



Day Dreams Custom Sewing
& Handmade Gifts

Machine Basics

Before you begin to sew any project with your new machine, you need to know a few basics. I recommend reading the manual provided with the machine. Read about the care and upkeep, parts and what to do in case parts break or the machine does not produce proper stitches.



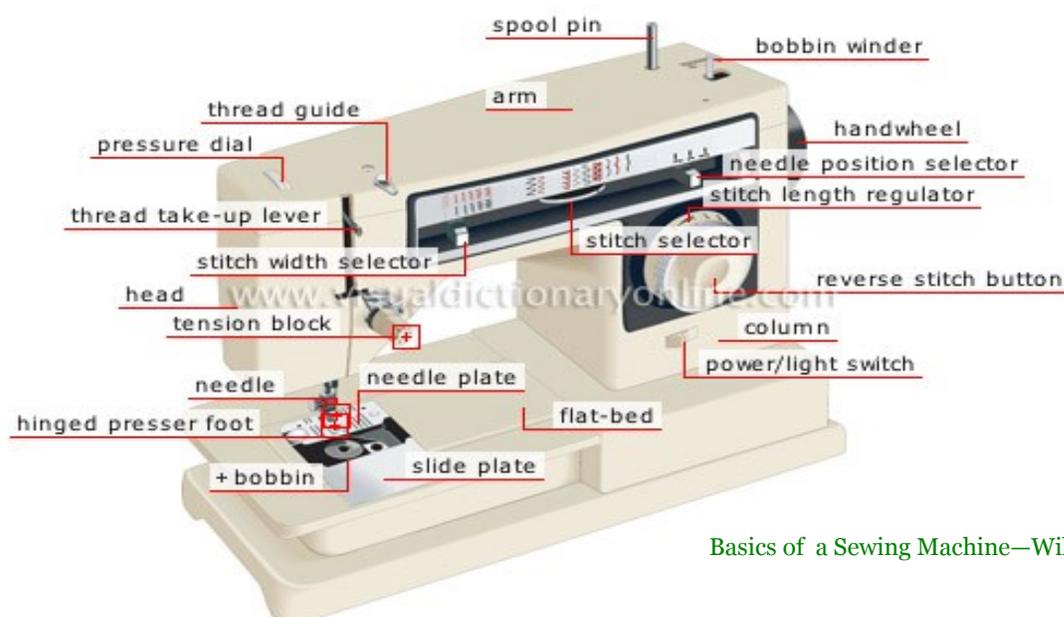
Well kept sewing machines rarely “wear out” or suffer from lack of care.

Beginner Basics in Sewing

- Tools
- Machine Basics
- Reading Patterns
- Fabric Selections
- Measurements & Shape
- Picking the Pattern

Help/Information, write to:

sher@daydreemz.net



Basics of a Sewing Machine—Wikipedia

Now that you have reviewed your manual, you will note your machine has the basic parts shown above. *Several items are of note on your machine:*

- **Tension Block/Adjuster**—Learn how to adjust your tension. This will make the difference between smooth stitches, loose or puckered stitches showing in your sewing.
- **Stitch Width Selector**—This goes hand in hand with your Tension. The two will work together to create the proper stitch for your fabric; however, this is determined by you. Do not rely on your machine, standard or computerized, to figure the stitch adjustment for you.
- **Needle Position Selector**— This and the presser foot you have selected to use will determine the outcome of the item to be sewn. Adjustments are made for inserting zippers and piping, buttons, button holes, etc.

Review your manual for adjustment procedures and to learn more about what each part does. Let's move to upkeep.

Keeping Your Machine Clean & Running

You may have noticed a bottle of oil with your machine tools and accessories. If yours did not have the oil, there is special machine oil prepared and sold in fabric shops. It is not advisable to try and use other oils such as food oil or car oil. A basic household oil such as 3:1 is a good replacement for machine oil.

To keep your machine clean and in good repair, follow this basic rule:

CLEAN & BRUSH AFTER EACH USE

Your bobbin case and housing, needle and plate will collect fabric dust in many areas. Make sure after you have completed a sewing project, to change the needle, brush



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Keeping Your Machine Clean & Running

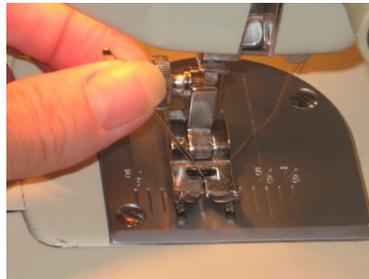
the bobbin casing, throat plate (under presser foot—see picture), presser foot shaft, and other areas you see fabric dust has collected. It is advisable to oil your machine regularly, paying close attention to the bobbin case housing, and needle shaft area.

Points:

- Use a small brush (it looks like a mini pastry brush) or soft head tooth brush.
- Use a small head screwdriver. I keep one handy with my tools.
- Tweezers are handy to pull threads that are jammed or stuck in bobbin, throat plate or feed dog.
- Cans of air are handy to help blow out lint and dust in hard to reach areas.
- Consult your manual always before oiling your machine until you have memorized what parts need oiled frequently.
- Keep your machine covered when not in use to prevent dust particles from building up.
- Wipe your machine down after oiling to prevent oil from marking fabric.
- **If you can't put it back together, don't take it apart!**



Wipe presser feet off—they collect fabric dust.



Change needles regularly, wipe needle shaft.

Remove throat plate, brush and oil parts indicated by your manual.



Remove and brush/oil bobbin casing regularly.



Assemble these helpful tools for regular upkeep:

Air, brushes, oil, mini screw driver, needles. *Not shown:* soft cloth for wiping