

The Ultimate Beginner's Course
Beginners & novices

If you are new to tailoring and are unsure of where to start, then *The Ultimate Beginner's Course* is for you. Tailoring is not rocket science but it does include a number of skills that must be mastered before advancing into garment making. These skills include (but are not limited to) the proper use of a needle and thimble, hand sewing the various stitches and machine sewing.

This course is ideal for complete beginners and helps novices with advancement in their skills. It covers a wide range of sewing details such as pockets, buttonholes and pattern drafting. We work closely with the absolute beginner who has little to no hand or machine sewing skills and they are taught everything they will need to know for our making courses.

Week 1

Lesson 1:

Introduction to tools, measurement chart, head units, taking measurements and assessing figures

Lesson 2:

Introduction to using an industrial sewing machiner

Tension and threading the bobbin

Sewing straight seams

Needle and thimble and the basting stitch

The student will first learn how to set up the machine before mastering its use

Lesson 3:

Basting in-hand and on the board

Basting in fullness

Machine sewing fulled seams

The day is split between hand sewing details and machine sewing

Lesson 4:

Sewing darts

Basting in-hand on an edge

Diagonal basting

Blanket stitch

We begin with the basics before moving to more involved hand sewing

Lesson 5:

Blanket stitch

Sewing parallel stitch lines

Learning to stop and start the machine at will is the most important step in keeping it in control

Week 2

Lesson 6:

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Introduction to jetted pockets – jets only
Pick stitch
Jetted pockets are found in both trousers and coats

Lesson 7:
Double jetted pocket with facing and pocket bags (also known as *cross pockets*)
Continuing from the previous lesson, pocket bags are added to the sample

Lesson 8:
Cross stitch
Basting in fulled lining
Felling stitch
A day dedicated to hand sewing and how to add lining to any garment

Lesson 9:
Sewing seam depths $\frac{1}{4}$ ", $\frac{3}{8}$ ", $\frac{3}{4}$ " and 1"
Invisible cross stitch
Sewing seams at various depths will give the operator more confidence

Lesson 10:
Depth hand sewing
Keyhole buttonhole
The buttonhole will be practised everyday during any free time

Week 3

Lesson 11:
Cuff buttonhole
Welt pocket
The welt pocket is probably the most difficult pocket to make

Lesson 12:
In-breast pocket
In-breast pockets are the inside pocket found in the lining of a coat

Lesson 13:
Flap and jet pocket
D-tacks
We circle back to the double jet and include a flap to the cross pocket

Lesson 14:
Back stitch and half-back stitch
Bar tacks
Lapel hole
Rose hold
Not all buttonholes are keyholes. This lesson focusses the lapel and rose hold

Lesson 15:

Double jetted back pocket

Similar to the cross pocket but with a *bagged out* pocket bag

Week 4

Lesson 16:

Welted back pocket

The second style of back pockets and increasingly more difficult

Lesson 17:

Slanted hip pocket

Commonly found on plain fronted trousers

Lesson 18:

Straight hip pocket

Usually associated with pleated dress trousers

Lesson 19:

Zip fly

As found in trousers of all styles

Lesson 20:

Zip fly cont.

A second day is added for the benefit of the student

Week 5

Lesson 21:

Button fly

Buttonholes

Easier than the zip to assemble but more time consuming as buttonholes are required

Lesson 22:

Belt-loop waistband

Side straps

Waistbands are added to the sample

Lesson 23:

Trouser cuff hems

Pressing waistcoats

A sample hem is made to explain the cuff/turn-up detail

Lesson 24:

Pressing trousers

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Lesson 25:
Pressing jackets

Week 6

Lesson 26:
Straight leg trouser draft – topside and undersides
The base draft of trousers is studied and practised

Lesson 27:
Waistcoat draft – single and double breasted
The waistcoat is closely likened to that of a *body coat*, more so than a *lounge coat*

Lesson 28:
Two piece 6" drop coat draft
The side-body draft is the standard across the industry

Lesson 29:
Sleeve draft
Facing
Neck darts
Under-collar
A continuation from the previous lesson

Lesson 30:
Ladies jacket draft and sleeves
As we offer a ladies jacket making course, we've introduced the draft into the beginner's course