

Māori glossary: Textiles

Bobbin – Tākaimiro

A small round metal object that stores thread for use in the sewing machine

Bobbin case – Pae tākaimiro

Computer – Rorohiko

A machine that allows for calculations, drawing, designs and information to be gathered using an electronic device

Cotton reel – Pōkaimiro

Embroidery machine – Mīhini tui whakarākei

An electric machine that enables artistic shapes, logos and pictures to be sewn in materials

Fabric – Papanga

The name given to groups of materials that can be sewn

Fabric shears – Kuti papanga

A larger version of scissors allowing for the cutting and shaping of a variety of different fabric materials

Heat press – Perēhi

An electrical machine that allows material items to be compressed, creases and wrinkles to be removed and a final finish to be achieved

Iron – Haeana

An electrical hand-held machine that heats up allowing materials to be smoothed and pressed

Ironing board – Papa haeana

An item for putting material garments on to support ironing

Mannequin – Ropi pūeru

An artificial dummy produced in the human form (and adjustable) to allow for accurate fitting of wearable garments prior to assembly

Meter ruler – Ruri mita

A metal or wooden measuring tool that allows dimension to be worked out on fabric to create accurate sizes

Needles – Ngira

Small metal hand-held items, with a small hole in one end that enables thread to be put into and pulled through materials

Needle threader – Tui ngira

A small metal item that helps put thread through the small hole in the end of a needle

Overlocker – Tāpikirua

An electrical machine that enables thread to be sewn on the edge of fabrics to stop fraying

Pins – Pine, Pinepine

Small metal items with a sharp point at one end and a head at the other to enable materials to be temporarily joined/held together whilst stitching takes place

The Māori translations for these Technology terms have been kindly supplied by Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori – Māori Language Commission.

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Quick unpick – Waha kai tuinga

A small metal hand-held item that has a sharpened end allowing stitches to be cut and thread removed (used when alterations need doing or mistakes need correcting)

Sewing machine – Mīhini tuitui

An electrical machine that mechanically produces stitches in materials

Tailor's chalk – Tioka papanga

Usually a white form of resin block that can easily mark lines and shapes on fabric to assist with construction, and then can be easily removed without leaving any marks

Tape measure – Taura ine

A flexible tape with measurements indicated that allows for accurate dimensions to be achieved when marking out material items

Thread – Miro

A thin woven fibre material that is used with a sewing machine or by hand (using a needle) to join materials together