

Tailormade

What is it?

This is a short-term class for young men who need basic skills to survive as bachelors for life or until the Lord brings them a wife. I had no idea the interest young men had in learning these skills until my daughter and I co-taught a sewing class in the inner city of New Orleans and we had several men/young men who wouldn't miss classes. They really wanted to know how to sew on a button, hem their pants, and fix things they wore. Once I saw that, I was convinced that more young men around the country were interested in the same skills.

They are taught the basic sewing skills to take care of their clothing, how to iron properly, and how to prepare 10 means from scratch so they won't starve to death as bachelors, resort to buying fast food frequently, or eat hamburgers and popcorn every night of the week.

What actual skills do they learn?

How to care for their clothing (the best cycles to wash and dry on to keep their clothes new-looking)

How to iron properly

How to sew on a two-hole, four-hole and shank button. This would cover both pants and shirts.

How to mend using a backstitch. This same stitch could be used to make a beanbag to use in games.

How to hem their pants with a blind hemstitch.

How to sew using a blanket stitch (good for reinforcing buttonholes)

How to handle raw meat and eggs to prevent food poisoning

How to be safe in the kitchen (basic safety rules)

How to make:

Basic white sauce (used as a base for soups and sauces) Melt cheese in sauce to make cheese sauce.

Spaghetti

Homemade tacos (cut up tomatoes, lettuce, grate cheese, brown hamburger, cook taco shells in oil)

Hamburgers (what to add to the raw meat to add more flavor)

How to cut up carrots, potatoes, celery, onions

Baked chicken (chicken parmesan)

Chicken quesadillas

Steaks (what to look for in meat)

Baked salmon

Fried fish

Hamburger/potato casserole

Mashed potatoes

If they want to learn, how to crochet and knit (the young men in my class really took to the knitting)