

# "A Stitch in Time Saves Nine"

There was a time when clothing was limited  
For each piece of cloth was hand made  
In that day and age - care was required  
If a piece was found ripped - torn - or frayed

When one was able to catch a loose thread  
Before it had grown to a hole  
The time and the effort required to repair  
Was simple and quick to control

For if a loose thread is left to its own  
Adjoining threads will loosen too  
As each thread depends on the next one for strength  
It's important you know what to do

Why does this matter - today clothes are cheap  
And nobody knows how to sew  
It's not about clothes it's more about life  
And a mindset we really should know

Take on a problem while it is but small  
Do not put it off for a day  
If you take the time for one single stitch  
Soon you are back on your way

But if you're inclined to wait for a thread  
To loosen beyond your control  
You best set aside the time and expense  
To fix - and to then make it whole

One dollar now or nine dollars later  
The answer is certain for me  
I'll pay out a dollar for one simple stitch  
And then keep eight dollars for me.

According to Various Sources - The phrase "A stitch in time saves nine" was first recorded in 1732 by Thomas Fuller in "Gnomologia": A Collection of the Proverbs, Maxims and Adages. These words soon after inspired Benjamin Franklin and were included within his publication "Poor Richard's Almanack".



## Questions and Discussions

What kinds of "Stitches" might we encounter on a daily, or weekly basis?

- Cleaning the Kitchen after a meal.
  - How might this be a "stitch"?
  - What can happen if we never clean the kitchen?
- Adding fuel, or a charge to the car when the tank is low.
  - What can happen if we ignore this issue?
- Mowing the lawn
- Brushing your teeth
- ???

Describe a situation you have seen, when a "stitch" was ignored, and the issue became a bigger problem.

Can you describe a "stitch" you have noticed recently?

- What do you plan to do about it?

Have each member of the group write down a personal "stitch" that they will commit to fix today, or this week and report back to the group when the issue has been corrected.