

## « STORE REVIEWS: THE HAB &amp; PARK AVENUE FOR WOMEN



# Pins & needles

**Samreen Samad** thinks that the newly open **The Hab** in Khar will give tailors and designers a run for their money



**Where** Corporate Lounge, Opp. Sahib Khatwara Darbar, Linking Road, Khar (W)  
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**T**he Hab is something you cannot miss if you're passing Linking Road. The vibrant colours inside the store and Manish Arora's eye-catching window instillation makes the store very alluring.

The Hab comes from the word haberdashery, which is a store where they sell articles for sewing such as thread, zips, buttons, lace and ribbons. The Hab stocks all these items, but it is much more than just a plain haberdashery.

If you're thinking that The Hab is meant for boring seamstresses and grandmothers, then you're mistaken. The ground floor has a wide variety of sequins (₹23 onwards), stones (₹30-120), beads (₹18-25), buttons (₹25), zips (₹25) in an array of colours, patches (₹65) and thread (₹14). Besides basic sewing material, they also have borders, lace, do-it-yourself kits, drafts of fancy dresses, gowns, bags, pillow cases and children's clothes.

Coming to the fun part, the ground floor also has a demo zone which has four stations with four different high-tech sewing machines by Usha. Here, you can try your hand at sewing, designing, embroidery and basically everything that you thought was done only by professionals.

I placed myself at one of the stations (I've never touched a sewing machine before) and started making a cute cloth book mark with tassels, sequins and embroidery! Well, to be honest, I can't take much credit as the machine is fully automatic and does half the work for you. All you need to do is feed in the

information and ta-da!

The first floor has a library with interesting books on creativity, stitching, fashion and designing. They also have a room with eight sewing machines for workshops conducted by experts. The workshops include an introduction to sewing (₹150 for 3 hours), basic sewing (₹400 for 15 hours), surface textures (₹500 for 12 hours), table mat and table runner (₹350 for 9 hours), cushion covers and bolsters (₹400 for 12 hours) and ladies tops (₹500 for 15 hours). In three to four sessions you can learn to design and stitch your own clothes and bid your tailor goodbye.

>> The Hab stocks all articles related to sewing and designing



>> You can try your hand at the sewing machine. (Above) Sequins, beads and borders