

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED:

➔ How do we choose a sewing machine?



Choosing a sewing machine is not only an investment but can be intimidating. When choosing a machine, consider your budget as well as the overall goal

of what the machine will be used for in the long run. For the needs of this class, a basic full-size Brother or Singer machine is all you need for learning basic sewing skills. The machine should have straight stitch, zig zag stitch, reverse, and basic button hole functions. Any functions beyond this are an added bonus but not necessary. Here are two examples of basic machines that would work for this class:

- [Basic Brother Sewing Machine](#)
- [Singer Sewing Machine](#)

Help in choosing a machine is available! Also, be on the lookout for deals on Amazon, Costco, Sam's Club, Best Buy, Walmart, Joanns, etc.

➔ What materials does my student need?



Each student must have a sewing machine (see above), extra [sewing machine needles](#), [fabric rated scissors](#), [all purpose thread](#) in a neutral color (white, grey, or tan),

[seam ripper](#), [fabric tape measure](#), and [quilting clips](#) OR sewing pins to hold fabric pieces together (quilting clips recommended for students very new to sewing). Practice fabric will be included in price of the class.

Supplies can be purchased online, at your local Joanns, or Walmart.

➔ What kind of projects will my student be learning?



Machine sewing project ideas are endless, however to keep up with the homesteading theme, projects will be useful items for the house and daily life. Some of the upcoming

projects include (but are not limited to) reusable paper towels, fabric napkins, pillow case, tote bag, tissue pouch, pencil roll, tissue holder, and more! Is there a project your child is anxious to learn? Feel free to make suggestions!



HOMESTEADING: MACHINE SEWING FOR BEGINNERS

The purpose of beginner sewing classes, is to ignite student creativity while learning how to operate a basic sewing machine to include threading, changing the needle, moving the needle, bobbin threading and replacing, sewing straight and zig-zag stitches, beginning and finishing projects, and problem solving basic issues that can arise while sewing.

Sewing, it isn't as hard as you think! This season's homesteading class is upscaling a bit from hand sewing to machine sewing. The modern technology behind sewing machines speed up productivity and allow all sewers, of every level from beginning to professional, to advance their creativity and skills. However, many people are often intimidated by machine sewing, choosing a sewing machine, materials needed, fabrics, etc. I am here to bring a bit of ease by answering some common questions parents are having while looking at the homesteading track/machine sewing this year.

Classes will be project based, including a different project to start in each class (except the first class which is basic machine introduction) and directions to finish at home as needed.

➔ Should we buy fabric?



One of the most fun parts of sewing is choosing fabric! In fact, I enjoy shopping for fabric perhaps even more than sewing itself! However, fabric can be pricey, so I recommend the following: a) wait until your student has a little sewing confidence under their belt in order to reduce fabric waste, and/or b) find used items around the house to cut up and repurpose such as bed sheets, clothing that doesn't stretch such as flannel, denim, dress shirt cotton (avoid knit for beginners). Generic practice fabric necessary for in-class projects will be provided.

➔ Is my child old enough?



A child at just about any age can learn how to sew. That being said, it is important to understand that the amount of assistance that a 4 year old may need with coordination of the pedal and maneuvering the fabric will be different than that of an older child. The assistance provided to a very new student will also be more than a progressing learner. It's actually considered good luck to make mistakes though!