



## **Basics for a Costume Shop:**

Julie and I buy a lot of our sewing supplies at our local dollar store, or in bulk on-line. When I first started, I sent out a request to my school community for fabric, unwanted sewing machines and thread. One of my colleague's mother was a quilter that was no longer quilting-- I hit paydirt. I was still using the donated fabric years later.

Sewing Machines-- 2 or 3 (I bought 5 cheaper ones at my local discount store. They work just fine for what I do.)

Storage boxes for all the supplies.

Bobbins

Sewing Machine Needles

Seam Rippers

Seam Measuring Gauge

Fabric Scissors—CLEARLY marked “For Fabric only”

Hand Sewing Needles

Thimbles

Safety Pins-- lots and lots

Straight Pins-- lots and lots

Cloth Measuring Tapes

Assorted Buttons

Thread-- lots of it and in a variety of colors

Scrap fabric for projects

Iron

Ironing Board

Fusible Bonding Web

Hook and Eye Fasteners

Snap fasteners

Velcro

Elastic—black and white

Lace—you always seem to need this for a costume, or 12

Shoelaces (You'd be surprised how many times these guys come in handy)

As a safety precaution, every summer I take my sewing machine to my local service company and get them cleaned, oiled and tuned for the next year. It is worth the expense to ensure your machines are in good running order.