BASIC SEWING KIT

Some members have asked just what should be included in a basic sewing kit that we are often asked to bring along to a class or a workshop.

Some of us have a small soft box we have made, or a bag with lots of pockets, or a basket with a lid, or a tin box with a lid. No two kits are the same as each of us prefers certain items over others. Put your name somewhere on your container.

<u>Please</u> do not feel you have to have all these items right away - you can gather them together over time and as you need them. The items in **bold** are more important!

Needles: a packet of assorted needles gets you started. Plus (if you need them) crewel, tapestry, embroidery, beading, straw, chenille and extra long for passing through soft sculpture dolls etc. A few small pieces of fabric stitched together make a handy storage "book".

Thread:

- Regular sewing thread in white, black, grey and beige.
- Embroidery floss in a few colours (stranded and/or perle.

Scissors:

Small sharp embroidery scissors, larger scissors for cutting fabric, paper scissors.

Please put an identifying thread or marks on your scissors.

Thimble:

Bring if you use one. Some people like to use a leather thimble.

Measuring Tape/Ruler:

Pins: A magnet, box or pin cushion keeps them handy. Some people like big heads!!

Seam Ripper:

Hoops: Different sizes are useful. One small one, and one 6" or 8" are a good start. Wrap the inner ring of a *wooden* hoop with bias tape and stitch it securely. This keeps the fabric snug in the hoop.

Marking Pencil/Chalk: There are a number of marking pencils on the market today. A good start is a mechanical pencil, a washaway fine tip or iron away pen, very fine black/brown permanent marker.

Embroidery Stitches Book: Coats soft cover of 100 stitches is a good one.

Notebook and Pen: To write notes

Your Nametag: Don't forget this, because we like to know each other!!!

Optional

Beeswax: This is used to coat thread to prevent knotting

Masking Tape: You might be surprised at how often you need this!

Glue Stick:

Eraser: Handy for a number of things.