



## TIPS AND THINGS TO REMEMBER

By Wayne Snyder, USAPR Instructor

### CHECKLIST WHEN YOU SIT DOWN AT THE MACHINE

1. Inspect top threading – follow with eyes and pointed finger.
2. Check needle point is good.
3. Check bobbin in bobbin case – check tension (2 hemostat rule) and bobbin case inserted correctly in hook.
4. Pin top thread against bed of machine and hand-wheel over to bring up bobbin thread.
5. Pull out the bobbin thread with fingers and see that it comes out smoothly and with proper tension.
6. Sew sample to get correct stitch length and set top tension.

### LITTLE THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Oscillating hook makes one cycle for each one top shaft (hand wheel) rotation or cycle.
- Rotary hook makes two rotations for each one top shaft (hand wheel) rotation or cycle.
- The sewing (thread, needles and materials) that we use are considered heavy by clothing standards.
- All lockstitch sewing machines make the same basic stitch and are timed very close to 3/32" rise and 1/16" to 1/8".
- Presser foot force: 10-20 lbs.
- Elastic Rule: When sewing elastic material, elastic goes against feed dogs. Reduce presser foot pressure (elastic want to squeegee out) and up needle size.
- Check machine by slowly hand wheeling it over.
- Use least tension possible for strongest seam and least shrinkage.

### FEED DOG HEIGHT

At maximum elevation of the feed dog, the bottom of the feed dog tooth notch is even with the top of the throat plate.

REMEMBER: Teeth must be below the throat plate on the return stroke. Loosen pinch bolt in throw arm. Adjust carefully so as not to hit the bottom of the throat plate. Pinch bolt usually left side of the machine nearest the operator.

### OILING MACHINES: MINERAL/PETROLEUM OIL

#### OLD:

- #1 STAINLESS OIL for self-oiling machines have sump you fill between high and low marks and oil pump provides oil throughout the machine (you hope)
- #2 STAINLESS OIL for hand oiling and gravity feed oilers.
  - a. Gravity fees – fill reservoir plus hand oil all parts not fed by reservoir.
  - b. Hand oiler – open all access panels. Had wheel machines. If it moves. Oil it (not the belt). Don't forget to tilt machine back and oil underside.

#### NEW:

Seems to be a #1-1/2 stainless oil but used as above.



## TIPS AND THINGS TO REMEMBER

By Wayne Snyder, USAPR Instructor

### GREAT LIGHT BULB

Replacement bulbs  
Uses 25% of energy  
Lasts for years  
When you bump fixture – bulb does not blow  
Not as hot as incandescent bulbs  
Does not heat up and burn out fixture and switch



### SCREWS AND SCREWDRIVERS

Sewing machines have the most odd-ball screws, don't force it, it may be the wrong screw.  
Have lots of screwdrivers with beautiful tips – use screwdrivers that just fit (max-out) the screw slots  
Don't over-tighten – you will be sorry!

### TOOLS

- Lots of common screw drivers with GOOD tips.
- Mini screw drivers.
- Diamond hone/ceramic abrasive stone.
- Hemostats.
- Magnet.
- 3/32 gauge and pencils
- Magnifier
- Flashlight
- Adjustable wrenches
- Metric and American allen wrenches
- Toothbrush
- Brass drift
- Sandpaper and sanding cord
- Q-tips
- Brake parts cleaner – NOTE: May ruin finish or plastic
- Dremel tool
  - 424 mandrel with 427 polisher
  - 402 mandrel with 409 and 420 cut- off disk, and 425 polisher



Tools