

# Sewing

This is a series on how to sew. Participants sew garments of increasing difficulty as they progress. The garments range from simple items to a tailored suit or coat.

## Requirements

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**Level: Level A (Grade 3)**

Last Modified: 11/01/07

### Skills to Learn and Include in Exhibit

Include at least 2 skills in the exhibit:

- Insert elastic or drawstring
- Sew and trim a crotch curve
- Machine topstitch hems
- Use a simple seam finish
- Stitch in the ditch

### Exhibit

**Wearable:** Elastic waist shorts, pants OR skirt with fold over casing; no pockets. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 925c-W](#)) to the exhibit.

**Non-wearable:** Simple pillow sham with lapped back opening and purchased pillow form (following instructions provided in manual) OR simple totebag with handles or drawstring. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 925c-W](#)) to the exhibit.

## Requirements

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**Level: Level A (Grade 4)**

Last Modified: 10/01/12

### Skills to Learn and Include in Exhibit

Seam finishes are recommended on all exposed seams.

Include at least 2 skills in the exhibit:

- Use interfacing
- Staystitch and understitch
- Apply a facing or binding
- Stitch curved seams
- Trim and grade seams
- Work with fiberfill
- Machine topstitch hems

### Exhibit

**Wearable:** Shorts, pants OR skirt with partial or full sewn-on waistband or waistline facing, or partial elastic waistband (not a full elastic waistband) OR simple shirt or top OR BBQ apron. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 925c-W](#)) to the exhibit.

**Non-wearable:** Shaped pillow with curved seams, stuffed and sewn closed OR hanging pocket organizer OR bound edge placemats (set of 4). Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 925c-W](#)) to the exhibit.

## Requirements

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**Level: Level B (Grade 5)**

Last Modified: 10/2019

### Skills to Learn and Include in Exhibit

Seam finishes are recommended on all exposed seams (except knits). Interfacing, understitching and trimming should be used when appropriate.

Choose at least 3 of these additional skills for each sewn exhibit.

Match fabric design	Sew with knit
Gather fabric	Insert elastic
Insert zipper	Apply facings
Use a drawstring	Sew buttons
Hand-stitch a hem	Apply binding
Sew a simple sleeve	Use batting
Apply purchased trim or ribbons	
Sew patch or inseam pockets	
Use a simple lining	
Do a machine blind hem	
Apply machine topstitching	
Do a machine topstitched hem	

### Exhibit

**Wearable:** Simple shirt with sleeves OR sundress OR jumper OR simple 2-piece pajamas. A similar article is permissible provided the skillset is the same as the listed articles. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 926C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

**Non-wearable:** Pillow lap quilt (quillow) OR structured duffel bag, tote bag or backpack, OR sewn hat. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 926C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

## Requirements

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**Level: Level B (Grade 6)**

Last Modified: 10/01/12

### Skills to Learn and Include in Exhibit

Seam finishes are recommended on all exposed seams (except knits). Interfacing, understitching and trimming should be used when appropriate.

Choose at least 4 of these additional skills for each sewn exhibit.

make darts	sew facings
set in sleeves	apply ribbings
insert a lapped zipper	sew a simple collar
hand-stitch a hem	do a machine blind hem
make buttonholes	sew with knit
sew tucks or pleats	match fabric design
sew ruffles	use fiberfill
hand sew buttons	apply machine appliqué
apply trim	insert piping
sew a simple lining	apply machine topstitching
sew patch pockets	construct with a serger
apply bindings	sew inseam pockets
do a machine topstitched hem	

## Exhibit

**Wearable:** Two (2) garments that can be worn together. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 926D-W](#)) to the exhibit.

**Non-wearable:** Pillow sham with button or zipper closing, appliqued design, piping or ruffle. Make your own pillow form OR totebag with zipper or duffel bag with zipper, pockets and lining OR doll or pet clothes OR construction techniques sample notebook (following instructions provided in the manual). Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 926D-W](#)) to the exhibit.

## Requirements

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**Level: Level C (Grade 7)**

Last Modified: 10/10/08

### Skills to Learn and Include in Exhibit

Seam finishes are recommended on all exposed seams (except knits). Interfacing, understitching, and trimming should be used when appropriate.

Choose at least 5 of these additional skills for each sewn exhibit:

make darts	attach cuffs
set in sleeves	apply binding
sew facing	sew lining
apply ribbing	apply ruffles
apply a collar	insert piping
sew on buttons	make buttonholes
use doll joints	use fiberfill
apply inseam pockets	apply patch pockets
apply front hip pockets	use a twin needle
match fabric design	apply tucks/pleats
apply trims	construct with a serger
apply machine or hand appliqué	apply machine embroidery
apply machine topstitching	
insert a lapped zipper	
insert an invisible zipper	
insert a separating zipper	
insert a fly front zipper	
do machine quilting	
do a hand-stitched hem	
do a machine topstitched hem	
do a machine blind hem	

## Exhibit

**Wearable:** School or sports outfit. Can be one or more pieces. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 927C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

**Non-wearable:** Dressed, jointed (with sockets) stuffed animal OR sewn item for holiday or special occasion OR construction techniques sample notebook (following instructions provided in manual). Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 927C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

## Requirements

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**Level: Level C (Grades 8 and 9)**

Last Modified: 10/10/08

## Skills to Learn and Include in Exhibit

Seam finishes are recommended on all exposed seams (except knits and non-raveling specialty fabrics). Interfacing, understitching and trimming should be used when appropriate. In addition, choose at least 6 of these skills for each sewn exhibit:

make darts	attach cuffs	do machine or hand quilting
make tucks	make pleats	apply machine or hand applique
add lining	insert elastic	apply machine topstitching
add facings	add boning	insert an invisible zipper
add plackets	apply a collar	insert a separating zipper
add lapels	insert piping	insert a fly front zipper
make sleeves	make a neckband	insert a lapped zipper
add gathers	add vents	insert a hand picked zipper
apply trim	sew buttons	do a machine topstitched hem
apply ribbing	add underlining	do a machine blind hem
add a drawstring	add ruffles	do a hand-stitched hem
use shaped seams	sew with knit	make self-covered buttons
use fiberfill	make button loops	use specialty threads
add a waistband	do hand beading	make self-enclosed seams
add patch pockets	add inseam pockets	sew with difficult fabric
add front hip pockets	add welt pockets	make machine buttonholes
match fabric design	use twin needle	make bound buttonholes
make shoulder pads	create bound edges	apply machine embroidery

## Exhibit

**Wearable:** See advanced sewing wearable exhibit options below. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 928C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

**Non-wearable:** Sewn items for your home OR construction techniques sample notebook OR sewing machine survey. (Following instructions provided in manual). Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 928C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

## Requirements

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**Level: Level D (Grades 10, 11, and 12)**

Last Modified: 11/01/07

## Skills to Learn and Include in Exhibit

Seam finishes are recommended on all exposed seams (except knits and non-raveling specialty fabrics). Interfacing, understitching and trimming should be used when appropriate. In addition, choose at least 6 of these skills for each sewn exhibit:

make darts	attach cuffs	do machine or hand quilting
make tucks	make pleats	apply machine or hand applique
add lining	insert elastic	apply machine topstitching
add facings	add boning	insert an invisible zipper
add plackets	apply a collar	insert a separating zipper
add lapels	insert piping	insert a fly front zipper
make sleeves	make a neckband	insert a lapped zipper
add gathers	add vents	insert a hand picked zipper
apply trim	sew buttons	do a machine topstitched hem
apply ribbing	add underlining	do a machine blind hem
add a drawstring	add ruffles	do a hand-stitched hem

use shaped seams  
use fiberfill and/or batting  
add a waistband  
add patch pockets  
add front hip pockets  
match fabric design  
make shoulder pads  
apply machine embroidery  
coordination of fabric for  
quilted item

sew with knit  
make button loops  
do hand beading  
add inseam pockets  
add welt pockets  
use twin needle  
create bound edges  
hand/machine beading  
make a reversible item

make self-covered buttons  
use specialty threads  
make self-enclosed seams  
sew with difficult fabric  
construct with a serger  
make machine buttonholes  
make bound buttonholes  
piece quilted item  
other skills not listed above

## Exhibit

**Wearable:** See advanced sewing wearable exhibit options below. Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 928C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

**Non-wearable:** Sewn items for your home OR construction techniques sample notebook OR sewing machine survey. (Following instructions provided in manual). Attach Sewing Skills Card ([4-H 928C-W](#)) to the exhibit.

## Requirements

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**Level: Advanced Sewing Wearable Exhibits (Levels C & D)**

Last Modified: 10/12/05

## Exhibit

### Advanced Sewing Wearable Exhibit Options (Fashion Revue Categories) Levels C & D

**DEFINITION OF AN OUTFIT:** An outfit is a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - such as one or two piece dress, or one or two piece pant suit, or a three piece combination, such as pants, vest, and blouse or shirt.

\*\*\***Informal or Casual Wear:** A complete outfit of 1 or 2 pieces suitable for school, weekend, or casual, informal activities.

\*\*\***Dress Up:** This is suitable for special, church, or social occasions that are not considered to be formal. It may be an outfit of one or more pieces with or without its own costume coat or jacket (lined or unlined). This is not an outfit that would be worn to school, weekend, or casual, informal activities.

\*\*\***Free Choice:** A complete outfit comprised of garments that do not fit in the other classifications. Examples include: tennis wear, swim wear, athletic sportswear, lounge wear, riding habits, historic, dance, theatrical, or international costumes, capes, and unlined coats.

\*\*\***Suit or Coat:** The suit consists of two pieces including a skirt or pants and its own lined jacket. It is not a dress with jacket as in "dress up wear". The coat is a separate lined coat. It will be judged separately as a coat with its own accessories.

\*\*\***Separates:** Consists of three garments that must be worn as a coordinated complete outfit. Each piece should be versatile enough to be worn with other garments.

\*\*\***Formal Wear:** This outfit may be one or more pieces suitable for any formal occasion, such as proms, weddings, and formal evening functions.

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## Resources

