

CRAFTS

SEWING SUCCESS

Must-have needle and thread

Readers often ask us: What's the best basic sewing machine? This Singer is it, says our crafts editor Nicholas Andersen. "It's not complicated but has a full set of functions—you'll keep it forever." Our thread of choice is Gütermann polyester. It's stronger than cotton types and comes in terrific colors.

SINGER CONFIDENCE \$250, singerco.com
SEW-ALL THREAD \$2 for a 110-meter spool, by Gütermann, joann.com



GARDENING

GEARING UP

How our gardening editors dress for success in the field

After decades of weeding, wading, and planting, we dig these work shoes the most. From left: breathable waterproof boots, sturdy clogs with removable foot beds, and all-purpose boots for cold weather. To protect hands, nothing beats Mud's nonslip, machine-washable gloves.

HOSER CLASSIC WORK BOOTS \$95, muckbootcompany.com;
SUPER-BIRKI CLOGS \$79, birki.us; **BLUNDSTONE 500** \$150, zappos.com;
THE ORIGINAL \$6 per pair, by Mud, littlesgoodgloves.com

OUR NEW BOOK

Attention crafters: The follow-up to *Martha Stewart's Encyclopedia of Crafts* is brimming with sewing and fabric projects for novices and experts alike. In addition to basic sewing techniques, the book will teach you everything from embroidery and appliqué to dyeing and quilting, with loads of inspiring ideas for the home and beyond.

MARTHA STEWART'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SEWING AND FABRIC CRAFTS
 \$35, Potter Craft

