING – Please keep away from Children and Pets.**



Please read our T & C's – [www.rosamaycrafts.com](http://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](mailto:nadia@rosamaycrafts.com).

My 'must have' additional sewing Tools – Visit <https://rosamaycrafts.com/category/sewing-tutorials/>

- Sewing Machine and sewing machine needles
- Sewing needles, threads and needle threader
- 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](http://www.rosamaycrafts.com)**

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

## Sewing needles



There are many different types of hand sewing needles, they vary in size, shape, point and the eye. Each different type as it's own special use.

Sewing needles having sizing numbers, these are different to sewing machine needles. The smaller the number the bigger the needle and vice versa. The size "number" is the diameter of the needle.

They also come in different lengths, thickness, some "points" are sharp and others are rounded and the "eye" also comes in different sizing.

The commonly used material is stainless steel, but you will find them in alloy steel also.

Below is an anatomy of a hand sewing needle.

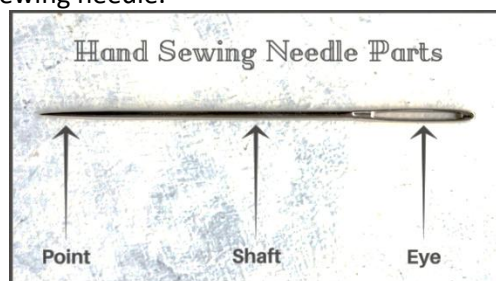


Image Credit – [www.allfreesewing.com](http://www.allfreesewing.com)



Most sewing needles will have the information either on the packaging or if buying online, it will be in the description section.

The main thing to look out for is the use

I have not used all the different sewing needles, but here are some of the basic ones I have used in my sewing projects.

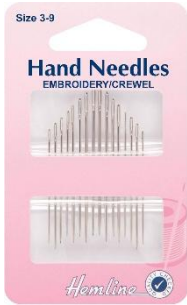
### 1. Sharps/General Purpose needles.



These needles are the more commonly used needles, everyone should have a pack of these in their sewing box. As it's name states, the points are sharp, so beware.

- Extra slim, special tapering tip shape, does not leave holes in the material.
- Small eyes.
- They are versatile and can be used in a variety of sewing projects.

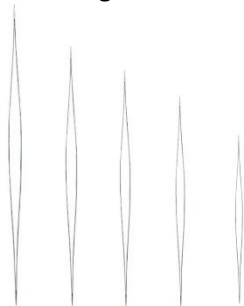
## 2. Embroidery/Crewel needles.



They are the same length as the “Sharps” and are very commonly used. The “Eye” of the embroidery needle is longer, this allows for thicker threads to be used. Another set of needles, I highly recommend that you keep in your sewing box.

- A medium-long needle with an oval eye.
- Sizes of this needle range from 1-10.
- These needles are perfect for embroidery projects. They also known as crewels.

## 3. Beading Needles.



If you are using beads and sequins in your project or creating jewellery items, these needles are wonderful.

- They are long, very thin and delicate needles.
- Very bendy and flexible
- A very large “eye”.

I have used the sharps/general needle for any beadwork or sequins that I add to my project. They work very well – this is my personal opinion.

## 4. Ballpoint Needles.



If you work a lot with knit fabrics, then this is a perfect needle to use.

- Small eye.
- Smooth rounded point and therefore will not damage your fabric.

A few other needles that I personally keep in my stock.

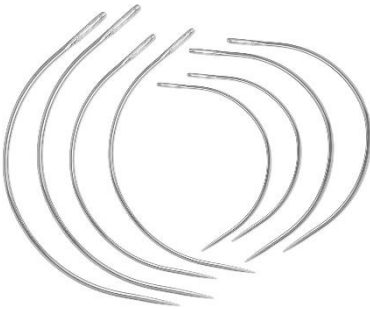
#### Tapestry needle



These needles are great for cross stitch, open weave fabrics and crocheting.

- Blunt rounded end.
- Long oval eye.

#### Curved needle



When I first got these, it felt very weird using them, but they are perfect for the use that they were made for – thick fabrics – leather, canvas. I have used them to repair rucksacks that start to split.

- C Shape
- Heavy duty for use on heavy weight fabrics
- Long eye

#### And here are a few more

Darning needles – Do you do a lot of mending, then these are needles for you.

Milliners needles – These needles are wonderful for gathering, creating pleats and smocking.

Quilting needles – for all the quilters out there. You are able to create smooth stitches and stitch through multiple layers of fabric.

Chenille needles – These are used for ribbon embroidery.

When hand sewing you need a few more tools to help you with the process.

#### Needle threader



A must in every crafter's toolbox. I buy in bulk; they are just so useful.

The dictionary states – 'A device for pulling a thread through the small eye of a needle.'

They are wonderful when trying to thread an needle that has a teeny tiny eye, or if your eyesight is not the best – like me. You can buy a manual or automatic needle threader.

## Thimble



This is not something that I have ever been able to get used, but my dear Mamma, never went without one. A thimble protects your finger/s from been pricked by your needle/pins whilst creating your projects. They are made in a variety of materials – rubber and metal. Some are solid, others are adjustable.

## Magnets



Wonderful for when your drop your needle or pin container.

## SOME TIPS ON HAND SEWING NEEDLES.

1. Keep your needles in a separate container and name them.
2. Needles are so cheap, if they feel blunt, throw them away safely.
3. Remember to keep them away from children and animals. (My gorgeous rescue cat loves picking up my needles and pins...)



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