

**COMPETENCY #4:** Review small equipment use and safety.

**CONCEPT:** Small equipment will assist our construction process. We need to know the essential equipment pieces and how to use them safely.

### LECTURE/DISCUSSION

Discuss with you students the specific equipment pieces you want them to use in class.

**NOTE TO TEACHER:** Give the students a list of small equipment you want them to bring to class when you pass out the fabric requirement for the project. Have students MARK OR LABEL EVERY PIECE of equipment they bring with their name and period number.

Focus on three main areas of equipment. SHOW EACH ITEM as you discuss its function.

1. MEASUREMENT - a tape measure and a seam gauge will be sufficient for the class project.
2. CUTTING
  - a. Shears are for cutting out pattern pieces, they have long blades and are very sharp. The handles are offset to the blades.
  - b. Scissors are used for cutting threads, for clipping and for cutting threads. Their blades are shorter than shears, but are just as sharp. The handles are center with the blades.
  - c. Pinking shears cut a notched edge and used for trimming seams, not for cutting out patterns.
  - d. Seam ripper is handy for taking out stitches. (The less you have to use it the better!) It has a pointed edge and can pick out the stitches with a razor sharp cutting edge. Use this one carefully so your stitches are cut, but not your fabric.
3. MARKING equipment includes, carbon paper, chalk, magic or disappearing ink pens, tracing wheel, even pins can be used to mark.

Always use a carbon on the inside of your fabric, and use a color that contrasts with the color of the fabric, but is not so dark as to show through or stain the fabric. Very light weight fabrics should be marked carefully.

### ACTIVITY/SPEAKER

Invite someone from the fabric store in your area to come to class and show the students the newest technology in small equipment.