

Retreat packing list

~label things with your name that might get mixed up with others, like rotary cutters, rulers, and extension cords~

Sewing machine stuff

- Sewing machine, recently cleaned and oiled + manual if needed
- Foot pedal and power cord**
- Extension cord and power bar
- All the machine feet you might need: ¼" foot, all-purpose foot, walking foot, free motion foot, zipper foot, topstitch foot, applique foot
- Extra machine needles, specialty needles if needed
- Lots of bobbins, pre-wound at home if possible
- Screwdriver
- Lint brush
- Machine oil
- Fabric scraps for testing tension or other issues
- [Optional] Machine extension table
- [Optional] Portable machine table
- [Optional] Chair or chair cushion
- [Optional] Backup sewing machine, especially if yours tends to be temperamental
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Projects & tools

- Fabric for your projects, organized into separate bags, and pre-cut at home if possible to save space and sewing time
- Small, fun projects for when your energy starts flagging, like zip pouches or tote bags
- Scraps or a bit of extra background fabric for each project in case of cutting or sewing mistakes
- Handwork project in case you get tired of your machine or it malfunctions
- Instructions or pattern for each project
- Thread for each project
- Notions for each project (zippers, buttons, interfacing, batting, etc.)
- Large scissors
- Small thread snips
- Paper scissors
- Small (12" x 18") or medium (18" x 24") cutting mat
- Rotary cutter + extra blades
- Empty rotary blade box for used blades and used/broken pins and needles
- Several rulers, plus any specialty rulers needed, like triangles or Bloc-Loc.
- Seam ripper
- Little wooden iron
- Tweezers
- Thread catcher and scraps catcher (small fabric buckets work great)
- Pincushion + pins
- Needles and thimble, if doing handwork
- Fabric marking pens or Hera marker
- Measuring tape
- Masking or painter's tape
- Scotch tape
- Elmer's school glue and/or washable glue stick, if needed
- Basting spray or safety pins, batting, quilt backing (if basting)
- A few extra zip-top bags, quart and gallon sizes for bringing home scraps or blocks
- [Optional] Portable ironing board or mat and iron
- [Optional] Ironing spray or starch, like Best Press, packed in double zip-top bags in case of leaks
- [Optional] Design wall (batting, tablecloth, etc.)
- [Optional] Light and magnifier
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Other stuff

- Paper, sketchbook, or notebook, pens or pencils and Sharpie, Post-it notes
- Glasses
- Prescriptions, painkillers
- Refillable water bottle
- Hot pack
- Band-aids
- Nail file
- Tissues
- Hand lotion, lip balm
- Layered clothing, including a warm sweater
- Comfortable shoes, slippers, or fuzzy socks
- Snacks to share (some should be at least kind of healthy), and of course chocolate
- Stain remover pen
- Phone and charger, and camera and battery, if you don't have one in your phone
- Maps, coupons, loyalty cards, and money for nearby quilt shops
- Music and headphones, if you need a break or to focus
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