

Learn to Sew!

Private or small groups!

What can I learn? What level am I ? What kind of machine do I need?
I will answer all of these questions for you.....



- Let me introduce myself.....



I am Linda Johnson, owner, and designer of LJ Designs, and I will be bringing my 50 years of experience to you.

Where do you start? What do you want to make? Well, let's figure that out!

I started sewing when I was 8, and *everyone* received something made by me for a gift! hahahahaha...I continued to sew almost every day of my life! Then, I started making Custom Horse Show Clothing. It's been about 20 years now, and I love creating new outfits! Sewing is a great outlet for our "stress-filled lives."

Let's Chat....



There are so many things we can do, once we learn how to sew. What goals do you have with sewing?

- I want to be able to fix/alter what I buy. It never fits me correctly
- I want to learn how to make clothing. I could then make what I want, and not have to spend hours in the store.
- I want to make things for my home. New pillows, deck cushions, curtains, placemats etc
- I want to make matching clothing for my granddaughter and her doll
- I want to make a coat for my dog, cute clothes, a dog bed, collar & lead etc.
- I want to make show clothing

As you can see, the possibilities are endless! But first, what do you already know? Do you have a machine? Will it sew what you want it to? **I offer free consultations to evaluate your desires, and see what you want to learn, and make sure you have a machine that will accomplish that!**

I'm a Newbie!



Wow! That's great! You have interest in learning a new skill! Welcome!!

This would be you if you have:

- Never sewn before, or very little (I made a pillow in high school but don't remember a thing.
- I don't have a machine/I have a machine, but I don't know how it works

If you are buying a new machine to learn, **TAKE THE FREE LESSONS** that come with your machine! **Talk to me first though, and I will guide you in your purchase. (What you want to make vs. what machine you need. :)**

I'm a Beginner!



This would be you if:

- I know how to work my machine, and have made a couple of things
- I need help with reading a pattern, fitting a pattern, choosing fabric and notions, laying out fabric, and cutting out my project (What do all those lines mean?)
- I don't know all of the sewing terminology
- It's been a long time since I've made anything, and need a refresher
- I had sewing in High School, but never paid attention :)
- I don't know how to put a zipper in, and/or make a buttonhole
- I want to learn about stretch fabrics

I am an Advanced Beginner!



This would be you if:

- I can put in a zipper, make a buttonhole, know how to cut out my project and sew it, but want to try to make something a little more complex.
- I can make a pillow like nobody's business, but want to make some clothing.
- I don't want to make clothing, but things for my home.
- I want to try a make-up bag, wallet, unlined tote bag, something fun!
- I can sew non-stretch fabrics, but want to learn to sew with stretch fabrics.
(What's the difference?)

I am an Intermediate!



This would be you if:

- I have made t-shirts, and skirts. I want to learn more!
- I have made things, but they never fit. How do I fix that?
- I want to make a _____(fill in your own desire) Help me!
- “I want to make something for my granddaughter, daughter, son, etc.” How can I be sure it’ll fit? (This is big, especially for growing children) How to make sure it’ll fit through a season.) There are no guarantees, but I’ll show you how to give it the best shot.

Crafty things!



There are crafty things that can be made for any level, as long as you know the basics. If you have no interest in clothing, but maybe want to make something in leather, or a handbag, wallet, kitchen curtains, new pillows, etc. Email me about what you want to make, and we'll discuss it. Keep in mind that leather items would need a stronger machine, or you can always learn hand stitching.

Maybe you want to learn how to make things to sell at a craft show? You tell me. I have done shows in the past, and although they are a lot of work, they are fun. To get into the high end shows, you will need to perfect your craft, and have an awesome looking booth. Doing a few shows a year will bring you many repeat clients.

Crafty Things continued.....



Maybe you have a closet full of clothing that is out of date, or just doesn't fit anymore. **Learn how to “upcycle” and make something new out of it.**

Learn how to spot items at a Thrift Store, or yard sale that you can “upcycle.” It may not work as a jacket, or skirt anymore, but would make a great bag! You would be surprised at the things that are donated. Maybe the hardware on a bag is still in mint condition, but the bag is yuck.....buy it for \$2.00, and salvage the hardware from it.

Let me turn on the creative side of your brain, and we'll have some fun!

Show Clothing!



This is for advanced students only! You will need to know how to make a shirt/jacket, and we will work on embellishments, and/or making chaps. You will need a stronger machine to attempt working with leather, or *Ultrasuede. (Gear driven vs belt driven) This might require different foot attachments, or testing of your machine, prior to booking this class.

If it was easy, everyone would be doing it!

This will cover the ins and outs of working with leather, types, weights, finishes etc. There is a lot to learn, and cover in these classes. Designs, embellishments, symmetrical/asymmetrical, classes you show, open vs breed shows, Congress/World shows etc.

Email me!



Drop me a line at LJDesigns@verizon.net and we'll set up a time to chat about your goals, and experience. Feel free to take a look at my site LJDesigns.org to see what I do with sewing..... It's fun! Master your craft, and make money selling what you've made, or give family and friends the treasure of a handmade item! Tips and tricks in every lesson! Freebie sheets too!

Once you get some experience under your belt, you'll be hooked!

Let's get started.....email me!