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ERGONOMIC SEWING TOOLS

Hands that ache from arthritis or carpal tunnel syndrome due to repeated use of sewing tools demand ergonomic engineering. Some of the most frequently used tools have a new ergonomic design with soft-grip features that make them easier to hold and handle with comfort.

TRACING WHEELS

The proper way to use a tracing wheel is with the index finger extended along the top edge of the handle. Both ergonomic tracing wheels are designed with gently curved handles that follow the natural form of the hand. Choose from either a serrated or a smooth rolling wheel.



SEAM RIPPERS

No matter the sewing skill level, from time to time all sewers reach for a seam ripper to practice the task of reverse sewing. The ergonomic seam rippers have a conical shape with soft finger grips that provide a comfortable grip. The handles can be extended by



attaching the transparent cap to the base of the handle. Depending on your project and preferences, choose the shorter handle with a fine blade or the larger handle with a heavy duty blade.

AWL

An awl is used to pierce a hole in a variety of materials from fleece and leather to wood. The awl has a soft cushion cap that provides support to the hand when significant pressure is applied at odd angles. The cap is removable and can be placed over the sharp point for protection when not in use. The closed tool can also sit on your work surface and is within reach for the next use.



HELPFUL SEWING TOOLS

Tools are designed to accomplish specific tasks. Use of the correct tool makes completing the project easier and quicker.

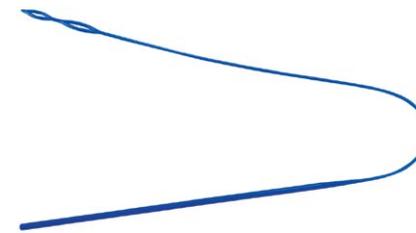
BODKINS

Bodkins are used to guide trims, elastic and cording through narrow casings and tubing. The Ball Point Bodkin looks like a long needle with a rounded tip. It smoothly slides into casings. The shorter Ezy-Pull® Bodkin has special "teeth" that grip onto the end of elastic or ribbon so that it does not get lost during the process of threading.



THREADERS

A Drawstring Threader makes the task of replacing or adding a drawstring to hoods, activewear and bags quick and easy. It includes two loops that will fit most drawstrings, ribbons and elastic cording.



TUBE TURNERS

These handy tools help turn fabric tubes right side out. A long, metal Loop Turner is ideal for narrow bias tubing used for button loops, shoulder straps, frog closures and Chinese ball buttons. The Quick Turn includes 3 sizes of plastic cylinders and wooden rods used for turning tubes quickly and easily. When using delicate or slippery fabrics, the Clip 'N Turn tools are ideal. The clips on the ends hold the fabric securely as the tube is turned. These tools can also be used to create



Courtesy of Dritz®

Please read and follow all manufacturers' instructions for all tools and materials used. Provide adult supervision if children participate in this project. ©2012 Jo-Ann Stores, Inc.

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MEASURING

Accuracy in measuring is as important today as when the first tape measure was introduced during the War of 1812. Each measuring device has characteristics inherent to its design, specific to its task. There is a tool to make measuring easy and accurate, whether hemming a pair of pants or measuring for a home décor project.

GAUGES

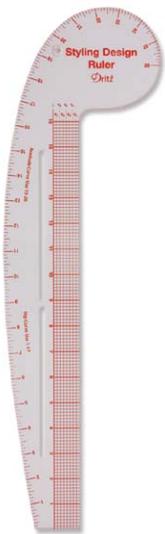


The Ezy-Hem® Gauge has markings to measure curved or straight hems. Simply fold fabric over the edge and press directly onto gauge.

Multipurpose 6" & 7" sewing gauges have a sliding indicator to mark a specific measurement. The small size and clear markings make them ideal

to repeat measurements on hems and seam allowances and for spacing tucks, pleats and buttonholes. The longer gauge includes a point turner that can be used to push out corners on collars, lapels, cuffs, pockets and waistbands.

RULERS



The Styling Design Ruler combines curves, a straight edge and a grid marked ruler all in one. The ruler is used to make pattern and garment alterations and design changes. The various curves correspond to key figure and pattern areas such as the armholes, hips and neckline. Cut-out slots can be used for marking seam allowances or to guide a tracing wheel when marking straight lines.



A transparent, flexible plastic ruler allows you to see your project under the ruler for accurate positioning and marking. The See-Through Ruler includes 1/8" inner grid lines, 1/16" outer edge markings and an 18" ruler on one side that are designed to assist you with drafting, designing and enlarging patterns. Small holes in the center of the ruler are used for drawing circles and scallops. See-Through grid markings make it easy to draw and mark perpendicular lines.



MARKING

Accurately marking a design or transferring a construction detail to a sewing project can make the difference between success and failure. Choose a marking tool that is appropriate for the fabric. Testing on a scrap of the same fabric as the project to ensure the marking does not damage the fabric and that the marks can be removed properly.

PENCILS

No matter the style, traditional wooden or refillable mechanical, pencils are used to mark construction details such as darts, pleats and buttonholes. Select the color of lead that will contrast with your fabric color and be clearly visible. Marks can be removed with a brush, water or eraser.



PENS

Pens are formulated with special ink, perfect for marking construction details and guidelines for surface embellishments. Water-soluble ink can be removed with plain water. Air-soluble ink will disappear in 24 to 72 hours or can be removed sooner with water. Only use pens on washable fabrics; never on dry-clean-only fabrics.



CHALK

Chalk is a classic marking tool and works on various types of fabrics because it is easily removed. Tailor's chalk is in a solid form and can be used alone or placed in a plastic holder. Chalk wheels provide a powdered form of chalk and are refillable.



The tiny wheel rolls smoothly across the fabric and disperses an even, fine line of chalk.



TRACING PAPER & WHEELS

Tracing paper is ideal for marking stitching lines, placement lines and darts. The wax-free paper is available in multiple colors and is either single- or double-sided.



Tracing wheels are the tools used to transfer markings through tracing paper to fabric. A serrated tracing wheel makes dotted markings and is used for marking multiple layers and bulky fabrics. Use a smooth tracing wheel for marking lightweight, delicate and pile fabrics.

