



Creative Mending Resource List

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Needles:

You can use any needle that has an eye big enough to thread your sewing thread; and feels nice to hold and is fine enough to stitch through the fabric you are working with. I use a chenille no 18 or 20.

Fabrics:

The idea of this mending workshop is to use where possible recycled or secondhand fabrics. These can be obtained from your own worn-out clothes, from an op-shop; and don't forget to ask friends and other family members if they have clothes they don't want anymore. Jeans and mens shirts are great for repair work. If you are a crafter you will have a craft stash, like me! But if you're not a crafter then this might be new to you.

You could ask craft friends if they have any scraps of fabric they might not want or could spare you a few bits and pieces. Even think about putting up a facebook post on the local buy, swap and sell pages. I'm sure someone will respond. (I have done this before).

Threads

OP-shops are also a good source of threads; check them out regularly. Otherwise you might need to buy a couple of spools of thread in basic colours which should keep you going for a while. I would buy a dark colour, black, brown or navy and a light natural colour. If you can afford to buy a quality thread then Gutermann threads are the best, but any will do. You can also buy DMC stranded cotton which come in an amazing selection of colours. Most good craft shops will stock this.

When darning socks or a blanket I would recommend using wool yarn. This is the best - but if you can't get your hands on any acrylic yarn will do.

Tools

You don't need many tools, but you will need a good pair sharp of scissors. You can buy scissors from the supermarket or the craft shop. If you look after your scissors they will stay sharp for longer. If you use your sewing scissors for other things such as cutting paper they will go blunt. Have a designated pair for sewing and hide them from view of the family. The more you spend on a pair the better quality they will be. You can get a reasonable ones for \$10 and if you spend \$25 you should get a good set - you shouldn't need to spend more than that.

Pins and safety pins are very cheap to buy - but again buy them from a craft shop as they will usually be better quality. If you don't have a craft shop nearby buy them from the supermarket.

Happy mending and let's do our bit to reduce our textile waste and repair our clothes.

If you have enjoyed the workshop don't forget to check out our other courses

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