



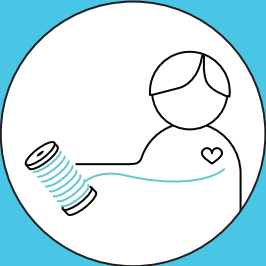
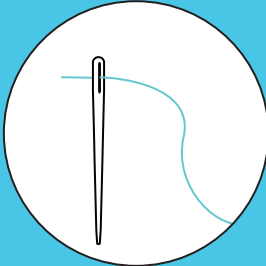
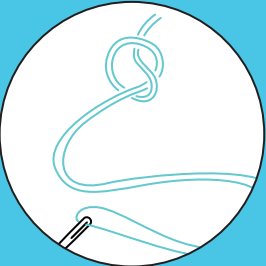
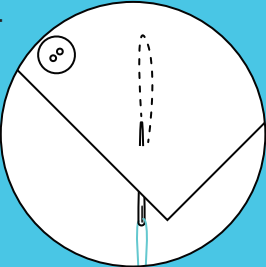
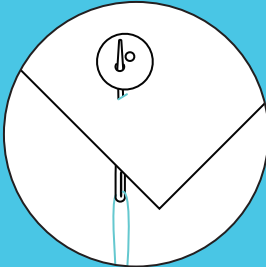
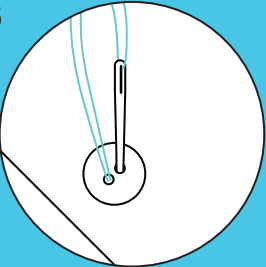
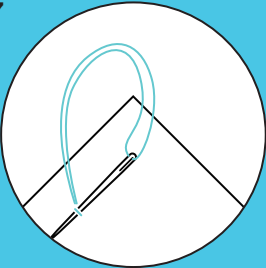
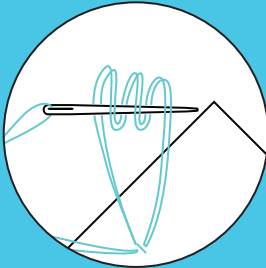
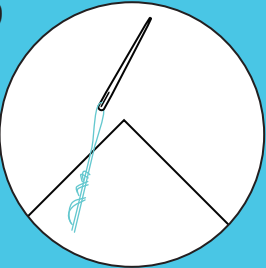
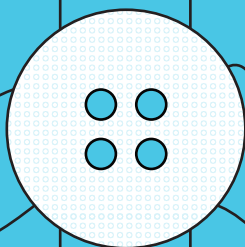


How To Sew a Button

Sewing on a button is pretty simple. Here's how to do it!

What You Need	 Sewing Needle	 Thread – approx. 61 centimetres	 Button	 Scissors
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<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p> 
<p>Cut a length of thread. You'll find that hand to heart is a manageable length.</p>	<p>Thread the needle through the eye of the needle, this is the small hole at the top.</p>	<p>Holding both ends of the thread together, tie a knot.</p>
<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p> 	<p>6</p> 
<p>Starting on the inside of your clothing, push the needle up to the outside in the spot where you want the button to sit. Pull thread through until the knot stops it. Then push needle back through, just to the side of the spot it came out.</p>	<p>Push your needle back through to the right side of the fabric coming up in the same spot as before, but this time go through the first hole in the button as well.</p>	<p>Push the needle back down through the other hole in the button and through the fabric. Repeat Steps 5 & 6 at least three times.</p>
<p>7</p> 	<p>8</p> 	<p>9</p> 
<p>On the underside of the fabric, do a small stitch.</p>	<p>Pull the needle partly through, leaving a loop. Then wrap that loop around your needle three times and pull the needle through these loops.</p>	<p>Slowly pull the needle and watch the loops form a knot at the base of your stitch. Trim your threads and you're done!</p>



Why You Should Learn to Sew on a Button!

Q Why should I learn to sew on a button?

A It's a life skill, but it can also save a garment from landfill.

Q How can sewing on a button save a garment from landfill?

A In our PlaceLab 'Wear & Care' Research Project, we learnt that everyday garments donated to Not-For-Profit and charity stores with missing buttons are generally not repaired.

The stores don't currently have the resources to repair garments, even small mends like replacing a button. Therefore, most of these garments are discarded at the sorting phase, destined for landfill, before even making it into the store for sale.

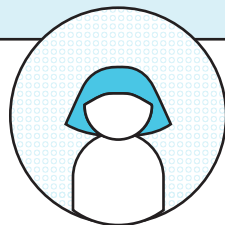
This means that, if you take the time to replace a missing button on an otherwise wearable garment, it has a chance at another life with a new wearer. If you don't repair it before donating, the garment can sadly be sent straight to landfill.

It's a simple intervention with big impact!



I can't tell you how many people I've taught how to sew on a button. Random people find out that I can do it. And I'm a hack! I don't have any kind of formal training. I'm absolutely a hack, but I can sew on a button.

It's just one of those things that everyone should be taught from grade four! It's just one of those things that you should be able to do. It's such a life skill.



A Community Collaborator
at 'Wear & Care's A
Garment's Life:
Conversation Series'.

As part of our PlaceLab 'Wear & Care' Research Project, we held 'A Garment's Life: Conversation Series'. This Series was created to cultivate discussions about how we wear and care for our clothing in ways that support a "rewilding" of fashion.

One of our Community Collaborators is part of a brilliant community program called 'Fifteen or a Fiver'. The program is undertaken by parents to foster repair actions amongst school-aged kids.

Set Up a Community Initiative in Your Neighbourhood!



At my school, we invite kids who need repairs done to their school uniforms to come in and give us 15 minutes [of their time] and we show them how to make the mend, or they pay us five bucks and we do it for them.

- We teach kids how to sew on buttons.
- We teach them how to take up hems.
- We teach kids how to fix rips in seams.

One of the kids wanted to learn to darn a jumper. This was outside my skill set, so we agreed we needed more than 15 minutes. I gave her an undertaking that I would give her three 15-minute blocks. The first one we spent watching YouTube videos, and then we spent the next two darning.



Michelle – a Community Collaborator at 'Wear & Care's A Garment's Life: Conversation Series'.

Throughout our PlaceLab 'Wear & Care' Research Project, we learnt about what's happening in and around Brunswick, Melbourne to support a local response towards building a new fashion system.

Our 'Wear & Care' Research Survey revealed a range of passionate organisations, community movements and solo practices that demonstrate fashion "rewilding" in action.



The Lives of Garments and the Stories They Hold.

Our RMIT PlaceLab 'Wear & Care'
Research Project included several
garment-led group conversations
as part of **'A Garment's Life:
Conversation Series'**.

From this Series, we gathered 24
garment-led stories, generously
shared by our Community
Collaborators, and created a book
titled, **'Stories of Wear & Care: The
Lives of Garments and the Stories
They Hold'**.



Michelle's
Jacket

Inspired by the stories and themes emerging out of the conversations,
we hope you will embrace the challenge of sharing your own
garment stories about the pieces you pass on
through the simple act of writing a note!

I took
to see
and the
of the ap
accept the
question was
the, she becom
professional training
with her mother and
50. I grew up with my
grandmother, who used to
bring together sewing ma
those results. I learned to patch
embroidered by a woman who
went and got some special fabric
material (some being very from Italy)
to make the outside and inside
a secret were for about a decade. I was
never things, hanging from the boxes and all
But in terms of sewing garments, I was
Considered, in my 30s years, I met the beautiful
romantic, an old woman, who was born in Italy. I
as a meditation artist, we worked together to create the
blackboard when I got different things. Qualifying to
find towards what the reader had just seen the next
emerge on the fabric, because it was important part of the
practice.

I headed off to art school at the age of 35, having given up
on the idea of becoming a nurse. I applied to art school in the
year 8. I got accepted and found out that I was pregnant the next
week. I experimented further with fabric at art school and
decided to sew for the rest of my life.

Share Your Garment Stories!

To recognise the lives of garments that pass through your wardrobe and the stories they hold, encourage new owners and wearers to cherish them too.

When gifting, passing on, donating, swapping, or sharing a garment, pin on a short message or pop a note in a pocket that acknowledges the life this garment has had with you.

You might share the story of how it came into your wardrobe, the life it led before it reached you or why you loved it!

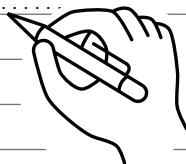
#ShareYourGarmentStories #PocketFinds



“

Dear New Wearer,

This jumper is from Uimi in Thornbury. It's beautiful, beautiful, hyper-local, like 100 percent Australian Merino. Obviously immediately, like the second winter, it got entirely eaten through by moths. I was just so annoyed. Entirely my own fault. So, this has sort of sat in the cupboard on my repair basket for a number of years.....



Paula - a Community Collaborator featured in our 'Wear & Care' book, 'Stories of Wear & Care: The Lives of Garments and the Stories They Hold'.