



Summer Sewing Camp Parent's Guide

Everything You Need to Know for a Successful Camp Experience



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Welcome to Thimble Bee's Summer Sewing Camps!

We're so glad you're here and even more excited to welcome your child to Thimble Bee's this summer!

Our summer sewing camps are thoughtfully designed to help students learn real sewing skills, build confidence, and experience the joy of creating something with their own hands. Whether your child is brand new to sewing or ready to explore more advanced projects, our camps offer a supportive, encouraging environment where students are guided step-by-step and celebrated along the way.

This Parent Guide is here to walk you through everything you need to know—from how our camps are structured and which camps are the best fit for your child, to supply details, expectations, and studio information. Our goal is for you to feel informed, prepared, and confident as your child steps into camp.

At Thimble Bee's, we believe learning should feel both purposeful and enjoyable. We keep our class sizes small, our instruction intentional, and our focus on helping each student grow not just as a sewist, but as a problem-solver and creative thinker.

We're honored you've chosen Thimble Bee's, and we can't wait to create alongside your child this summer.

Warmly,
Jen Taylor
Owner & Lead Instructor
Thimble Bee's Sewing School



Summer Camps 2026



Session Dates/Times	Themes	Ages	Cost
June			
June 8-11 9am-12pm	Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp		\$325/4 days
June 8-11 1:30pm-4:30pm	Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp	7-17	\$325/4 days
June 15-18 9am-12pm	Travel Ready Sewing Camp	7-17	\$325/4 days
June 15-18 1:30pm-4:30pm	Pet Portrait Studio Camp	8-17	\$325/4 days
June 22-25 9am-12pm	Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp	7-13	\$325/4 days
June 22-25 1:30pm-4:30pm	Pool Party Sewing Camp	7-17 7-14	\$325/4 days
July			
July 6-9 9am-12pm	Fashion Week: Studio Basics	8-12	\$350/4 days
July 6-9 1:30pm-4:30pm	Fashion Week: Elevated Studio	12-17	\$350/4 days
July 13-16 9am-12pm	Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp	7-17	\$325/4 days
July 13-16 1:30pm-4:30pm	Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp	7-17	\$325/4 days
July 20-23 9am-12pm	American Girl Doll Fashion: Camping Edition	7-12	\$325/4 days
July 20-23 1:30pm-4:30pm	American Girl Doll Camping Gear	7-12	\$325/4 days
August			
August 3-7 9am-3pm	Quilt Camp	9-17	\$550/5 days
August 11-14 9am-12pm	The Sweatshirt Edit	13-17	\$325/4 days

What's Included in Your Camp Experience

At Thimble Bee's, our summer camps are designed as intentional learning experiences, not drop-in craft time. Each camp week includes:

- Small class sizes (max 12 students)
- Specialized creative enrichment (not a general recreation camp)
- Curated projects every day
- All machines, tools, and materials/fabrics provided
- Intentional projects with real learning outcomes
- Experienced instruction in a supportive studio environment

Early Drop-Off:

8:30am | \$10/day

Late Pickup:

5:00pm | \$10/day

Lunch Buddies

12pm-1:30pm | \$15/day

Learn To Sew Camps

Offered multiple weeks throughout the summer



June 8-11 | June 22-25 | July 13-16

Pace: Process-focused, confidence-building, relaxed pace



Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp

Welcome to Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp! Designed with new sewists in mind, this camp is the perfect starting point for kids ready to dive into the world of sewing. Open to all ages, we thoughtfully divide campers into two groups based on age, ensuring everyone feels confident, supported, and engaged at their own pace.

Offered six times throughout the summer, each session brings a fresh set of fun beginner-friendly projects. Campers are welcome to join us for one or more sessions.

At the heart of this camp is building confidence in threading and troubleshooting their machine, sewing consistent seam allowances, and mastering foundational techniques. With each stitch, campers will grow more independent, capable, and proud of what they can create.

Whether your child is sitting at a sewing machine for the very first time or needs a little boost to solidify their skills, this camp is a joyful, hands-on experience they'll carry with them long after summer ends.

Can my child take repeat sessions of Sew Much Fun | Beginner's Sewing Camp?

Sewing is a skill that grows with practice. *Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp* is intentionally designed so campers can take it more than once, strengthening sewing machine skills, improving accuracy, and building confidence with each session. For younger campers (ages 7-9), this repetition is especially valuable and helps create a solid foundation before moving on to more advanced camps. Projects will be unique to each session, see outline below.

What projects are included in each session?

June 8-11 AM: Pillowcase + drawstring bag

June 8-11 PM: Reading/pocket pillow and bedside pocket organizer

June 22-25 AM: Travel pillow, travel organizer, and earbud case

July 13-16 AM: Lunch tote and water bottle bag

July 13-16 PM: Tablet/book sleeve and laptop/desktop organizer mat

Bonus Projects (if time allows): If campers are ready for an additional project, they may choose from a variety of small projects such as cable pouches, earbud pouches, coin pouches, or scrunchies.

Creative Camps

Skill-building sewing projects for real life



June 15-18

Pace: Moderate and skill-focused, with time for instruction, practice, and creative choice.



Travel Ready Sewing Camp

9am-12pm | Ages 8-17

In this hands-on morning camp, campers will create a set of practical travel essentials designed to build confidence and real-world sewing skills. Campers will sew a **duffel bag** perfect for summer trips, along with a **travel organizer booklet** featuring space for a pad, pen, and an added pocket for small essentials. If time allows, campers will also create a **coordinating fabric luggage tag** to complete their travel set.

Throughout the camp, campers will practice sewing machine safety, learn to sew accurate seams, and follow multi-step instructions in a supportive, encouraging studio environment. This camp is ideal for campers ready to take the next step in their sewing journey while creating projects they'll actually use.



Pet Portrait Studio Camp

1:30pm-4:30pm | Ages 7-13

At Pet Portrait Studio Camp, students will design and sew a pet-inspired portrait and turn it into a cozy pillow they'll be proud to show off (and probably sleep with!). Dogs, cats, hamsters, goldfish, bunnies – each project is completely unique.

Campers will build real skills as they create a quilted fabric canvas, layer materials, and use beginner-friendly appliqué techniques to bring their favorite animal to life with fabric, color, and texture.

They'll leave with a one-of-a-kind **Stitched Portrait Pillow** – not just a project, but a keepsake they'll treasure long after camp ends.

June 22-25



Pool Party Sewing Camp

1:30pm-4:30pm | Ages 7-14

Sunshine. Sewing. Sweet summer style. Pool Party Sewing Camp is limited to just 12 campers, making it a fun and focused week of creativity. Campers will create the ultimate handmade summer trio – perfect for beach days, pool afternoons, and backyard fun – while building real sewing skills they'll actually use. Students will sew a lightweight **pull-on cover-up dress**, learning garment basics like seam allowances, hemming, and elastic casings. They'll also make a functional **drawstring pool bag** to carry all their essentials, practicing straight seams, casing construction, and topstitching. To top it off, they'll create a **sweet ice cream plushie**, learning softie construction and hand-finishing techniques. It's a week of practical projects, confidence-building, and pieces they'll be proud to show off all summer long.

Fashion Camps



July 6-9

Pace: A moderate, skill-focused pace—ideal for campers who are ready to grow beyond beginner sewing



Fashion Week: Studio Basics

9am-12pm | Ages 8-12

Fashion Week: Studio Basics is a fun and confidence-building sewing camp designed for younger campers and beginners. During this session, campers will learn how to follow a pattern, sew accurate seams, and create a complete outfit featuring a **simple top** and **elastic-waist skirt or shorts**. This camp focuses on foundational garment skills in a relaxed, encouraging environment and is a great introduction to fashion sewing while still giving campers the pride of wearing something they made themselves.



Fashion Week: Elevated Studio (Teens Only)

1:30pm-4:30pm | Ages 11-17

Fashion Week: Elevated Studio is designed for older fashionistas and confident sewists ready to take their garment skills to the next level. Campers will create a garment with more advanced construction details. This session emphasizes fit, finishing, and sewing independence while still providing guidance and support. Perfect for campers who love fashion and are ready to grow their skills while creating wearable pieces they'll be excited to show off.

**Experienced younger campers may be approved for the afternoon (advanced) session. Please contact us if you'd like to discuss this option.*

American Girl Doll Camps



July 20-23

Pace: Slower-paced and beginner-friendly. Perfect for students who have completed Beginner Sewing Camp or Learn to Sew



American Girl Doll Fashion: Camp Edition

9am-12pm | Ages 7-13

In this summer sewing camp, students will design and sew two complete outfits for their 18" dolls inspired by a fun-filled day at camp and a cozy night by the campfire. Campers will create a Day at Camp outfit, featuring **elastic-waist shorts** and a **coordinating top**, along with a **Campfire PJ Set** perfect for winding down after a day of adventures. Throughout camp, students will practice sewing machine safety, sew accurate seams, and follow step-by-step instructions while building confidence with each project. This camp is ideal for beginners and returning students alike and offers a creative, hands-on experience your child will be proud to share.



American Girl Doll Gear: Camping Edition

1:30pm-4:30pm | Ages 7-13

Grab your boots and get ready for a sewing adventure! In this American Girl Doll Sewing Camp, campers will head “into the great outdoors” as they create a complete camping set for their 18" dolls. Throughout the day, campers will sew a **doll-sized tent, sleeping bag, pillowcase** and **pillow**, and a **handy drawstring bag**, everything their doll needs for a cozy night under the stars. Along the way, campers will learn sewing machine safety, practice accurate seams, follow step-by-step instructions, and build confidence with each finished project. This camp is perfect for beginners and returning campers alike and encourages sewing independence and creativity in making something truly special for their favorite doll.

Quilt Camp



August 3-7

Pace: Focused and goal-oriented, with a faster pace designed to help students complete their quilt by the end of the week.



Quilt Camp

9am-3pm | Ages 9-17

Quilt Camp is one of our most-loved weeks of the summer and is designed for experienced sewists who enjoy a focused, goal-oriented sewing experience. While no prior quilting experience is required, students should be comfortable using a sewing machine independently and have a solid foundation in basic sewing skills.

This camp moves at a faster, intentional pace, with daily goals that guide students through the quilting process from start to finish. Campers who thrive in Quilt Camp are those who enjoy working with purpose, following multi-step instructions, and staying engaged as their project comes together. Working steadily each day is important in order to complete a quilt by the end of the week.

We believe finishing a quilt is something worth celebrating. At the completion of the final day of camp, our group takes a trip to downtown Waxhaw to display their quilts along the bridge for a special group photo. We wrap up the week with a celebratory scoop of ice cream at Waxhaw Creamery, marking the accomplishment of seeing a big project through from start to finish.

Returning campers will enjoy working on a brand-new quilt design for 2026, making each summer's experience fresh and exciting.

August 11-14

Pace: Moderate and skill-focused, with time for design planning and hands-on execution.



The Sweatshirt Edit

1pm-4pm | Ages 13-17

The Sweatshirt Edit is a teen-focused sewing camp inspired by the sweatshirt details trending right now—cute appliqué, peekaboo fabric accents, and statement sleeves that turn a basic sweatshirt into something fun, personal, and stylish.

Campers will bring a store-bought sweatshirt from home and transform it through thoughtful design. Students will explore appliqué techniques such as layered shapes, soft textures, and peekaboo fabric details, along with optional design upgrades like replacing sweatshirt sleeves with feature fabrics. Sleeve options may include favorite sports teams, checkerboard prints, or a quilted-style look.

Throughout the process, campers will learn how to plan their design, test placement, and construct details with clean finishes. The focus is on intentional design and craftsmanship, encouraging students to take inspiration from current trends while developing their own sense of style.

If students complete their sweatshirt embellishments early, they'll have the opportunity to create additional small projects, such as cosmetic pouches or coordinating accessories. The Sweatshirt Edit is a great fit for teens who love fashion and creative details.

- **Pre-Req:** We recommend that new students complete Sew Much Fun: Beginner's Sewing Camp or the Learn To Sew Series (offered during school year) prior to attending The Sweatshirt Edit. Sew Much Fun|Beginner's Sewing Camps are offered multiple times throughout the summer.

Camp Information + Policy



Small Group Instruction (1:6 Ratio)

We intentionally keep our camps small, with an instructor-to-student ratio of approximately 1:6. This allows our instructors to provide hands-on guidance, answer questions in real time, and help students work through challenges as they arise. With fewer students per instructor, campers receive more individual attention, feel supported as they learn new skills, and gain confidence more quickly—resulting in a more successful and enjoyable camp experience.

New Campers & Beginner Sewing Camp

For students who are new to sewing, we strongly recommend beginning with Beginner Sewing Camp. This camp is designed to introduce the foundational skills every sewist needs, including sewing machine safety, basic operation, and learning how to guide fabric accurately. Starting here helps students feel confident and prepared before moving into more specialized camps. Families are also welcome to register their child for more than one session of Beginner Sewing Camp. Repetition is especially helpful for younger students, particularly those ages 7–9, as it allows them to build confidence through practice rather than rushing into more advanced projects. Each session reinforces core skills while giving students time to grow more comfortable working independently.

While skills are repeated, projects vary by session, so students are not making the same items over and over. This allows returning campers to continue learning in a familiar structure while staying engaged and excited about what they're creating. Our goal is for every student to feel successful, confident, and ready for what comes next—and starting with Beginner Sewing Camp is the best way to build that strong foundation.

Moving Into Advanced Beginner and Intermediate Camps

Once students have built a strong foundation through Beginner Sewing Camp, they may be ready to explore our intermediate and advanced camps. These camps introduce more detailed projects, new techniques, and increased independence at the sewing machine.

The best way to know if your child is ready is to consider both skill level and learning style. Students who are prepared for intermediate or advanced camps are typically comfortable using a sewing machine independently, can follow multi-step instructions, and enjoy working toward clear goals while staying focused throughout the day. To help families choose the best fit, each camp week includes a Pace & Fit description at the top of the page. These pace explanations outline how quickly the camp moves, the level of focus required, and the type of learner who tends to thrive in that setting. Reviewing this information is often the most helpful way to decide whether a camp will be an enjoyable and successful experience for your child.

Special Note to Parents of 7 Year Old Campers

How To Know If Your Child Is Ready For Sewing Camp:

A seven-year-old is typically ready for Beginner Sewing Camp if they can:

- Sit and listen during group instruction
- Follow step-by-step directions with guidance
- Use tools carefully and follow safety rules
- Stay focused on a task without impulsive behavior
- Ask for help when needed and respond to redirection

Beginner Sewing Camp is designed to support younger students with repetition, structure, and close guidance. Students who show these readiness signs tend to have the most positive and successful camp experience. Seven year olds must enroll in Beginner Sewing Camp only. They will remain in Beginner Sewing Camp during their first summer, and may attend multiple sessions to build confidence, practice safety skills, and become comfortable using the sewing machine.

Camp Information + Policy



Choosing Half vs Full-Day Camps

Sewing is a fun and creative activity that also requires concentration, problem-solving, and steady effort. Many children thrive in our half-day sessions because the shorter schedule keeps them engaged, focused, and excited to sew. Full-day camps offer additional project time, but they can feel long or tiring for some campers.

We encourage families to think about their child's energy level, attention span, and temperament when deciding between half-day and full-day options. You know your child best, and selecting the schedule that matches their natural rhythm will help them have a positive, confidence-building experience.

Lunch Buddies

Lunch Buddy Time is offered exclusively to campers who are registered for a full day of camp. This midday block is intentionally designed as a true rest period. During this time, campers are invited to sit down, enjoy their packed lunch, and unwind while watching a fun, age-appropriate movie.

There is no sewing, crafting, or structured instruction during Lunch Buddy Time. Because sewing requires concentration, problem-solving, fine motor skills, and sustained focus, we intentionally protect this portion of the day as a mental and physical reset. This break helps prevent fatigue, supports positive behavior and emotional regulation, and allows campers to return to afternoon sewing refreshed and ready to learn.

Summer Camp Cancellation & Schedule Change Policy

When you register for summer camp, we reserve a specific space and instructional time for your child. Our camps are intentionally kept small and often fill quickly, with waitlists for many sessions. In addition, most camps include project supplies that are purchased and prepared months in advance to ensure students have the best possible experience and plenty of time to create.

Because of this advance planning, camp registrations are non-refundable, including cancellations and no-shows. We are unable to offer refunds once a spot is reserved.

If you need to switch to a different camp week, we are happy to help as long as space is available. If we are able to fill your child's original spot from our waitlist, a studio credit will be issued and may be applied toward another camp or class.

I see that camps run Monday through Thursday (with the exception of Quilt Camp). Will anything be offered on Fridays?

Yes! We will be offering drop-in style workshops on select Fridays throughout the summer. These workshops will vary by week and may be offered for children, adults, or both. Friday workshops are designed as shorter, stand-alone experiences and are a great option for families looking for added flexibility or a fun creative add-on during the summer!

Scan the QR code to register for Sewing Summer Camp!

Looking forward to an unforgettable Summer 2026,
Mrs. Jen + Thimble Bee's Team

