



Dear Student,

Feb 2010

My name is Jen Eskridge and I am thrilled that you are signed up for these new sewing classes offered at Butler Community College. Learning a skill, like sewing, is so much fun and will provide you the confidence to go on from this class to make many things for yourself, your home and your friends.

You've signed up for **Learn to Sew Valances**. In this class we will be making a standard length/width valance, based on the dimensions of ready-made valances at department stores' home decor area. Our finished valance will be 88" x 16". You will have enough fabric to make two matching valances.

TIPS: When choosing fabric for your first-ever sewing project, it is smart to take the thrifty road. In this case, decorator weight fabrics are ideal, but very expensive. It will be smarter to purchase something (like quilters cotton) in the \$4-\$8/yard range from Joann's or Hancock's before making the investment in heavier fabrics. These less costly, more novel fabrics will look great in bathrooms or the kids' bedrooms.

Supplies list:

2 ½ yards of fabric, any width is fine. The cost effective fabric is 44" wide and the home décor fabric is 54-60" wide.

Coordinating Coats and Clark all-purpose thread.

Scissors, sharp enough to cut through fabric.

Spray starch for pressing.

Sewing machine* + sewing needles, size 11 or size 14

Optional items: Iron + Ironing board. I will bring the two irons + one board I have, but if we have an extra set, it will expedite things at class. Thanks!

Class is at 6pm, at the Butler Andover location on February 11th. I look forward to meeting you and I'll see you then!!



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*I have a couple sewing machines to loan during class time. These are old machines and can be reserved on a first contacted, first reserved basis. It is always better to learn on your own machine, so you'll feel comfortable repeating the steps when you sew on future projects at your home. Please email me if you'd like me to put your name on a machine.

