

Sewing & Needlework Test Lab Course - MBU Spring 2026

Instructors: Heidi Edwards & Marti Jernberg

Additional Volunteers: *Heidi will get one volunteer from the Naperville Scout Shop, Marti will get another*

Course Information

Course will be offered as a *Double Session* (three hour block)

Each session will have a Class Size Limit of 12 scouts

The course will cover Hand Sewing and the Machine Sewing option (#3A)

Pre-Requisites

Bring a sewing kit, if you have one.

Bring an old t-shirt to use for our upcycling project.

Do #4 (choose one virtual tour from below links and take notes)

Visions Museum of Textile Art: <https://vmota.org/virtual-tour/>

Textile Center of Minnesota: <https://textilecentermn.org/category/exhibitions/virtual-exhibitions/>

Smithsonian Contemporary Quilts Exhibit:

https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/black-women-quilters?utm_source=si.edu&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=MyVisitSI

Do #6A or #6B (be prepared to share your notes)

Watch the Test Lab videos for #1 and #3A (link below)

<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/test-lab/sewing-needlework/>

Course Description

Sewing is both an essential skill for scouts and a creative art form. Come help Scouting America create a new merit badge through this hands-on Test Lab class! You will learn how to sew your own patches, mend your uniform and create a useful tote bag from an old t-shirt. If you like being creative and making things, this is the class for you! Test Lab certificates will be issued to all scouts who complete the course and take the survey at the end of class. Please bring a cotton/cotton blend t-shirt to use for your sewing project.