

Sew Smart

Directions: Match each description in the left-hand column with the correct term from the right-hand column. Write the letter of the term in the space provided. Then follow the directions in *Choosing a Machine*.

Descriptions

- _____ 1. Large scissors for cutting fabric
- _____ 2. Small ruler with a slide marker
- _____ 3. Special pen used to mark fabric temporarily
- _____ 4. Cloth used when pressing fabric to protect it
- _____ 5. Large wheel on the right side of a sewing machine
- _____ 6. Flat spool that holds the bottom thread
- _____ 7. Metal “teeth” that move the fabric during stitching
- _____ 8. Dial for adjusting looseness or tightness of thread
- _____ 9. Holds the spool of thread
- _____ 10. Pedal that regulates machine operation
- _____ 11. Retracing your stitching
- _____ 12. Diagonal direction on a piece of fabric
- _____ 13. Special sewing machine that finishes a seam in one step

Terms

- A. fabric marker
- B. feed dogs
- C. spool pin
- D. bias
- E. shears
- F. press cloth
- G. tension control
- H. serger
- I. backstitching
- J. sewing gauge
- K. handwheel
- L. bobbin
- M. foot control

Choosing a Machine

David’s family is planning to buy a sewing machine. They are not sure whether they want a conventional machine or a serger. Suppose you are the salesperson showing them sewing machines. On separate paper, explain what you would say to David’s family to help them choose between the two types.

Sewing Savvy

Directions: Put a check mark under *yes* or *no* after each statement to show your knowledge of sewing basics.

Sewing Basics		Yes	No
1	Cutting equipment should only be used for sewing.		
2	Store pins and needles in a small box.		
3	Sewing machines vary widely in the way they operate.		
4	Thread is wound onto a bobbin.		
5	Tension refers to the tightness of your hands as you guide the fabric on the machine.		
6	A serger can be used to make clothes that look like those you buy.		
7	A serger stitches, trims, and finishes a seam in one step.		
8	If you have a serger, you do not need a sewing machine.		
9	Interfacing helps prevent necklines from stretching.		
10	The fabric you choose could affect the success or failure of your project.		
11	Notches are square-shaped symbols that show where to attach pockets.		
12	Thread, zippers, and buttons are examples of notions.		
13	The cutting line is the heavy line you follow on the outer edge of the pattern to cut the fabric.		
14	Darts are shown by broken lines.		
15	Pattern pieces should exactly match your body size.		
16	The finished lengthwise edge of fabric is called the selvage.		
17	Do not preshrink fabrics before making a project.		
18	Cut apart the pattern pieces you need.		
19	Hold a pattern and fabric flat with one hand as you cut the fabric.		
20	Notches are best cut inward rather than outward.		
21	A ballpoint pen makes a good marking tool on fabric.		