

MODEL 248-293  
44729 Serial  
1120

HOW TO USE YOUR

**KENMORE**

SEWING MACHINE

MODEL

29



Dear Friend,  
We're certainly glad you selected a **KENMORE**  
Sewing Machine, because we believe it's one of  
the best - - - **STYLE-wise, FEATURE-wise, and**  
**PERFORMANCE-wise!**

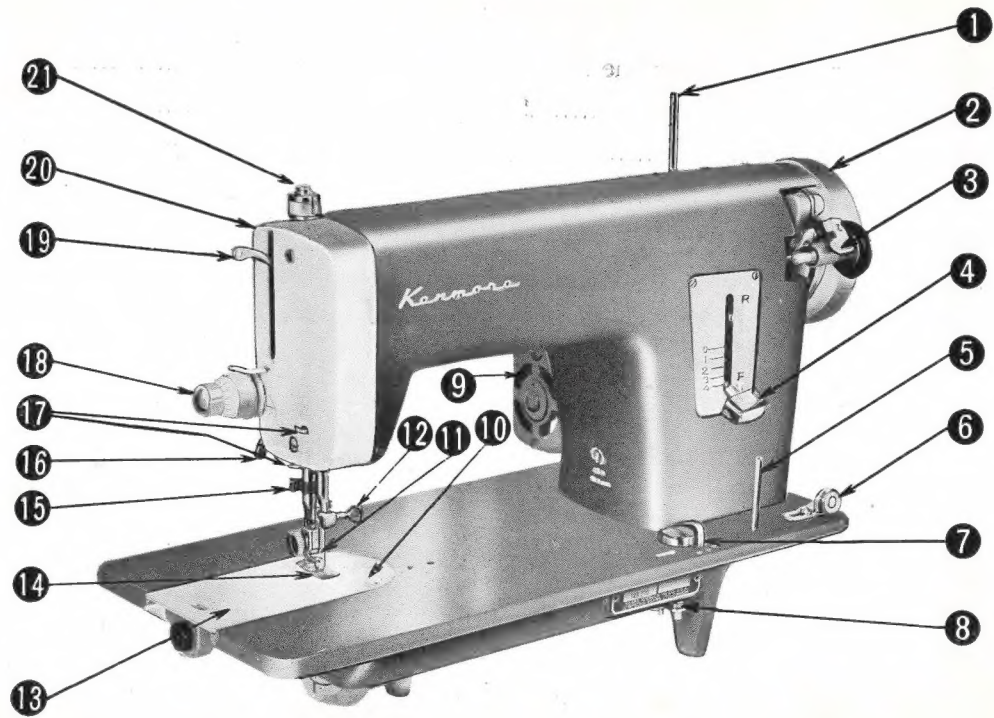
This booklet was written to acquaint you with your  
new **KENMORE**, so that you will benefit from all the  
sewing conveniences built into this precision machine.  
We hope you will read the following pages carefully.  
If ever you have any questions about using your  
sewing machine, I'll be happy to answer them for you.

*Jean Shaw*

Director, Home Economics Laboratory  
Dept. 817, Sears, Roebuck & Co.  
Chicago 7, Ill.

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## HEAD PARTS IDENTIFICATION

1. Thread Spool Post (for sewing)
2. Hand Wheel
3. Bobbin Winder
4. Stitch Length Control
5. Thread Spool Post (for bobbin winding)
6. Bobbin Winder Thread Guide
7. "Drop Feed" Control
8. Nomenclature Plate
9. Motor
10. Needle Plate
11. Needle
12. Needle Clamp Screw
13. Slide Plate
14. Presser Foot
15. Thread Cutter
16. Presser Foot Lever
17. Thread Guide
18. Upper Thread Tension Control
19. Thread Take-Up Lever
20. Thread Guide
21. Darner (pressure regulator for presser foot)

## INSTALLING MACHINE HEAD IN PORTABLE AND CABINET

Loosen the two hinge screws under holes in the rear edge of the machine bed (1).

Raise hinge pins in the cutout (2).

Slip machine head onto the pins and tighten hinge screws securely (3).

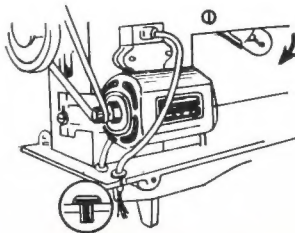
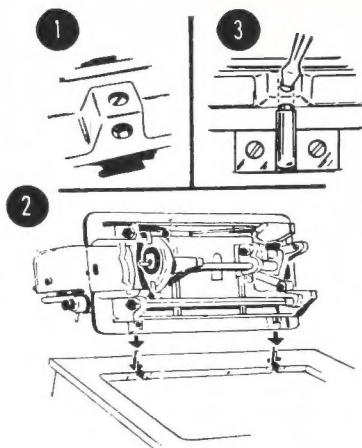
Lower machine head to front flap.

## SEWING LIGHT

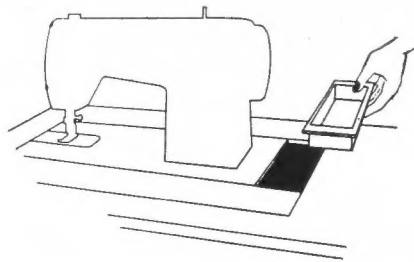
The light is installed in the under side of machine arm. To turn light on, press switch on the bedplate. Press to turn light off.

To remove bulb, disconnect sewing machine, grasp metal at lamp base, and pull the light assembly down (see illustration). Push bulb in slightly, and turn bulb counter-clockwise. Bulb can then be pulled out from socket.

To replace bulb, push bulb in until it stops and turn it clockwise. Then push the light assembly into place under arm of machine.



When head is in place for sewing, there will be a small open space between the edge of the sewing head and the cabinet. This space is reserved for the convenient plastic accessory tray which fits therein.



## CONNECTING MACHINE

Push the control plug onto three prong connector over the machine motor. Connect machine cord into any 110-120V wall outlet. When installed in cabinet, insert grommet with cord in hole in bedplate.

## NEEDLE AND THREAD TABLE

THREAD SIZE	NEEDLE SIZE	FABRIC
Cotton 80-100 Nylon A Silk A Machine embroidery	11	Sheer cottons, silks, and synthetics Fine Laces
Cotton 60-80 Mercerized 50 Nylon A Silk A Machine embroidery	14	Light to medium weight cottons Light to medium weight silks Medium weight synthetics Light weight woolens
Cotton 40-60 Mercerized 50 Mercerized heavy duty	16	Heavy weight cottons Medium to heavy weight woolens Heavy drapery fabrics
Cotton 30-50 Mercerized heavy duty	18	Heaviest cottons as for men's work clothes Heaviest woolen coating

### NEEDLE SIZE

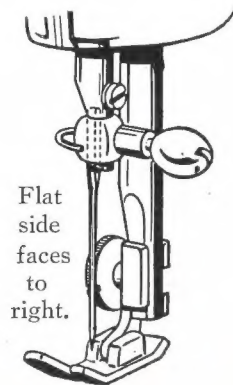
Use **KENMORE 6021** needles. The size of the needle should conform to the size of the thread and both should be suitable to the material. The same size thread should be used in the bobbin as on the upper part of the machine for ordinary sewing. Never use a bent needle or one with a blunt point.



This is the exact length of the needle to be used in your machine. Comparison with this illustration will determine whether the needle you have is the correct one for your machine.

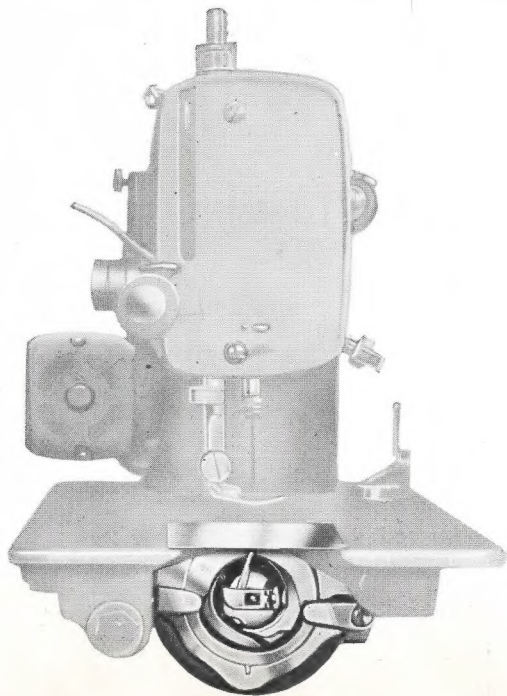
## PLACEMENT OF NEEDLE

Raise take-up lever to its highest position by turning hand wheel toward you. Loosen needle clamp screw. Hold needle so that the flat side is to your right, slip blunt end of needle as far as it will go into needle clamp. Tighten needle into place with clamp screw.

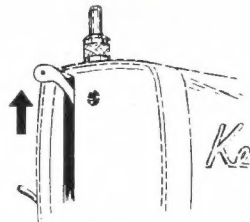


Flat side faces to right.

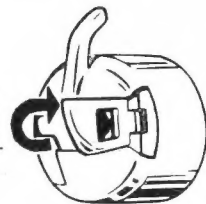
## REMOVING BOBBIN CASE FROM SHUTTLE



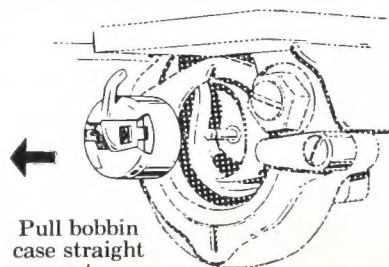
Take up  
lever  
at its  
highest  
position.



Pull  
out  
latch.



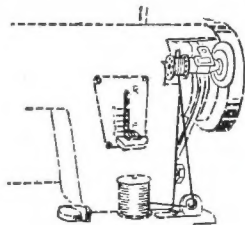
Pull bobbin  
case straight  
out.



# WINDING THE BOBBIN

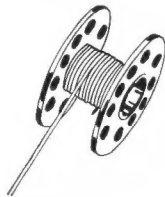
1

Place thread on spool post. Draw thread under bobbin winder thread guide. This guide is adjustable if thread is not winding evenly, move guide to correct this situation.



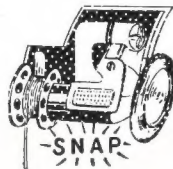
2

Wind thread around bobbin a few times, front to back. Guide bobbin onto bobbin winder shaft.



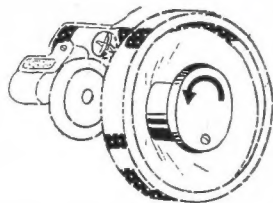
3

Press bobbin winder lever down.



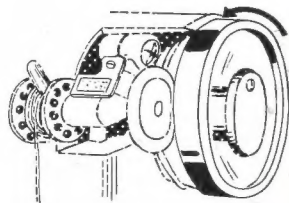
4

Disengage hand wheel by turning inner knob toward you.



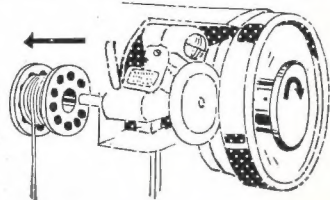
5

Start machine. When bobbin is full, winding mechanism stops automatically.



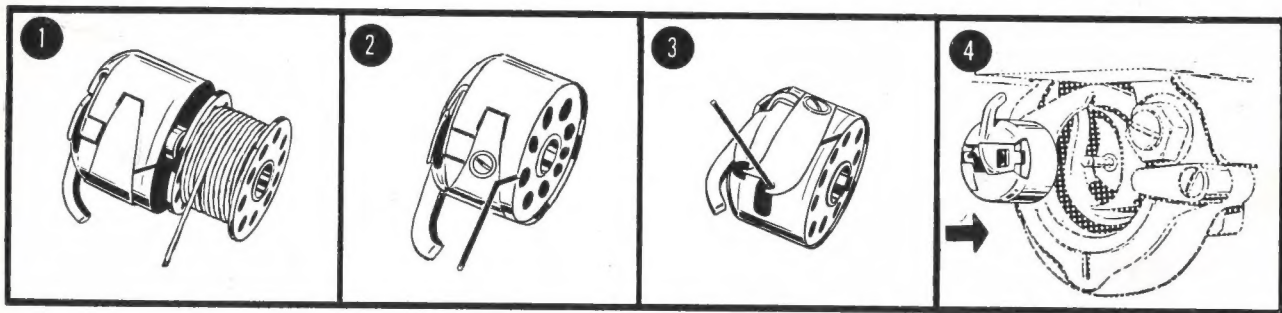
6

Tighten hand wheel and remove bobbin.

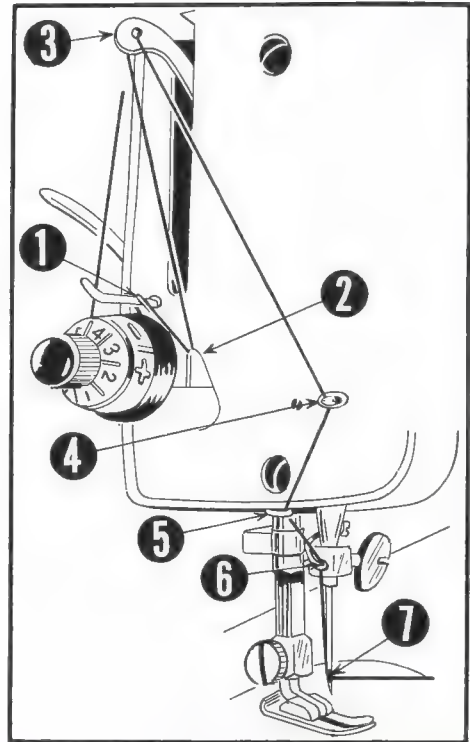
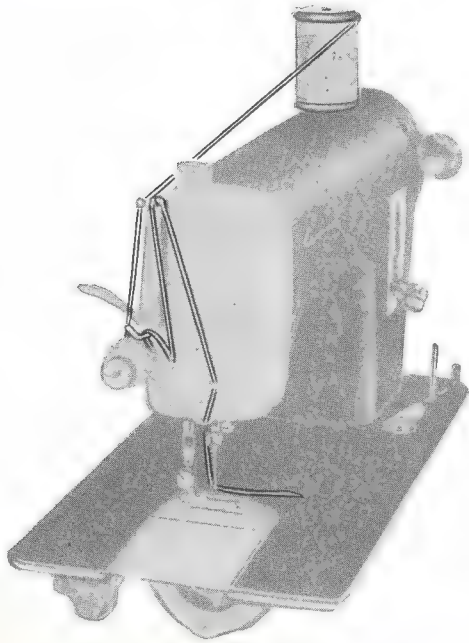


## INSERTING BOBBIN INTO BOBBIN CASE...CASE INTO SHUTTLE

- 1 Guide bobbin onto center pin of bobbin case.
- 2 Pull thread through slot.
- 3 Pull thread under tension spring.
- 4 Holding latch, position case into shuttle, then release latch.



# THREADING UPPER MACHINE



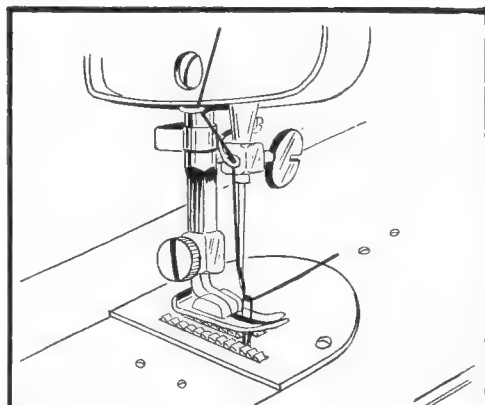
## PICKING UP BOBBIN THREAD

Raise presser foot lever.

Hold needle thread loosely in left hand and rotate hand wheel toward you one complete turn.

Bring bobbin thread up by pulling upper thread. (See illustration).

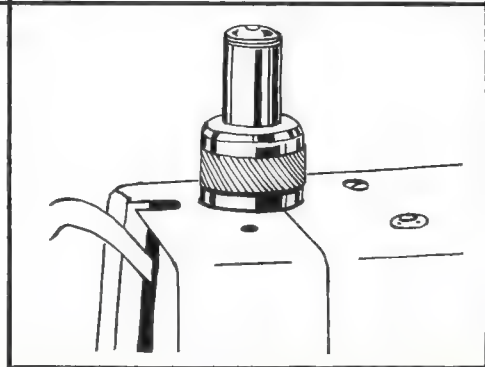
Place threads back under presser foot.



## ADJUSTING THE PRESSURE OF THE PRESSER FOOT

For most normal sewing the inner pin of the presser foot pressure regulator should be pushed down as far as possible. When sewing multiple thickness or heavy material you may prefer less pressure on the presser foot.

Push down on inner pin of presser foot pressure regulator to desired pressure. To release pressure, press down on outer ring.

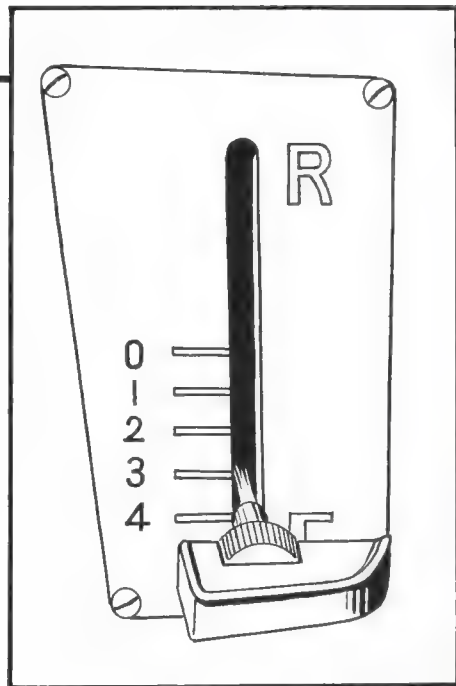


## REGULATING LENGTH OF STITCH

The stitch regulator lever controls the stitch length.

Raise lever to any desired stitch length position between 0 and 4, and set it by turning the round shaped nut (limiter) clockwise until it stops. At No. 4, the longest stitch is obtained. The size of stitch you select will depend on the fabric you are sewing.

To lengthen the stitch, turn limiter counter-clockwise until the lever can be lowered to the position desired.



# ADJUSTING TENSIONS

1

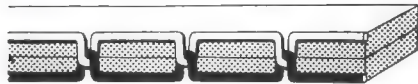


Fig. 1

A perfect stitch will have threads locked between the two layers of fabric with no loops on top or bottom.

## PROBLEM

## REMEDY

2

Upper thread too tight

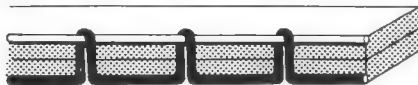


Fig. 2



Decrease Tension



3

Upper thread too loose



Fig. 3



Increase Tension

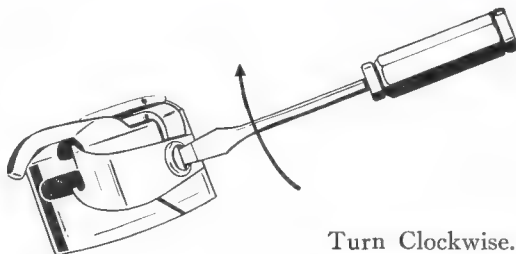


When stitching is unsatisfactory as in figures 2 and 3, adjust the upper thread tension. Lower thread tension is preset and rarely requires adjustment for general sewing.

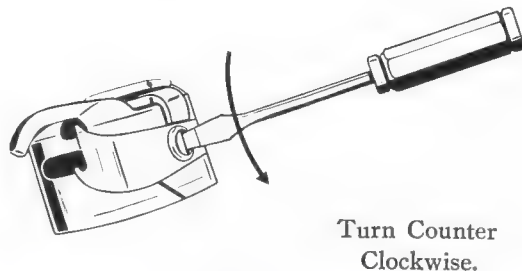
However, if stitch is satisfactory, as in figure 1 and seam is badly puckered; the cause may be tight tensions and both upper and lower may be adjusted (see page 22).

When adjusting the tension on the bobbin case, make slight adjustments with a screwdriver.

### INCREASE TENSION



### DECREASE TENSION



## INSERTING AND REMOVING THE MATERIAL

For all kinds of sewing, consult chart page 5.

Before placing the material on the machine see that:

- The presser foot and needle clamping screws are both tight
- The sizes of needle and thread suit the kind of work to be done
- The tensions have been properly adjusted
- The thread take-up lever is at its highest position
- Make sure that the ends of the threads have been drawn about 4 inches to the rear of the machine

Place material underneath the presser

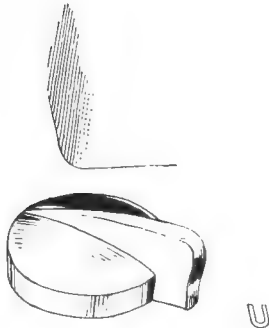
foot, insert the needle into the material by turning the handwheel toward you, lower presser foot and start sewing.

To remove the work, first turn the handwheel toward you until the thread take-up lever is in its highest position, then raise the presser foot, remove the material to the rear and cut off excess thread with the thread cutter located on the presser bar.

IMPORTANT: Always turn the handwheel toward you! When the machine is not being used, place a piece of material over the feed dog and lower the presser foot. Never operate the machine when it is threaded, or if the presser foot has been lowered, unless a piece of material is under the presser foot.

## TURNING A CORNER

Stop your sewing machine and make sure needle is in fabric. Raise presser foot. Turn fabric to desired direction. Lower presser foot and go on with your stitching.



## DROP FEED CONTROL

This knob is situated on right front of machine bed. When knob is turned to the left, feed dog does not move material. This allows the operator freedom of movement of material. For regular sewing, turn knob to the right.

## BASTING

For accomplishing quicker, more even and firmer basting, we suggest you regulate the machine in the following manner: Set stitch regulator at No. 4 for the longest possible stitch. Basting is easily removed by pulling bottom thread. When basting very sheer fabrics, use a paper backing.

## REVERSE STITCHING

To sew in reverse, stop sewing, move stitch regulator lever up until it stops. Reverse stitching will be the same size as forward stitching.

## FASTENING A SEAM

The following method of fastening a seam is often called "back tacking."

Lower needle into fabric  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch from beginning of seam.

Lower presser foot.

Raise stitch regulator lever up until it stops. Stitch in reverse until needle reaches beginning of seam.

Lower stitch regulator lever and complete seam.

When end of seam is reached, sew in reverse  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

Remove material and cut thread on cutter.

# DARNING

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## WITH PRESSER FOOT:

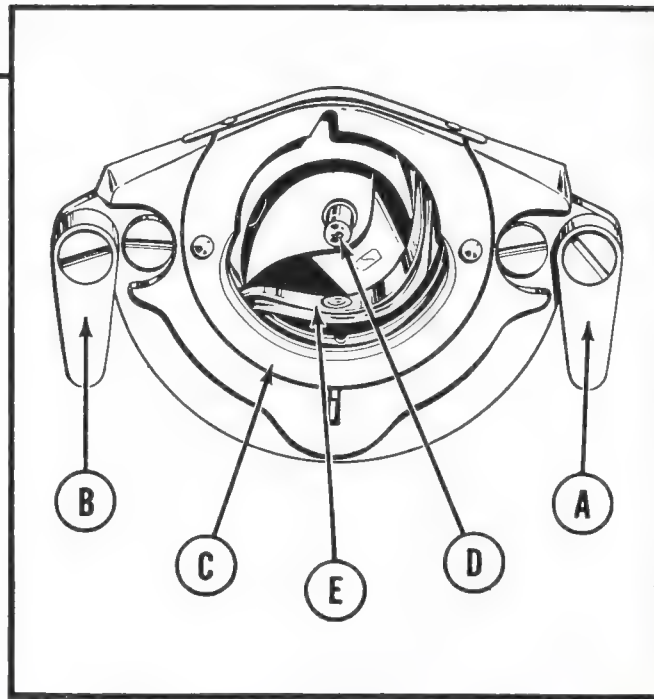
1. Turn feed dog control to DOWN.
2. Press down outer ring of pressure foot release, see page 10. With release in this position mending, darning, monogram work, etc. may be done.
3. Stretch fabric tightly between two spring embroidery hoops and place under needle.
4. Lower presser bar so thread will have some tension. When you start to darn, move fabric back and forth to cover darning area. Then turn fabric and continue sewing at right-angles to the previous stitching. Always use medium machine speed. You can make any length stitches desired. Slow movement of fabric will make short darning stitches. Fast movement will make long stitches.
5. When you finish darning, raise presser foot and remove fabric. Increase pressure for general sewing by pressing center pin of presser foot release.

## WITHOUT PRESSER FOOT:

1. Turn feed dog control to DOWN.
2. Remove presser foot.  
Proceed as directed under steps 3 and 4 above.
5. When you finish darning, raise the presser bar and remove fabric. Replace presser foot.

## REMOVING LINT

1. Turn hand wheel toward you until needle is at its highest position. Remove bobbin and bobbin case.
2. Turn knob (A) one-half turn toward you.  
Turn knob (B) one-half turn away from you.
3. Remove shuttle race cover (C). Then remove shuttle (D) by grasping axle.
4. Remove accumulated lint and thread from all parts.
5. Replace shuttle in race body, with axle facing out, forming a perfect circle with driver (E).
6. Replace shuttle race cover (C), polished side out, so that both lugs are under knobs (A) and (B).
7. Replace bobbin and bobbin case.
8. *Do not attempt to force any of the above operation.*



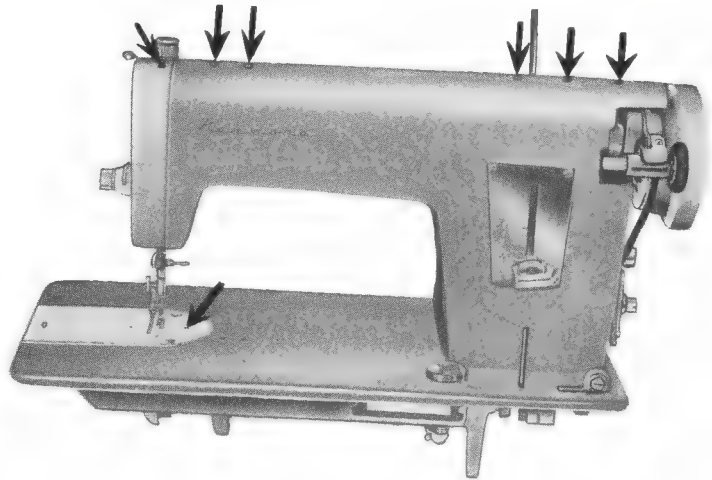
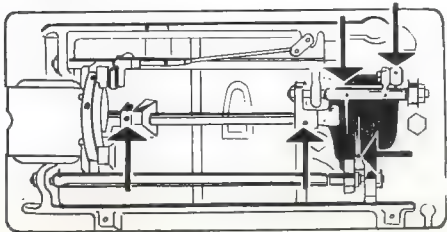
# OILING MACHINE

Keep the moving parts free from dust and threads for quiet and efficient operation. Cleaning should be done with a small brush: never with a sharp or pointed tool.

When machine runs hard or makes excessive noise, place a drop of oil in the small holes on the bedplate and top of arm.

Shuttle hook should periodically receive 3 to 4 drops of oil to make it run smoothly and quietly.

Tilt machine head back to oil points indicated on under side of machine head.



## WHAT TO DO

PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	CORRECTION
Irregular Stitches	Incorrect size needle. Improper threading. Loose upper thread tension. Pulling fabric. Light pressure on presser foot. Loose presser foot. Unevenly wound bobbin.	Choose correct size needle for thread and fabric (page 5). Rethread machine (page 9). Tighten upper thread tension (page 12). Do not pull fabric; guide it gently. Increase pressure on presser foot (page 10). Reset presser foot. Rewind bobbin (page 7).
Breaking Needles	Pulling fabric. Incorrect size needle. Incorrect setting of needle Loose presser foot.	Do not pull fabric; guide it gently. Choose correct size needle for thread and fabric (page 5). Reset needle (page 5). Reset presser foot.
Bunching of Thread	Upper and lower threads not drawn back under presser foot. Feed dog down.	Draw both threads back under presser foot (page 10). Raise feed dog.
Puckering	Incorrect thread tension(s). Light pressure on presser foot. Using two different sizes or kinds of thread. Bent or blunt needle. Loose presser foot. Fabric too sheer or too soft.	Reset thread tension(s) (page 12, 13). Increase pressure on presser foot (page 10). Upper thread and bobbin thread should be same size and kind. Insert new needle (page 5). Reset presser foot. Use underlay of tissue paper or tarlatan when stitching.

## WHAT TO DO

PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	CORRECTION
<p style="text-align: center;">Skipping Stitches</p>	<p>Incorrect size needle. Bent or blunt needle. Incorrect setting of needle. Tight upper thread tension. Light pressure on presser foot.</p>	<p>Choose correct size needle for thread and fabric (page 5). Insert new needle (page 5). Reset needle (page 5). Loosen upper thread tension (page 12). Increase pressure on presser foot (page 10).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Breaking Upper Thread</p>	<p>Starting to stitch too fast. Improper threading. Tight upper thread tension. Incorrect size needle. Sharp eye in needle.</p>	<p>Start to stitch at a medium speed. Rethread machine (page 9). Loosen upper thread tension (page 12). Choose correct size needle for thread and fabric (page 5). Insert new needle (page 5).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Breaking Bobbin Thread</p>	<p>Improper bobbin case threading. Tight bobbin thread tension. Lint in bobbin case or shuttle.</p>	<p>Check bobbin case threading (page 8). Loosen bobbin thread tension (page 13). Clean bobbin case and shuttle (page 18).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Fabric not Moving</p>	<p>Feed dog down. Light pressure on presser foot. Threads knotted under fabric.</p>	<p>Raise feed dog. Increase pressure on presser foot (page 10). Place both threads back under presser foot before beginning to stitch.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Machine Jamming (Knocking Noise)</p>	<p>Thread caught in shuttle.</p>	<p>Disassemble and clean shuttle (page 18).</p>

## ADJUSTING YOUR SEWING MACHINE FOR GOOD STITCHES

When your sewing machine does not sew a properly locked stitch, check the following:

1. Insert a new needle of the correct size for the thread and fabric you are using. Check your machine instruction book at page 5 for needle size.
2. The upper and bobbin thread should be matched in size and type.
3. Check threading carefully. (See page 8 & 9)
4. Check the thread tension balance.  
Use # 50 mercerized thread, size # 14 needle, and a firm cotton fabric.

Begin with a full bobbin, properly threaded into the case. Set the stitch length at about 12 stitches per inch. Make a row of bias stitching on a double thickness of your fabric.

If seam is puckered—both tensions are too tight.

If bottom thread is looped—tighten upper thread tension.

If top thread lays on top of fabric—loosen upper thread tension.

Then grasp a good bias seam and pull evenly and firmly until one or both threads break.

If both threads break—tensions are balanced.

If neither thread breaks—both tensions are too loose.

If upper thread breaks—loosen upper tension.

If lower thread breaks—tighten upper tension.

Bobbin tension may also be reset by this procedure. Start with a loose bobbin thread tension. Tighten the spring screw gradually until bobbin case and full bobbin can be gently lifted from your hand by the end of the thread.







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