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Sewing Machines: Making A Comeback?

By Kathryn Whittaker

While we don't have to rely on sewing machines to satisfy our basic clothing needs, more and more

people today turn to sewing to create unique, luxurious, one-of-a-kind pieces. Every family has that hand embroidered grandmother's table cloth or a hand-made quilt, and these pieces are as cherished as the most sophisticated haute couture creations. And instead of paying hefty sums to someone for creating these little pieces of luxury for you, you can develop the easy skills of making your own monograms, embroideries or even hand-sewn button-holes - all the little luxuries that make the difference.

With the help of a reliable sewing machine, you can instantly personalize a lot of everyday necessities. For example, you can create a set of unique napkins or add a classy touch to your bed linen and bath towels with a monogram. And with a little practice you can even alter and mend your clothes.

When choosing your first sewing machine, make sure you understand how much sewing you plan to do. The honest answer will save you money and time, as you will not pick a too complex and upscale sewing machine for your basic sewing needs.

If you plan to study sewing and even recreate expensive designer clothes to save money, you will need a more upscale sewing machine. Sewing your own clothes makes sense only if your sewing skills are high enough to recreate high-end clothes, such as suits, jackets and dresses. You won't save money on sewing your own jeans, because the pattern, fabric, buttons, and the time spent will make this pair of jeans more expensive than any of the designer creations. However, sewing children's clothes does make sense, because you need little fabric, and you don't really need complicated patterns.

A sewing machine is a great investment for those who have a passion for clothes design and like to wear one-of-a-kind pieces and don't want to limit their clothing choices to what they see in department stores. With a sewing machine and a little patience you have full control on where the pockets go, what kind of buttons you use, and where the hemline stops. You should be aware that creating clothes from scratch or even amending the existing pattern requires sewing skills and a lot of time and devotion.

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A more practical use for sewing machines is mending and altering the clothes you already have. We all have that special pair of trousers or jeans that we love and hate to throw them out. Sewing machines also work great for those who like personalizing item with monograms and embroideries.

Sewing for your home is quite labor-consuming; drapes and upholstery require lots of fabric and professional-grade equipment for precise sewing notions, such as rivets and hooks. Still, you can create simple drapes and even roman blinds on your basic sewing machine. Don't forget about quilting that once fuelled the sewing machine craze. It seems like patchwork is coming back, and many fashion designers even use elements in their collections.

Sewing machines are indispensable for crafts, which are a great way to relax and unwind after a busy day. Studies have shown that sewing reduces stress! When sewing something, no matter for what purposes, people achieve something that gives them a lasting satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment. Besides, hand-made simple purses, gift bags for wine bottles, tablecloths and

napkins make wonderful and thoughtful gifts.

And who knows, maybe after you discover the joys of sewing, you will decide to move forward and open a small sewing business to create and sew unique pieces of clothing. Many upscale boutiques and fashion fairs feature such mini-collections often sewn on simple household sewing machines.

Kathryn Whittaker writes articles on a number of different topics. For more information on Sewing Machines please visit

<http://www.sewing-machine-guide.com/>

and for additional Sewing related articles

please visit

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Want To Try Your Hand At Sewing...You'll Need Some Sewing Patterns?

By Mike Yeager

These days, sewing patterns are widely available. Almost any department store or even some discount stores carry sewing supplies and some even carry sewing machines. As this hobby grows, the amount of available products grows as well. Once a necessity, sewing has become a hobby among young and old. And, in this age of the world wide web it is now easier then ever to sell hand made articles as well.

First, patterns. People who are new to sewing will need to buy a book or two (or find them in the nearest library) and read up on the lingo and techniques. Once an understanding of how to use the sewing machine (and even how to thread a needle) is learned, finding projects to do is simple. There

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are many, many books that can provide ideas.

Sewing patterns themselves can be found in craft and fabric stores and also some department stores. Many times they can be found online as well. Every imaginable pattern is available. Or, creating a new idea is an alternative as well. The average person who is new to sewing and sewing machines, will need some practice and tons of patience! There is also a need for basic supplies such as needles, threads of different colors and strengths, fabric, and maybe a how to book to help them along. All of these supplies will be available in craft or fabric stores.

Of course the best way to experience the art of sewing is to do it. Having an experienced teacher is also a big advantage as there is not a book out there that can top experiencing hands on training. There are also many sewing classes available. Try looking into area recreation centers or even local colleges that offer mini courses. Mostly, practice will be a guide as to what can be created, that and of course, imagination. So, pick a pattern that is not too complex, gather the supplies, and try to sew!

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