

Retreat Suite  
2 Day Class  
Joan Radell

Class Goal: Construct a suite of sewing accessories designed for keeping your supplies and work areas neat and organized.

I asked former students what kind of classes they'd like to see on my roster, and they all agreed they would love to make some sewing accessories! I've designed these patterns to make your class or retreat space easier to manage and inspiring to look at! The connecting theme is pockets—we can't have enough! From an apron that catches snipped threads and is just the right length for wear when you're seated to a vibration dampening mat that also keeps your tools at hand, you'll spend more time sewing and less time searching for your tools with our full suite of sewing accessories.

\$10 class fee covers a variety of materials that are used in small quantities. It's easier and less expensive for me to offer this kit than it is for you to track them down!

Projects include

1. Custom-sized Sewing Mat to help cut vibration when sewing on a portable surface. Mat also features custom pockets and other fittings, including a hidden pocket to hold a longer ruler. Mat rolls up for easy transport, and also serves as a dust cover for your machine.
2. Snip Bin. Bin snaps to the Sewing Mat, or can stand on its own to collect threads, snips and tiny snips.
3. Stand Up Organizer. Flat, stable and sturdy two-sided organizer to keep your most-used tools close at hand.
4. Boxy Pouch. Loaf-shaped pouch is perfect for marking tools or spools of thread. You'll learn the magic formula to make the pouch in any size you choose.
5. Sewer's Apron. Pockets, pockets, pockets! Sized and shaped for wearing while seated, this easy apron is fun to embellish. We'll use scraps from our other projects to make a quick, fusible applique.
6. Rotary Case. Safety starts with properly storing sharp blades. This half-circle zipper case is designed to fit your rotary cutters, and features a pocket inside for extra blades.

Supply List:

1 yard of bottomweight cotton fabric for apron. Good choices are: ticking, twill, osnaburg, poplin, lightweight canvas.

Three one-yard cuts of coordinating quilt-weight cotton for mat and accessories. You will want to add some large scraps from your stash that coordinate as well for a little pizzazz.

½ yard batting. You can use scraps and piece your batting.

½ yard Decor Bond (Pellon 809) fusible interfacing. You can also use 1 yard of Craft Fuse (Pellon 808).

¾ yard of fabric for binding and apron strings.

Five decorative buttons for sewing mat (optional)

2 yards of narrow fold-over elastic. Some retailers carry this in spools in a wide variety of colors, but a neutral that coordinates with your fabrics works just fine.

2 dress-weight polyester coil zippers that coordinate with your fabrics, at least 14" long.

Tape Measure

Thread to match and coordinate, and a few extra bobbins.

Rotary cutting supplies

Sewing machine in good working order. Size 90 micro-tex or other sharp (not Universal) needles.

NOTE: The Sewing machine mat is custom-sized for your machine. If you are going to make the mat to fit a different machine than the one you're using at MAQ, please measure the width of the machine at its widest point and bring that measurement with you.