SEWING PROCEDURES

Sewing articles is an interesting experience. There are certain processes you need to learn and master before you can sew any article. These are the basic sewing processes. They include *stitches* and *seams*.

Stitches

Stitching is the process of passing threaded needle and thread in and out of a material to make a specific design. The design produced is made up of stitches.

Stitches are used to join two or more pieces of fabric together. They are used also to make decorative designs on articles and to mend tears in clothes.

Types of Stitches

There are broadly three types of stitches: the temporary, the permanent and the decorative stitches.

1. Temporary Stitches: these hold pieces of fabric together temporarily. They are removed as soon as they have served their purpose(s). Examples of temporary stitches are: even basting or tacking, uneven basting or tacking, diagonal basting, and tailor's tacks.
2. Permanent Stitches: these are used for joining two or more separate pieces of material together permanently. The threads used should match the fabric in terms of texture and colour. Permanent stitches include: running stitches, back stich, over-sewing stitch, and hemming stitch.
3. Decorative (or Simple Embroidery) Stitches: these are used for decorating the garments. Some can be used for finishing raw edges. Examples include stem stitch, chain stitch, satin stitch, French knots, and herring-bone stitch.