

HABERDASHERY KITS – ITEMS NEEDED

Haberdashery kits are sent to tailoring trainees participating in the vocational training projects we fund and equip in Africa. These are sent alongside electric and hand sewing machines and fabric

Materials are available in Africa - so these haberdashery kits are intended as a start-up kit for each trainee, helping them to earn money once they graduate to then purchase more materials.

Listed below are the items we are most in need of to make haberdashery kits.

To help us process these items efficiently at our Southampton HQ, and to ensure consistency across the kits made – **where possible please send items us sorted and boxed together** – i.e. knitting needles in one box and cotton reels together in another.

- Knitting patterns
- Sewing patterns
- New/unused fabric
- New/unused zips
- Knitting needles
- Crochet hooks
- Knitting yarn/ wool
- Crochet yarn
- Scissors
- Sewing thread
- Sewing needles
- Pins
- Thimbles
- Tape measures
- Safety pins
- Fasteners/ press studs/ hooks and eyes
- Stiffeners/vilene/petersham.
- Trim/ lace/ rickrack, etc
- Tailors chalk
- Seam rippers
- Buckles
- Buttons
- Seam and bias binding
- Ribbon
- Embroidery thread
- Elastic
- Velcro

MATERIAL/FABRIC WE TAKE IN

- 1 metre minimum width

- On the roll if possible

- 100% cotton preferred

- We do not take in
 - Suit material
 - Denim or material of similar thickness
 - Silk or other material of a similar thinness
 - Curtain material
 - Bedding

Sewing machines and haberdashery kits go to people such as Gloria Brempong (below) – who one of our Africa Team staff met during a project evaluation trip to Ghana in 2019.

Meet Gloria Brempong

Clare had the wonderful opportunity to meet graduate, Gloria Brempong, who finished her tailoring training earlier this year, and has used her sewing machine to set up her dress making and beadwork shop.

Gloria was one of 15 young women and mothers aged between 16 and 22 years old who graduated from our project delivered by Street Girls Aid which supported young women and mothers with empowering opportunities to train in high quality tailoring life skills, literacy and numeracy as well as business and entrepreneurial skills.



You may recognise Gloria from the BBC documentary "The Singer Story: Made in Clydebank".

Gloria has already made a real success of establishing an income and growing a customer base with her tailoring business. Before training she was selling juice drinks she made. Now she can afford to save some of her income through mobile banking, and has purchased an iron for her work.

Gloria is currently working hard and is saving to open her own retail space. She has great aspirations to employ other young people in the community so she can return to school to study art and design.

