

## SCHMETZ® Scissor Review by Rebecca Kemp Brent

As notions go, quality scissors are often a big investment. They need to work easily and well and last a long time. What should you consider when choosing a new pair of scissors?

- **Comfort.** Do the scissors feel good when you hold them? Are they easy for you to open and close? Do you feel in control of the scissors' action when you use them?
- **Weight.** Certainly related to comfort! The scissors should be lightweight enough to prevent hand fatigue when you're cutting out a project.
- **Handedness.** Will the scissors work well for both right- and left-handed users?
- **Sharpness.** It may seem obvious that scissor blades should be sharp, but inexpensive scissors may rely primarily on the shearing action of the blades to cut material and in fact have cutting edges that aren't especially sharp. This results in hand fatigue during general use and uneven edges when you're cutting fine fabrics.
- **Size.** What will you be cutting? For large pieces like dressmaking patterns, a long pair of scissors is best, and bent handles that allow the blades to lie flat along the cutting surface are a plus. For fine details such as appliqué, a small pair of scissors is a better choice.
- **Durability.** If scissors are an investment, you want them to last. Look for hardened blades that will retain their sharpness.

SCHMETZ® scissors are designed with all the features of a great scissor investment. The ice-tempered stainless-steel blades will hold their sharpness. The longer lengths – 9½" and 8" – are made with bent handles for perfect positioning when cutting out pattern pieces and maximize the strength of the lever mechanism for long cuts and heavy fabrics. Even so, they're sharp to the tip for clipping and incredibly lightweight.

The 5" embroidery scissors taper to a fine point that's useful for all kinds of handwork from cutting detailed shapes to lifting and clipping threads. Their pivot point is relatively closer to the tips of the blades, spreading the cutting force all the way to the tip, which is especially useful when negotiating curves.

Add to that SCHMETZ scissors' appealing good looks and usefulness to both right- and left-handed cutters, and you have the perfect scissors for using today and for years to come.

### Did You Know?

Mechanically, scissors are an example of a simple machine, the lever and fulcrum. The force of a cut is strongest near the pivot point (fulcrum); that's why placing thick or heavy fabric near the pivot makes cutting easier. Sharp blades are essential for accurate cutting at the tip of the scissors, farther from the pivot point.