



Faculty of Arts Design and Social Sciences **Department of Design**

BA Fashion Year 1 Materials & Equipment List 2023-24

This is a guide for materials you will need for your studies on the BA (Hons.) Fashion Programme.

We do not expect you to turn up on the first day with everything - this is something you will build as you progress through the course. Start with the basics and then build a collection as you wish. We have divided the list to help you prioritise - the items in red will be needed to start in your first few weeks.

If specific items are needed for a studio session we will try to give you as much warning as possible to allow you to source the best option for you. The best prices are usually online sources.

You will need to purchase a **pattern master**, and a **sewing kit** from the university. This is a compulsory purchase as the contents have been bulk ordered to achieve a significant student discount for you, and sold to you at cost. The machines in our workshops are not domestic machines and require specific tools to operate on an individual level and these are included in the sewing kit.

Items in **red** will be your core kit, and you will use them in semester 1.

For planning and organisation:

- A5 2023-24 Academic Diary/Planner** (approx. £5.00 - or you could also use an app, or your smartphone, iPad or MacBook's digital calendar instead as we do – it is up to you).
- Writing materials** e.g. pens, notepads, file paper, hard-back file, etc. You will need one with file dividers for FA4007 (prices vary) - or you can use the digital equivalent e.g. Macbook or laptop, etc., if you have one.

The equipment you will probably need **early in semester 1** is listed below:

For drawing, visual research and design work:

- Good quality drawing pencils** – HB, B, 2B, 6B. If you prefer a mechanical pencil buy one with 2B x 0.7mm leads (graphite) refills for drawing (H leads are for pattern cutting work).
- Erasers** – include 1 plastic for pattern cutting, and 1 putty eraser for drawing (approx. £1 each) or you may prefer a mono zero mechanical eraser pen with refills (approx. £9).
- Sharpener** – please choose a one with a built-in container to catch the shavings. (approx. £2)
- A3 sketchbooks** – You will need **one A3 sketchbook** to start with and will probably need another for semester 2. Please choose one with good quality cartridge paper. (approx. £10 each).
- A3 good quality cartridge paper** for drawing with both wet and dry media. You could source a range of monochrome papers; white to black. You may also need **watercolour paper** for wet media (prices vary)
- Drawing board** – minimum size A3. A3 clipboards (approx. £10) or a piece of MDF and a large bulldog clip is just as good.

For design:

- 1 A3 layout paper pad** - Please look for the non-bleed proof ones, if possible - this is cheaper too! (approx. £9)
- A4 or A3 pad tracing paper** (approx. £9)
- Tubes of Gouache paint** (for painting colour chips so do not buy the gouache blocks) - e.g. Winsor and Newton set (approx. £15).
- Paintbrushes** – e.g. Pro Arte brush set (approx. £16.00) – or purchase separately e.g. fake ‘sable’ hair **chisel shaped brush** to start (for colour chips) and a **pointed round tipped brush** for painting skin or hair - prices vary due to quality and size.
- Palette** – a disposable paint palette pad (approx. £6), or a washable plastic palette, or a white (ceramic or glazed paper) plate.
- Artists coloured pencils** – choose a good quality brand such as Caran D’ache, which are blendable and water-soluble too (prices start at approx. £12 for a set of 18, and approx. £20 for a set of 30).
- Oil pastels** – choose a good quality basic set, or single pastels in white and black (approx. £10)
- Graphite** - you will need chunky graphite sticks for rubbings/textures – 6B is usually best (approx. £3.50) and water-soluble graphite pencils for sketching (approx. £3, or £9 for a set of 6)
- Markers** - you can buy **skin tone**, neutrals and grey sets online for approx. £10 each – or start with a couple of your choice to try first.
- White gel pen** (approx. £2)
- Black fine liner pens** - nib sizes 0.5 – 0.7 (5 pack approx. £6.00)
- Brush pens** - fill with ink, watercolour or coffee for skin tones (approx. £2.95)
- A3 or A4 lightbox** – (approx. £25 for A4)

For pattern cutting:

In addition to your pattern master and mini mannequin that you will purchase from the university at discount, you will need...

- Pattern Cutting Book** – (2011) by Dennic Chunman Lo. Published by Lawrence King Publishing Ltd. (approx. £20.99 on Amazon). You will use this in week 1 of teaching. Second-hand is fine to keep costs down.
- Good quality pencils – HB, 2H.** If you prefer a mechanical pencil choose one with HB or 2H 0.5mm leads (graphite) refills. (prices vary)
- Erasers** – e.g. plastic eraser for pattern cutting (approx. 50p)
- A4 or A3 brown envelopes** to keep your patterns in - we suggest buying 6 as a start. (approx. £2)
- Masking tape** (approx. £2)
- Paper shears** (prices vary)
- Paper scissors** (prices vary)
- Tracing wheel** (can be purchased from university)
- Pattern notcher** - this can be purchased from MacCulloch & Wallis. Item no. 82861 (approx. £16).
- A4 or A3 pad squared paper** (approx. £9)

For sewing:

In addition to your sewing kit that you will purchase from the university at discount, you will need...

- Large pair of fabric shears** for cutting only fabric (range from £10 - £20)
- Small pair of sewing scissors** (approx. £8)
- Quick unpick** - can be found in haberdashery departments (approx. £2)
- Metric tape measure** (approx. £1.50)
- Good quality dressmakers pins** approx. £2.00 - £3.00
- White tailors chalk** (approx. £2.50)
- Sewing Kit** – from university - includes 4 special sewing machine feet, a screwdriver, a spool case and 2 spools (approx. £30). If purchased, the University will invoice students for this amount.
- Calico for toiles** (approx. £2 per metre)
- Hairbands or clips** - if you have long hair you will not be allowed to use industrial machines without tying it back for H & S reasons.
- 2 lightweight black or clear, A3 presentation files with built in plastic sleeves** - WH Smith or Ryman's sell these fairly cheaply, look for files with a plastic strip to insert your name. These are important in order to keep your work clean and to enable you to present your work professionally for assessment. You will need 1 for Semester 1 and one for Semester 2. (prices vary)

For textiles (print and knit):

- Textiles equipment** (for use in semester 1 and 2 in addition to that above) e.g. Scrap pieces of card over various weights and textures, and assorted papers (variable costs)
- Mark making tools** e.g. glue spreaders, sticks, rollers, trays, sponges etc
- Yarncraft tools** if you have them – knitting needles, crochet hooks, dolly bobbins, etc. (variable costs).
- Yarns** – good quality yarns in a range of colours, textures and weights, or other materials that can be knitted, old tights, wires, etc.

Sundries:

- Sticky tapes and glues-** Masking tape (£2), magic tape (£2), double sided tape (£2), pritt stick (£1) and BlueTak (£1).
- Clips** – paper clips (£1). bulldog clips (£1),
- Stapler** and staples (£2)
- Scalpel, blades, steel rule and small cutting mat** – e.g. Swann Morton handle (approx. £4); blades (£2.95 10-pk); steel rule (approx. £2); A4 cutting mat (approx. £2)
- Card** – postcards (£1), stickers (£1) or small luggage tags (£1) for painting colour chips
- Containers** with lids for water, ink and paint – use recycleable jars
- Mark making tools** – source these from nature, home or make them yourself.
- Portable hard drive and/or memory sticks** for backing up digital work. Prices range from £5 (or you could use the Cloud if you have an account)

Other items you may find useful to add to your art box as you progress through the programme:

- Graph paper pad** for drawing flats (approx. £10)
- Papers** – different weights, textures, colours, transparency (prices vary)
- Watercolours** (tubes or blocks) e.g. Codman pan set (£12 - £24). Tube set 12 (approx. £15)
- Brusho inks** (approx. £16)
- Assorted drawing materials** e.g. oil pastels, chalk pastels, Chinagraph pencils, Indian ink, wax crayons, graphite sticks, conte crayons, coffee
- Assorted drawing tools** – blending sticks, pipettes, sponges, ink pens, rollers, mark making tools (natural, man made), spray bottles
- Scrap pieces of card** – for making half scale blocks, textiles, etc.
- Assorted fabrics, yarns, trimmings and buttons, yarns** – no need for these to be purchased or new.

Wishlist:

These are things that are desirable or convenient, but not compulsory.

- Whaley's fabric sample pack** – complete range of 500 raw fabric samples (approx. £25) share the cost with a friend and split the samples.
- A3 presentation file** - for assessment purposes (approx. £8)
- Bamboo Wacom Tablet and pen** - Students who have their own laptop or Macbook may also consider purchasing a Bamboo Wacom tablet and pen. Again this is purely optional (university has some for use in studio) but is a helpful tool when drawing digitally. (approx. £40)
- Sewing machine** - although you have access to industrial machines for classes, a domestic sewing machine will prove useful for sampling and toiles when working at home, however is not essential. They can be bought cheaply from local 'Ad Trader' newspapers, Ebay, Gumtree etc. If you are buying a new one, expect to pay from around £100 – from a store e.g. Lidl.
- Domestic overlocker** – see above (approx. £120)
- MacBook** - You have access to the desktop Macs in studio and in the Mac Lab, and also have access those located in the university library, (price varies according to model). *Please note: if you are intending to purchase one of your own, please choose a Macbook (not an iPad) so you can access the University E:learning portal and learning materials easily as well as work creatively.
- Adobe software** - this is on the university Macs. For Semester 1, you will also be able to download and access Adobe Software on your laptop with your Northumbria University login details.
- Smartphone holder & light** for filming work and presentations (prices vary)
- A good quality camera** if you are interested in photography. The university has equipment you can book out to use for projects.

The above prices are to give an estimation of costs - you may find cheaper art materials if you shop around. Below is a list of online art suppliers that may be useful.

www.amazon.co.uk www.artifolk.co.uk

www.graphicsdirect.co.uk

www.details-express.co.uk

www.teloman.com

What the University provides:

- Core fabrics and yarns** for years 1, 2 and 3 for design and make project work. Students are responsible for extra contrasting fabrics they may like to use, trims, etc., and fabric for toiles e.g calico. The university operates a payment system meaning you don't need to carry cash, this will be introduced to you at enrolment. Final year students provide their own collection fabrics, but these needn't be expensive.
- Pattern cutting paper**
- Photocopy paper**
- Some basic drawing materials and papers for studio sessions.**
- Initial printing credit**

Reading:

Each module on the BA Fashion programme has a Reading List, which describes books that are either “essential reading” or “additional reading”. Although some copies will be available from the University library (either hard copies or online), we recommend that you buy the books from the essential list, as you will use them often throughout your time on the course. Although you don't need to buy these for day 1, these are the must-have books from the essential list, that you will be expected to buy in Semester 1 (second-hand is fine!):

- “Pattern Cutting”** by Dennis Chunman Lo, Laurence King publishing (2021) – approx. £30 on Amazon
- “Fashionpedia- A visual dictionary of Fashion Design”**, Fashionary International (2016) – approx. £25 on Amazon
- “Fashion Drawing: Illustration Techniques for Designers”**, by Michele Wesen Bryant, Laurence King Publishing, (2016) – approx. £35 on Amazon.

Study Trips

Usually, you would have the opportunity to attend study trips to allow you to undertake fashion and cultural research to support your modules. This includes a trip to London and/or a European city in semester 2 of year 1, costing approximately £400. This year we hope to do the same, subject to practical considerations relating to travel and costs.

Alternatively, visiting on-line exhibitions and museums will be an important part of your research activity across the year and we advise you to budget approx. £50 for entry fees per semester for local entry fees to museums and exhibitions.

Please note: that the above trips are to be confirmed, costs are approximate and may vary.

If you have any questions, we would be happy to help you at induction, there will be plenty of time to find last minute items. Newcastle has some very good art supply stores if you prefer to buy in person.

There is also an Amazon locker based in CCE2 Design School if you would prefer to order on line and have anything small delivered to university.

Remember you do not need to buy everything on this list - **it is a guide**. Some things highlighted in red you will need in semester 1, but non-essential items have been identified.

See you in September!

Best wishes

The BA (Hons.) Fashion Team