

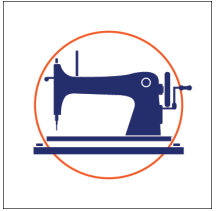
Cynthia's
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Bend

SEWING MACHINE & LONGARM CENTER

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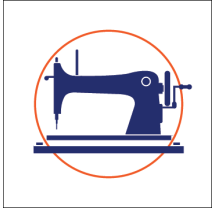
BASIC SEWING MACHINE MAINTENANCE

What can I do at home?

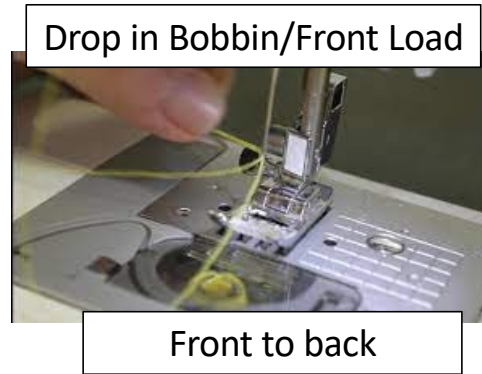
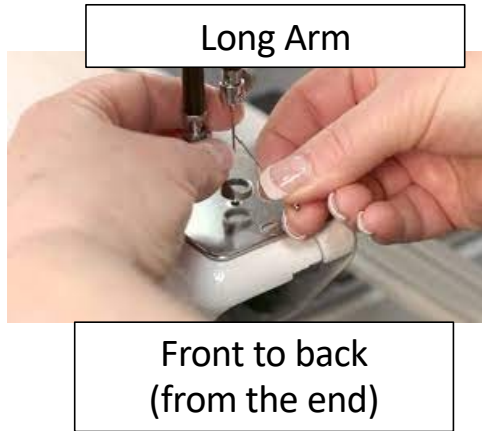
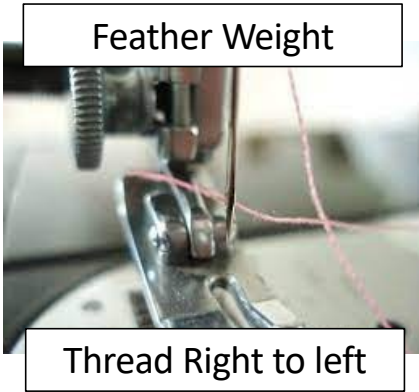


- Keep lint out of hook area. Regularly remove needle plate and clean lint from the area. Use lint brush or a Q-tip to extract the excess lint.
- Clean lint or threads from upper tension area. As lint or thread builds up between the discs the thread will not have as much tension or drag on the thread.
- If you can swing the door away from needle bar area, then clean lint from needle bar area.
- Oil hook and needle bar after cleaning, do not oil tension discs.

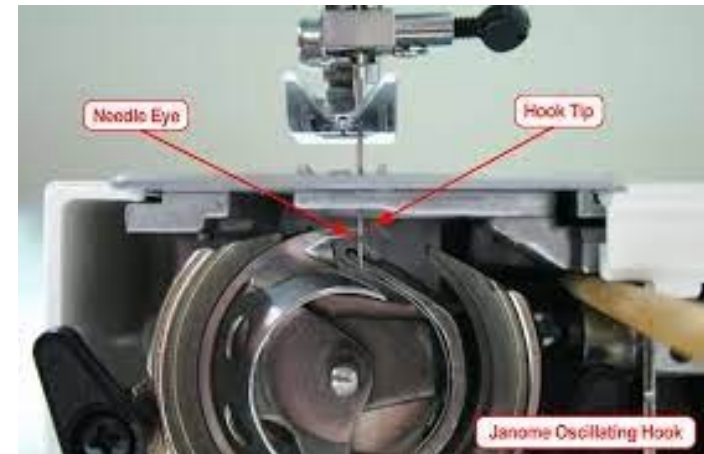
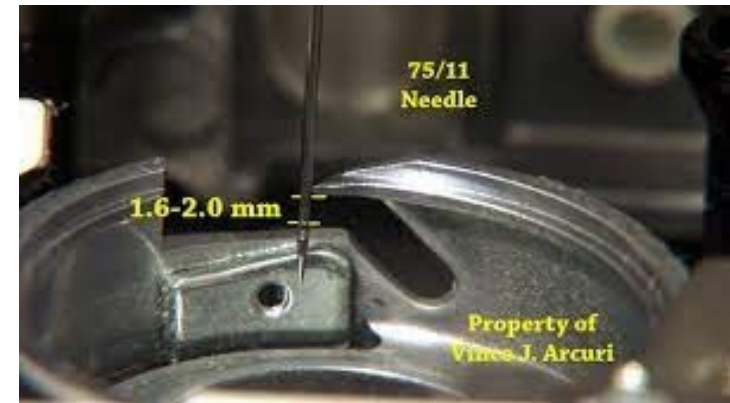
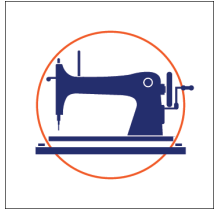




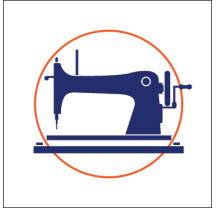
- Change needle regularly, match the need type to your fabric type or function.
- Put needle in the proper direction. Most machines are flat side to the back. The front of the needle usually follows the direction of the hook. Singer Feather weight is backwards.



Make sure needle is all the way in. If it is a bit lower, the machine is not going to stitch properly.



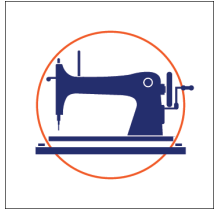
When stitching the hook moves behind the needle, in the scarf area and picks up the thread. It wraps around the bobbin and creates the “lock stitch”



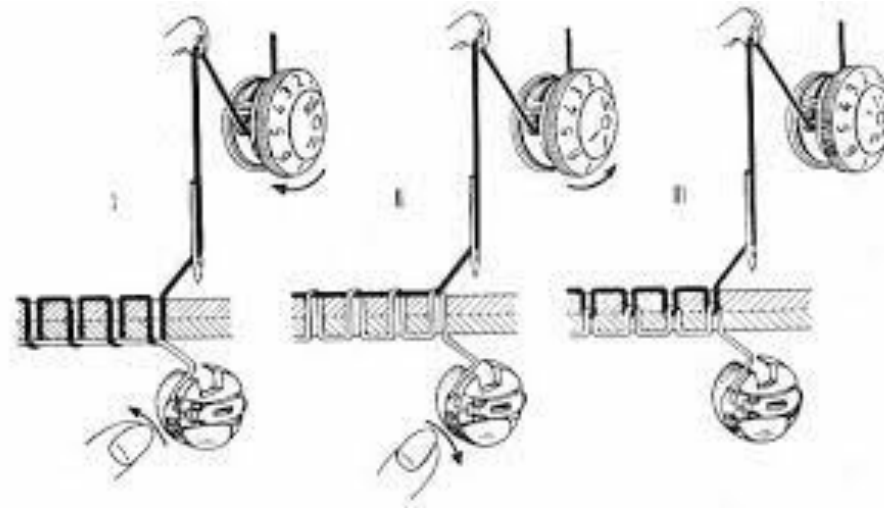
What's the biggest mystery to most people when it comes to a sewing machine?

TENSION

How many of you have been told by someone to not touch or change you tension?



Think of tension as a tug of war. The bobbin thread and the needle thread must have a balanced tension to a good stitch.

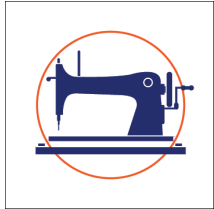


When your stitch isn't correct, there are always two choices.

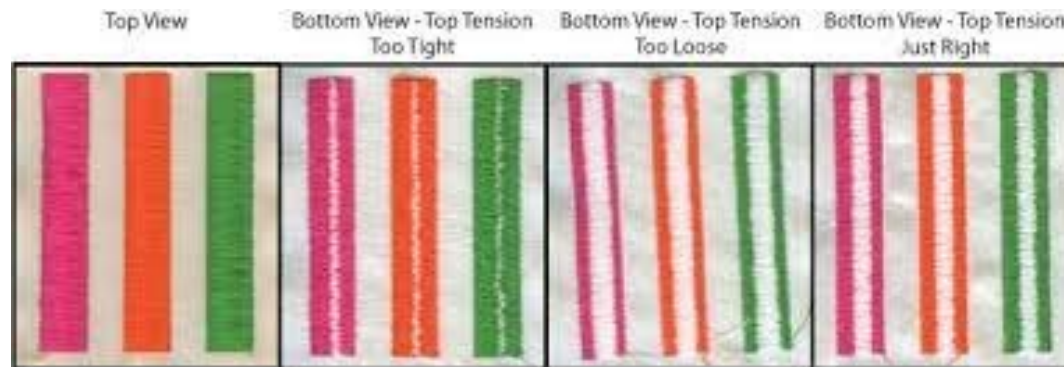
#1, adjust the bobbin tension.

#2, adjust the needle tension.

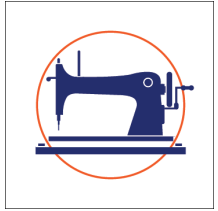
Righty Tighty, Lefty Loosey



Tension is setup different for embroidery or decorative stitching.

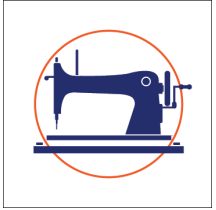


We don't want any thread to show on top, that would be ugly.



Tension for free motion quilting tends to be adjusted tighter on the needle thread for most machines.



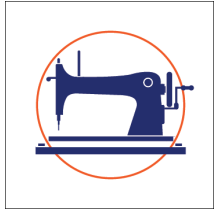


Key to adjusting tension.

#1, always start by checking your bobbin tension. Get to know your bobbin tension. Every type of machine is a bit different. When you thread the bobbin, pull on the thread and feel the tension. If it is hard to pull thru, it's probably too tight. Loosen the screw till it pulls nicely. If there is no drag, the bobbin will loose the tug of war. You need to tighten. Always look for lint in the tension clip if you have no drag. Thread can get in the clip and not allow tension to drag the thread.

#2, once you have verified a normal bobbin tension, then adjust from the needle thread (top). If stitching is going to the bottom of fabric, the needle thread needs to be tightened. If the thread is coming to the top, simply loosen (lower number) the needle thread.

Different tension assemblies. Dial, layin, with numbers and without, computer controlled.



How many of you have

AUTOMATIC TENSION

In my opinion there is no such thing. The reason all of your machines have both a screw on the bobbin case and a dial for the needle thread is for you to be able to adjust. Many of our modern machines will change the base setting for various types of stitching. This does make it easier, but there will always be times when you may need to adjust.