

Make Friends with Your Sewing Machine

Workshop with Scarlet 13.9.2026

Learn simple tips and tricks for beginners to make better use of your machine.

Have a new machine? Or maybe a machine that you haven't used in a while? This hour-long session will help you understand the basics of your machine.

What will be covered:

Picking the correct needles for each material and how to replace them.

Needle sizes

METRIC	IMPERIAL	FABRIC WEIGHT	FABRIC TYPE
60	8	FINE	- GAUZE - CREPE - CHIFFON - TULLE - ORGANZA - SILK - VOILE
65	9	FINE	
70	10	FINE	
75	11	MEDIUM	
80	12	MEDIUM	- COTTON - CHAMBRAY - SATIN - POPLIN - LINEN - TWILL - SEERSUCKER
90	14	MEDIUM	
100	16	HEAVY	
110	18	HEAVY	
120	20	ULTRA HEAVY	- DENIM - CORDUROY - TWEED - CANVAS
			- LEATHER - UPHOLSTORY



Winding and threading bobbins (if applicable)
RTFM



NEEDLE GUIDE

Choosing the right needle for your project is as simple as following these two steps!

Step One Choose the type of needle based on the type of fabric you are sewing with.

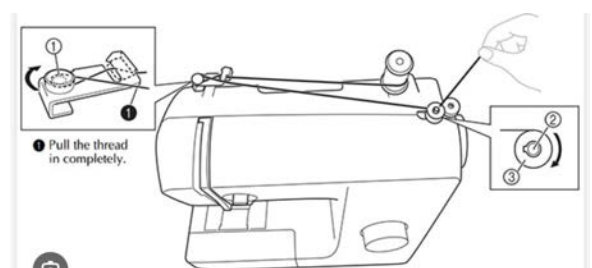
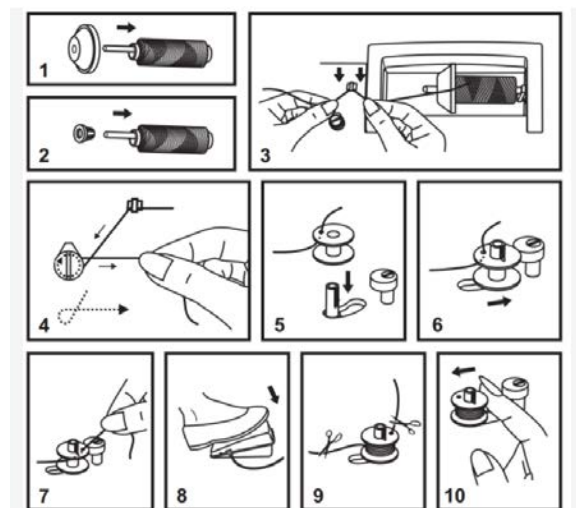
UNIVERSAL	BALL POINT	STRETCH
A multi-purpose needle with a slightly rounded point is perfect for wovens and some knits.	The rounded point of this needle makes it gentle on knit fabrics.	The combination of a rounded point and specialized eye helps prevent skipped stitches on very stretchy knits, such as swimwear.
MICROTEXT	TOPSTITCH	LEATHER
A very fine point makes this needle perfect for synthetic fibers, silks, faux leather, or other coated fabrics.	The large eye of this needle helps accommodate topstitching thread.	A special blade-like point easily passes through leather.

Step Two Choose needle size based on the weight of the fabric. Use this chart as a handy guide.

METRIC	IMPERIAL	WEIGHT	FABRIC TYPE
60 - 75	8 - 11	Light	Chiffon, georgette, fine synthetics, lawn, voile, tissue knits
80 - 90	12 - 14	Medium	Poplin, shirtings, suitings, chambray, linen, jersey, ponte, French terry
100 - 120	16 - 20	Heavy	Denim, corduroy, leather, coatings

Threading your machine:: Use different colours of thread for top and bottom to check tension when sewing on cotton.

RTFM



Sewing Machine Tension Guide

www.treasure.com



upper thread and bobbin are balanced
no adjustment needed



Don't touch!



upper thread too loose
or bobbin thread too tight
increase tension
(higher number)



CLOCKWISE
higher number



upper thread too tight
or bobbin too loose
decrease tension
(lower number)



ANTI-CLOCKWISE
lower number

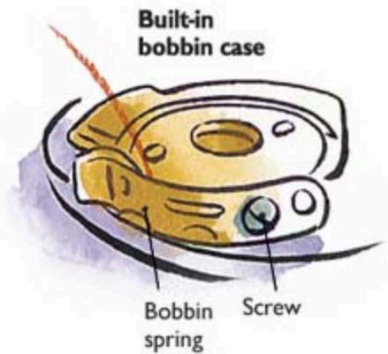
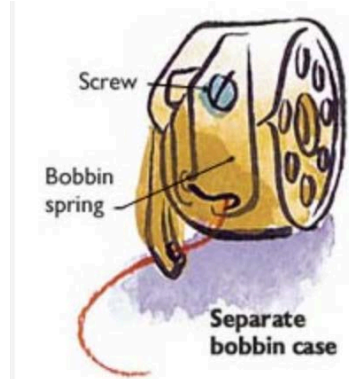
How your machine works- what do all the knobs and buttons do?

Stitch length *and* width vary.

Tension adjustments (if applicable)

On most modern machines, the lower tension often can't be adjusted without voiding the warranty.

RTFM



Basic fabric handling
such as how to pin
and stitch safely -
sewing straight lines
with Masking Tape.

General maintenance and troubleshooting:
open up and Hoover / soft paintbrush / light machine oil
on any moving parts - RTFM

If no manual, search :

Make/Model/Manual/PDF/download

**There are lots of useful instruction videos on
youtube, just type what you want to make and
watch the video**



Project

Think about:

1. Fabric type, the simplest is cotton; trickier are jeans, stretching or thick materials like leather - which needle?
2. Thread colour/weight (usually 120 or stretch)
3. Which Stitch? Straight / Zig Zag and Elastic are most common
4. Where to start and anchoring your thread
5. Do I need to pin / hand tack?