



A SEWER'S GUIDE TO New York City

WONDERFUL STORES FILLED with exquisite fabrics; tiny, out-of-the-way shops jam-packed with unusual notions and trims; and an infinite source of inspiration from street-fashion and museums—these are just a few reasons why New York City is an unparalleled resource for designers and sewers. This list, compiled with the help of a number of *Threads* authors, is by no means exhaustive but will give you a starting point for exploring the Big Apple.

The listings below include the days an establishment is open, whether it sells mail order, and, if so, whether there is a minimum order. Unless otherwise noted, there is no swatching or catalog available. (If swatching is available, send a swatch you're trying to match or coordinate, along with a detailed description of what you want.) Finally, the number of each entry corresponds to locator numbers on the map.

GARMENT FABRICS

1 B&J Fabrics

525 7th Ave., 2nd floor, NYC 10018; 212-354-8150 or 212-354-8212
Web site in planning stages
Extensive selection of novelties and solids. Interesting weaves of silk and linen, brocade, lamé, Liberty of London prints, cut velvet on chiffon, knits in all fibers, imported lace, and beaded lace and wool. Sells mail order; \$15 minimum; open Mon.-Sat.

2 Butterfly Fabrics, Inc.

256 W. 39th St., NYC 10018; 800-643-5448; 212-575-4744
www.butterflyfabrics.com
Carries a wide range of fabrics, specializing in silks and embroidered materials. Sells mail order; no minimum; open Mon.-Sat.

3 Djema Imports

70 W. 125th St., NYC 10027; 212-289-3842
www.djemaimports.com
Specializes in African fabrics, such as mudcloth, korghogo, and African cotton prints, including indigo, batik and wax prints. Sells mail order; no minimum; open 7 days.

4 Handloom Batik Imports

214 Mulberry St., NYC 10012; 212-925-9542; after 7/4/04, address and phone will change to 626 King Ave., City Island, Bronx, NY 10464; 718-885-0148
www.handloombatik.com (under construction) Claims to have the largest selection of batiks and handwoven fabrics in the United

States. Variety of fabrics from India, Indonesia, and Malaysia. Sells mail order; 1-yd. minimum; call for hours.

5 L.P. Thur Designer Fabrics

126 W. 23rd St., NYC 10011; 212-243-4913
www.fabricoutlet.com
Noted for its good selection of velvet, spandex, Lycra, rayon, and lamé. Geared toward home dec. Sells mail order; \$20 minimum; open 6 days Mon.-Sat.

6 Lace Star

215 W. 40th St., NYC 10018; 212-840-0555
Wonderful array of better laces, including beaded and imported lace. Wide variety of colors and matching silk fabric. No mail order; open Mon.-Fri.; Sundays by appointment.

7 Maxine Grand Fabrics

150 W. 26th St., NYC 10001; 212-741-7454
maxinegrand@gbronline.com
Basic fabric store close to the Fashion Institute of Technology. Will send swatches if you carefully describe what you're looking for. Sells mail order; no minimum; open Mon.-Fri.; call for Saturday hours.

8 Mood Designer Fabrics

225 W. 37th St., 3rd fl., NYC 10018; 212-730-5003
www.moodfabrics.com
Largest designer fabric store in NYC. Gorgeous fabrics — many designer end-cuts — at great prices; also carries interesting embroidery appliques and trims. Sells

mail order; no minimum; open Mon.-Sat.

9 NY Elegant Fabric

222 W. 40th St., NYC 10018; 212-302-4980
nyelegant@aol.com
Large selection of silks, velvets, brocades, sequins, and tapestry fabric. Sells mail order; swatching service; open Mon.-Sat.

10 Paron Fabrics and Paron Annex

206 W. 40th St., NYC 10018; 212-768-3266
www.paronfabrics.com
Designer fabrics, silks, wools, matte jerseys, stretch wovens, and more. Mail order; no minimum; swatching service. The Annex, two doors west of the main entrance, offers goods at half price. Both stores open Mon.-Sat.

11 Rosen & Chadick

246 W. 40th St., NYC 10018; 800-225-3838; 212-869-0142
www.rosenandchadick.com
A major supplier of novelty woolens. Specializes in designer and theatrical fabrics. Carries natural-fiber fabrics, with the emphasis on luxury goods: lace, cut-velvet, lamé, large selection of solid-color silk and rayon matte jersey. Sells mail order; 1-yd. minimum; swatching service; open Mon.-Sat.

12 Spandex House

263 W. 38th St., NYC 10018; 212-354-6711
www.spandexhouse.com
Great choice of cotton/Lycra in various weights and colors, as well as Slinky Knit. Sells mail order; \$20 minimum; open Mon.-Sat.

44 Mendel Goldberg Fabrics, Inc.

72 Hester St., NYC 10002; 212-925-9110
mendelgoldbergny@aol.com
Large collection of bridal fab-



rics, European woolens, silks, cottons, and novelties. Mail order; no minimum; swatching service, open Sun.-Fri., closed Sundays Jul. and Aug.

HOME-DECORATING FABRICS

13 The Silk Trading Company located at ABC Carpet & Home Co., Inc.

888 Broadway, lower level, NYC 10003; 212-473-3000
www.silktrading.com
Handsome home-decorating fabrics and tassels. Custom and ready-made draperies and pillows. Mail order; open daily except Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

14 Baranzelli Home Furnishings and Silk Surplus

942 3rd Ave., NYC 10022; 212-753-6511
Baranzelli carries discounted home-furnishing fabrics, trims, and furniture. No mail order. Silk Surplus is a Scalmandré warehouse outlet carrying discounted and closeout Scalmandré fabrics, leathers, suedes, prints, plains, and textures. Mail order; swatching service (1-yd. min.); both stores open Mon.-Sat.

15 Beckenstein's Home Fabrics

4 W. 20th St., NYC 10011; 212-366-5142
Nice selection of upholstery and drapery fabrics, lace panels, trim, and window treatment hardware. Custom

upholstered headboards, sofas, and chairs. Reupholstery service. No mail order; open daily.

45 The City Quilter

133 W. 25th St., NYC 10001; 212-807-0390

www.cityquilter.com

Large selection of 100% cotton fabrics; also wool felt and flannels, sewing notions, books, batting; offers classes on site; open Tues.-Sun.

BEADS, NOTIONS, & TRIM

16 A. Feibusch

27 Allen St., NYC 10002; 888-947-7872; 212-226-3964

www.zipperstop.com

Makes zippers of every color and kind to order. Sells mail order. Ships worldwide. All major credit cards accepted; open Sun.-Fri.

17 AA Feather Co.

16 W. 36th St., NYC 10018; 212-695-9470

gettfeath@aol.com

www.aafeather.com

Feathers in all sizes and colors available in all quantities, including by the pound. Open Mon.-Fri.; and some Sundays (call first).

18 Beads of Paradise

16 E. 17th St., NYC 10003; 212-620-0642

Variety of beads for jewelry, embellishment, and closures. Textiles from all over the world by the yard and in ready-made unisex apparel. No mail order; open daily.

19 Cinderella Division of Margola

48 W. 37th St., NYC 10018; 212-564-2929

www.margola.com/cinderella

Imported flowers and domestic flowers in your fabric or theirs. Feathers, boas, beads, rhinestones, and other trims. Sells mail order; catalog, \$10

(refundable with minimum \$50 order); open Mon.-Sat.

20 Greenberg & Hammer

24 W. 57th St., NYC 10019; 800-955-5135; 212-246-2835

www.greenberg-hammer.com

Patterns, notions, dyes, dress forms, threads, interfacings, and pressing equipment. Sells mail order; \$15 minimum; catalog available; open Mon.-Sat.

21 Hyman Hendler and Sons

67 W. 38th St., NYC 10018; 212-840-8393

www.hymanhendler.com

Ribbons galore, many imported or antique, and some luxurious and rare. Also fancy tassels from the 20s and 30s. No mail order; open Mon.-Sat.

22 Leekan Design

93 Mercer St., NYC 10012; 212-226-7226

Chinese jewelry and handicrafts, including hundreds of antique and new beads and Japanese Netsuke (small, hand-carved figures used to secure a kimono's obi sash). Open daily.

23 M&J Trimming Company

1008 6th Ave., NYC 10018; 212-391-9072

www.mjtrim.com

Great selection of garment and home-decorating trims, including braid, ribbon, lace trim, buckles, buttons, sequined and beaded appliqués, loose beads, paillettes, tassels, antique passementerie, fringes, and curtain tiebacks. Sells mail order; \$50 minimum; catalog available; open Mon.-Sat.

24 Manny's Millinery Supply Co.

26 W. 38th St., NYC 10018; 212-840-2235/6

Wool-felt hat bodies in a variety of colors, plus millinery trims and tools: nylon horse-

hair in colors, feathers, ribbons, flowers, buckram hat forms, bridal tiaras, hatmaking books, and ready-made hats. Sells mail order; \$25 minimum; open Mon.-Sat.

25 So-Good Inc.

28 W. 38th St., NYC 10018; 212-398-0236

Variety of satin, rayon, grosgrain, and picot-edge ribbon in every color, plus printed ribbons, metallic braids, cording, piping, and fringes. Sells mail order; \$25 minimum; limited catalog; open Mon.-Fri.

26 Steinlauf and Stoller, Inc.

239 W. 39th St., NYC 10018; 212-869-0321

Large choice of thread, zippers, shoulder pads, interfacing, elastic, buttons, Velcro, snaps, trims, buckles, and sewing and patternmaking tools. Sells mail order; \$5 service charge under \$30; open Mon.-Fri.

27 Tender Buttons

143 E. 62nd St., NYC 10021; 212-758-7004

Buttons and more buttons in every size, shape, and color—many vintage buttons from the 30s and 40s as well as antique, one-of-a-kind buttons. No mail order; open Mon.-Sat.

28 Tinsel Trading Company

47 W. 38th St., NYC 10018; 212-730-1030

www.tinseltrading.com

Good selection of metallic braid, ribbon, fringe, cording, tassels, medallions, and bullions, much of which is antique. Sells mail order; \$25 minimum; open Mon.-Fri.

29 Tojo Shoji

990 6th Ave., NYC 10018; 212-868-7465

Fantastic source for embell-

ishments and objects that can be used as closures, including a variety of beads and Japanese Netsuke. Be sure to check the clearance area in the back of the store. Sells mail order; \$50 minimum; open Mon.-Sat.

46 Metropolitan Impex

966 Ave. of the Americas NYC 10018; 212-502-5243

www.metropolitanimpex.com; trims1@aol.com

Trims of all kinds, beading, feathers, ribbons, stones, tassels, sequins, flowers; also bridal accessories and sewing notions; mail order, \$50 minimum; open Mon.-Sat.

DRESS FORMS/ SEWING MACHINES

30 Crown Sewing Machine Service

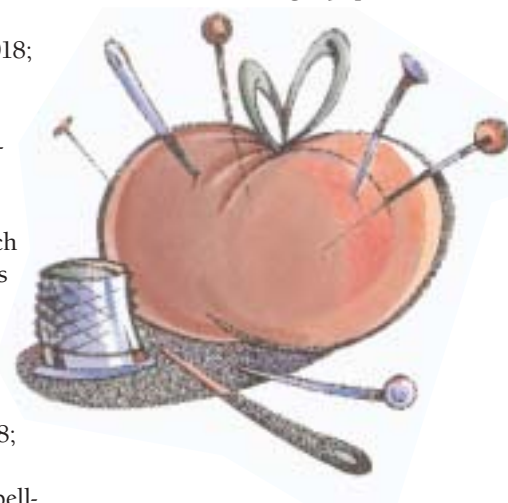
2792 Broadway (at 108th St.), NYC 10025; 212-663-8968

Sells new and used machines (household and industrial), attachments, and parts. Specialty is sales and service of every brand of household sewing machine. Open Mon.-Sat.

31 Fox Sewing Machine, Inc.

307 W. 38th St., NYC 10018; 212-594-2438/2761

Buys, sells, rents, and repairs industrial sewing equipment,



including sewing machines and parts, steam irons, cutting machines, and model forms. No mail order; open Mon.-Fri.

32 Superior Model Form Co.

306 W. 38th St., NYC 10018; 212-947-3633
www.superiormodel.com
New, used, and custom dress forms and display mannequins. Sells mail order; no minimum.

INSPIRATION

MUSEUMS

33 Museum of Arts and Design

40 W. 53rd St., NYC 10019; 212-956-3535
www.americancraftmuseum.org
Exhibits contemporary craft in all media by prominent artisans. The museum usually offers one or more textile-related shows per year. Open daily.

34 Brooklyn Museum of Art

200 Eastern Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY 11238; 718-638-5000
www.brooklynart.org/
The museum's holdings of costumes and textiles include one of the country's finest collections of 19th-century American and English costumes, as well as the work of 20th-century American designers and French couture. Occasional exhibits feature textiles. Open Wed.-Sun. Costume collection open for study by appointment only.

35 Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution

2 E. 91st St., NYC 10128; 212-849-8400
www.si.edu/ndm/
With over a quarter of a million objects, the museum is one of the largest repositories of design in the world. The textile collection, open by



appointment, features 30,000 pieces from around the world and includes every type of construction and surface-design technique. Occasional exhibits of textiles. Open Tues.-Sun.

36 Metropolitan Museum of Art

The Costume Institute and Antonio Ratti Textile Center 1000 5th Ave., at 82nd St., NYC 10028-0198; 212-535-7710
www.metmuseum.org
• The Costume Institute holds three special exhibitions per year drawn from its collection. Study-storage facilities make the entire collection accessible to designers, scholars, and students by calling 212-570-3908 to schedule an appointment Tues.-Fri.
• Antonio Ratti Textile Center has a database of images of the museum's textile collection, which includes quilts, rugs, and costumes. The center provides the general public unprecedented access to the Metropolitan's extraordinary collection of textiles. The database and library are open Tues.-Fri. by appointment only. Call 212-650-2310. Sessions for viewing objects can be scheduled by making prior selection and obtaining curatorial approval.

37 The Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology

7th Ave. at 27th St., NYC 10001-5992; 212-217-7999
www.fitnyc.suny.edu/museum
One of the largest collections of 20th-century design in the world, with extensive holdings of costume, textiles, and accessories. Membership is restricted to designers and those in the fashion industry, but FIT's 15 yearly exhibits are open to the public. Open Tues.-Sat.

38 Museum of American Folk Art

45 W. 53rd St., NYC 10019 212-265-1040
www.folkartmuseum.org
Quilts and other textiles on display in permanent collections and periodic exhibitions. The museum's library, open by appointment, is one of the nation's most extensive resources on American folk art and related subjects. Open Wed.-Sun.

39 Museum of the City of New York

1220 5th Ave., NYC 10029; 212-534-1672
www.mcny.org/
One of the largest collections of historic clothing in the United States, The Costume Collection preserves over 25,000 garments and accessories worn by New Yorkers dating from the mid-18th century to the present. Ongoing exhibits featuring costumes. Open Wed.-Sun.

40 New York School of Interior Design

161 E. 69th St. (Gallery) NYC 10021 212-472-1500
www.nysid.edu
Occasional textile/fabric-related shows and lectures. Open Mon.-Sat.

AUCTION HOUSES

Unlike museums, auction houses usually allow you to

touch the items offered for sale. If you aren't planning a trip to NYC, auction catalogs are available for purchase and are a wonderful source of inspiration. William Doyle has a textile specialist on staff and has semi-annual couture auctions. At Christies (where Princess Diana's dresses were auctioned for charity) and Sothebys, textile auctions consist mainly of Oriental carpets. But, if you search their Web sites, you may find the occasional Hermes tie or Versace silk blouse.

41 Christies

20 Rockefeller Plaza, NYC 10020; 212-636-2000
www.christies.com
Galleries open daily when there are auctions. See the Web site for a list of auctions.

42 Sothebys

1334 York Ave. at 72nd St., NYC 10021; 212-606-7000
www.sothebys.com
Open daily.

43 William Doyle Galleries/Auctioneers & Appraisers

175 East 87th St., NYC 10128; 212-427-2730
www.doylenewyork.com
Open Mon.-Fri. and Sat. when there are auctions.

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Color Code

- Garment Fabrics
- Home-Decorating Fabric
- Beads, Notions & Trim
- Dress Forms/Sewing Machines
- Inspiration