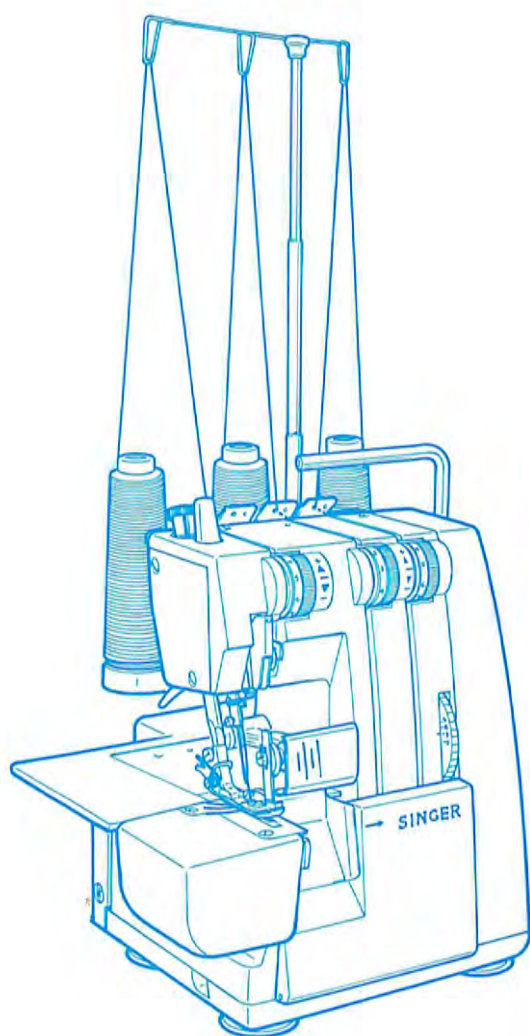


# 14U 52A

## Operator's Guide



# SINGER\*

# 14U 52A

## PREFACE

Thank you for your purchase of this sewing machine.

This machine will provide you with excellent performance in sewing from light to heavy material (lawn to denim). Please refer to this booklet for proper use and optimum service.

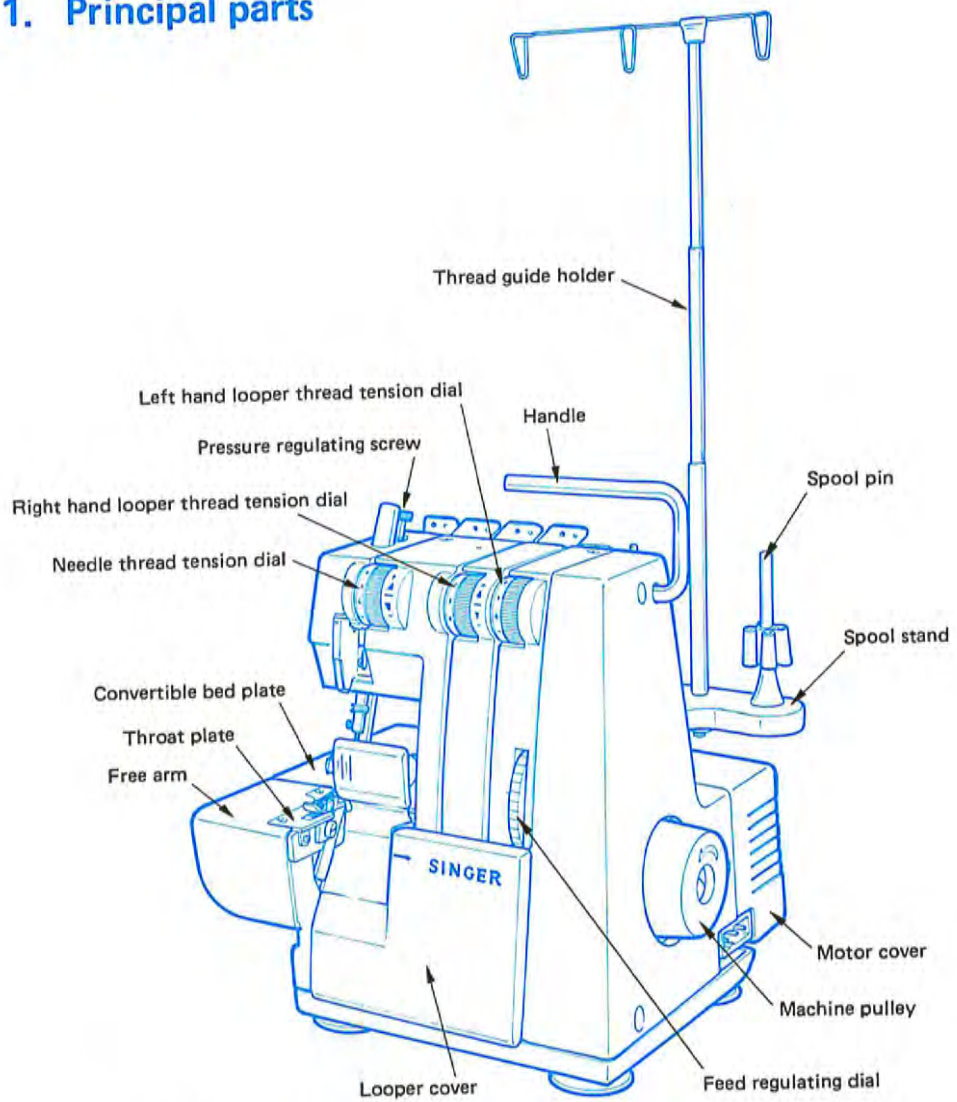
### Safety Cautions:

- Be sure that the electrical voltage of the socket outlet (wall receptacle) is the same as the rated voltage of the motor.
- Disconnect the power-line plug from the socket outlet when changing needles, presser feet or throat plates, or when leaving the machine unattended. This eliminates the possibility of starting the machine by accidentally pressing the speed controller.
- Do not pull the fabric while you are stitching as this may deflect the needle, causing it to break.
- Before cleaning your machine, disconnect the power-line plug from the socket outlet.
- Do not attempt to adjust the motor belt. Contact your nearest Service Center should any adjustment be required.
- Handle the foot controller with care and avoid dropping it on the floor. Be sure not to place anything on top of it.
- When sewing closely watch the area being sewn to avoid injuries from needles and knives.
- Use only the handle to lift and move the machine.

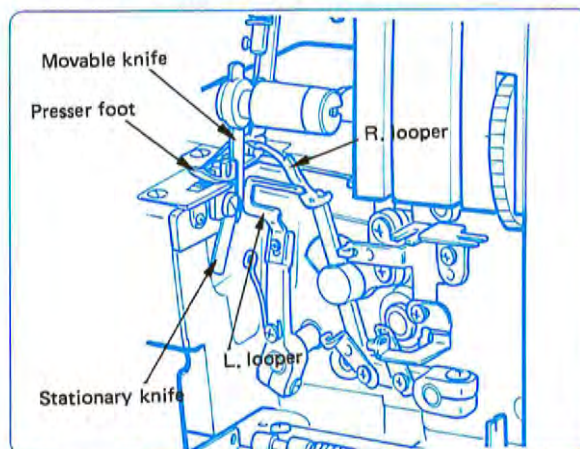
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## 1. Principal parts



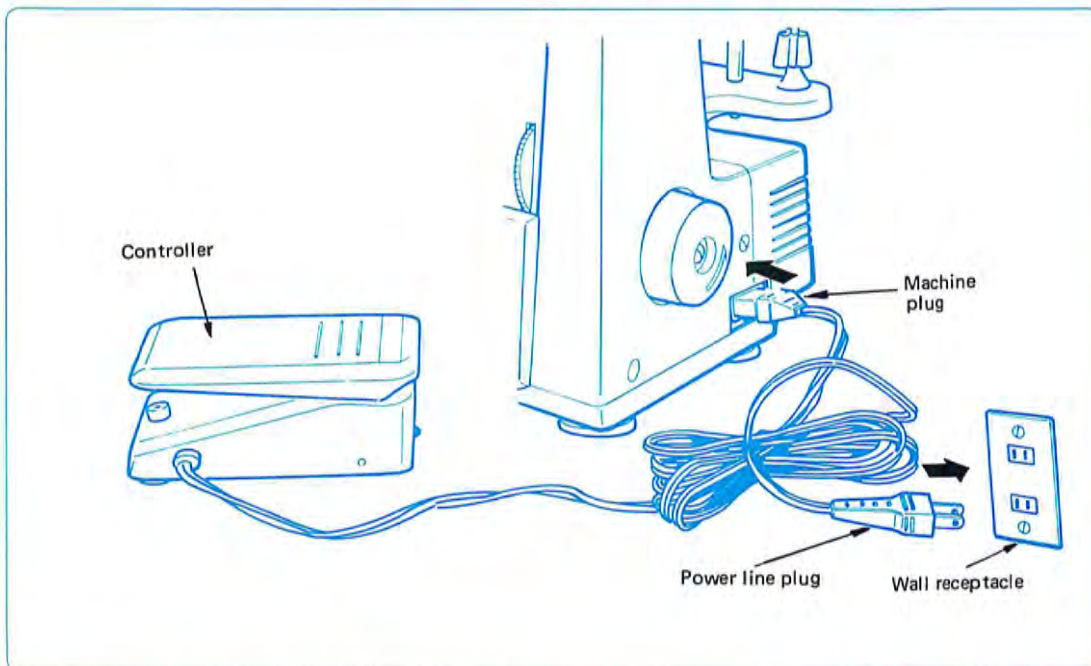
### • Machine with looper cover opened





## 2. Preparation prior to sewing

Connect the machine plug to the electrical receptacle of your machine and the power line plug to the wall receptacle.



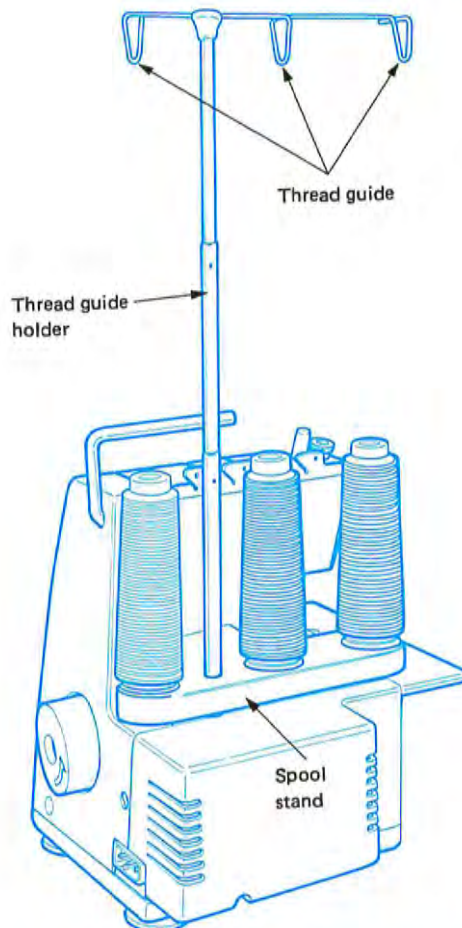
To run the machine and control the speed, press the speed controller. The harder you press, the faster the machine will sew. To stop the machine from sewing, remove your foot from the speed controller.

### Caution:

- Be sure that the electrical voltage of the socket outlet (wall receptacle) is the same as the rated voltage of the motor.
- Handle the foot controller with care and avoid dropping it on the floor. Be sure not to place anything on top of it.
- Disconnect the power-line plug from the socket outlet when changing needles, presser feet or throat plates, or when leaving the machine unattended. This eliminates the possibility of starting the machine by accidentally pressing the speed controller.
- Before cleaning your machine, disconnect the power-line plug from the socket outlet.

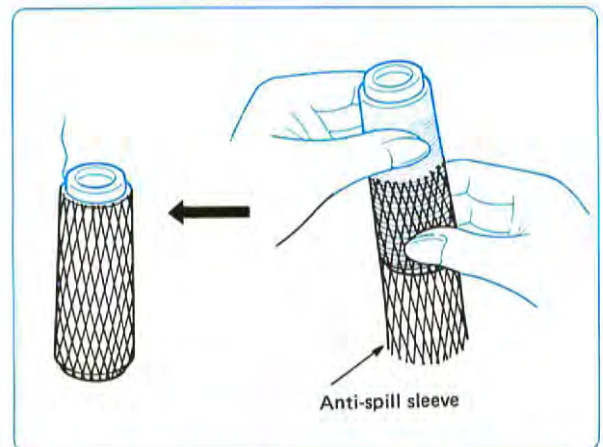
### 3. Threading the machine

- Setting up the thread guide holder

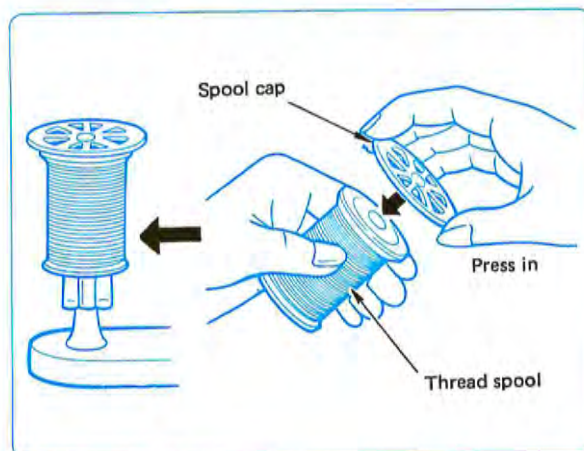


Extend the thread guide holder as far as possible and set the thread guides so that they are located right above the spool pins.

Place the thread on the spool stand as shown in the figure at the left.

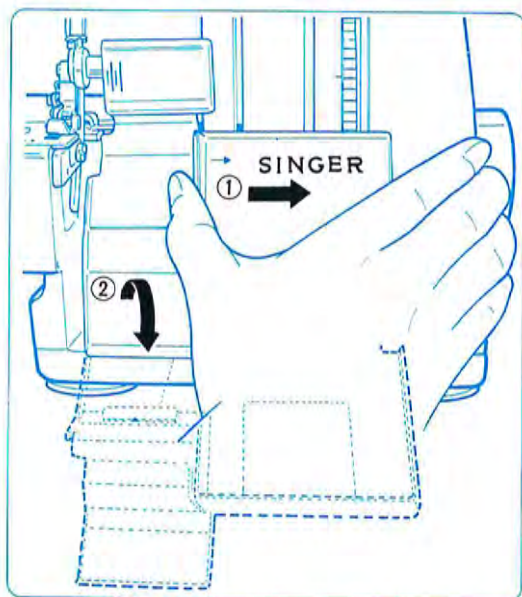


When using synthetic threads that easily spill off the cop (cone) slip the anti-spill sleeve furnished with the machine over the thread from the bottom of the cop (cone) leaving the thread end hanging free at the top of the anti-spill sleeve as shown above.



When using a reel type thread spool, fit the spool cap supplied with the machine onto the thread spool as shown at left.

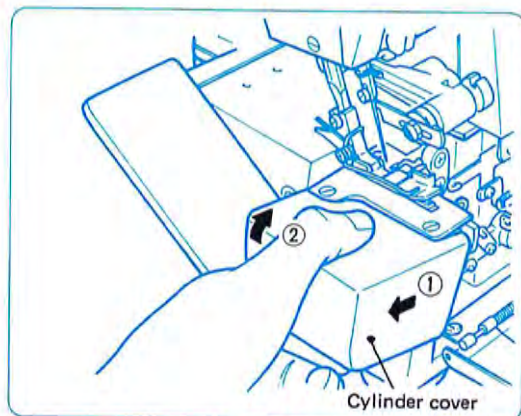
- How to open looper cover



- ① Push the cover to the right as far as it will go and
- ② Pull cover down toward you.

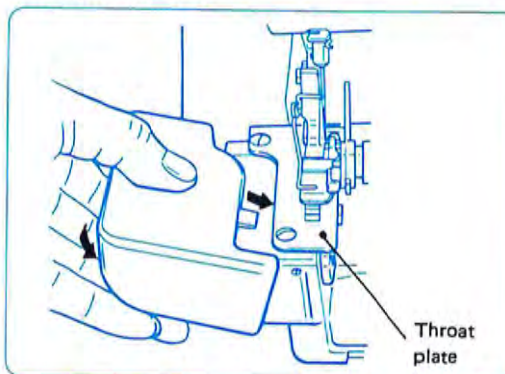
\* Be sure looper cover is closed when sewing.

- How to remove cylinder cover



- ① While pulling the cylinder cover to the left,
- ② Lift cover upward and off the machine.

To replace cover



Place the upper on the cover under the throat plate and press cover downward to the right.

\* Do not hold the cylinder cover when moving the machine.

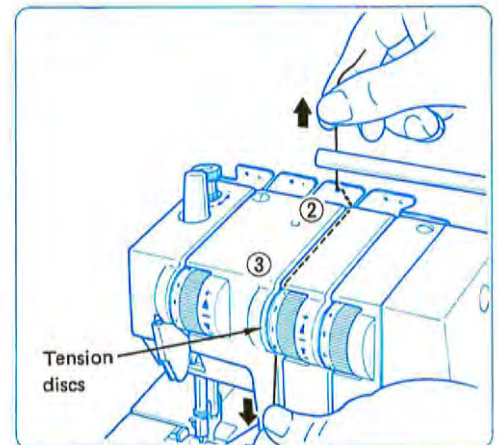
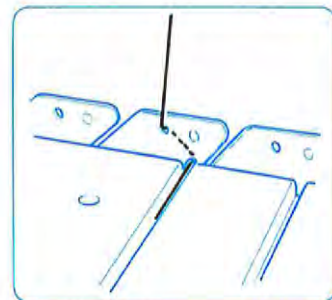
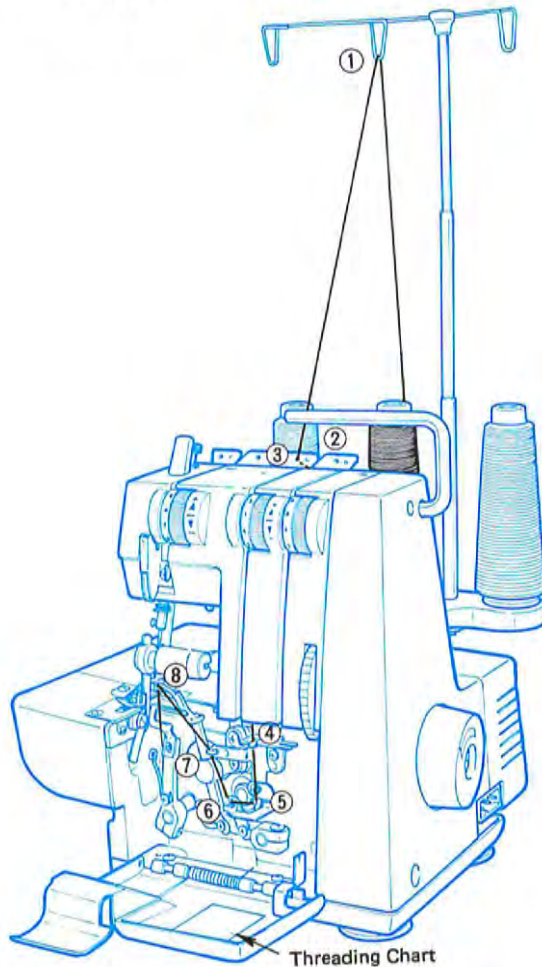


## • How to thread your machine correctly

Correct sewing cannot be obtained when machine is threaded incorrectly.

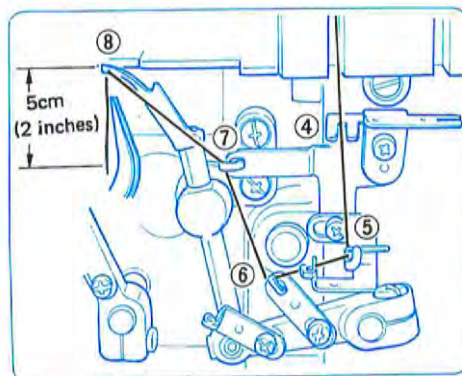
Threading is diagrammed on the inner side of the looper cover and identified with colors on the various thread guides.

- (1) Open looper cover. Thread the right looper in the order ① to ⑧ as indicated in the figure below. (threading points marked in orange)



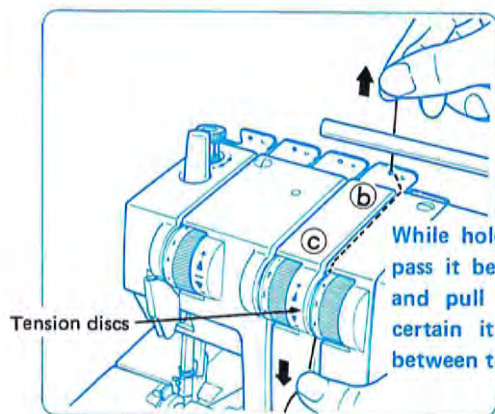
While holding thread with finger, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

- Use tweezers provided in the accessory set when threading looper thread hole ⑧
- Draw about 5cm (2 inches) of thread from the looper thread hole.

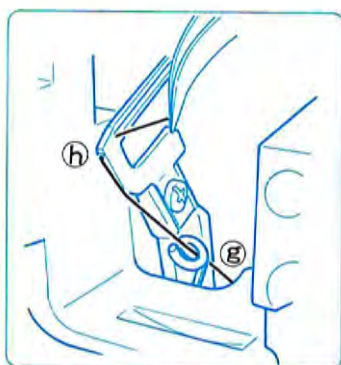
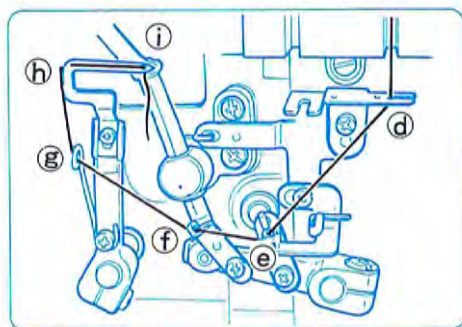




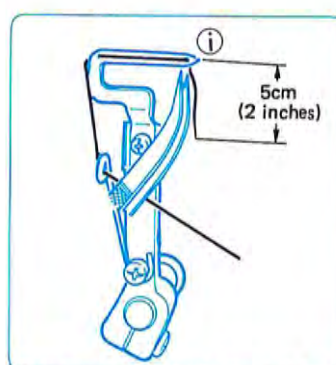
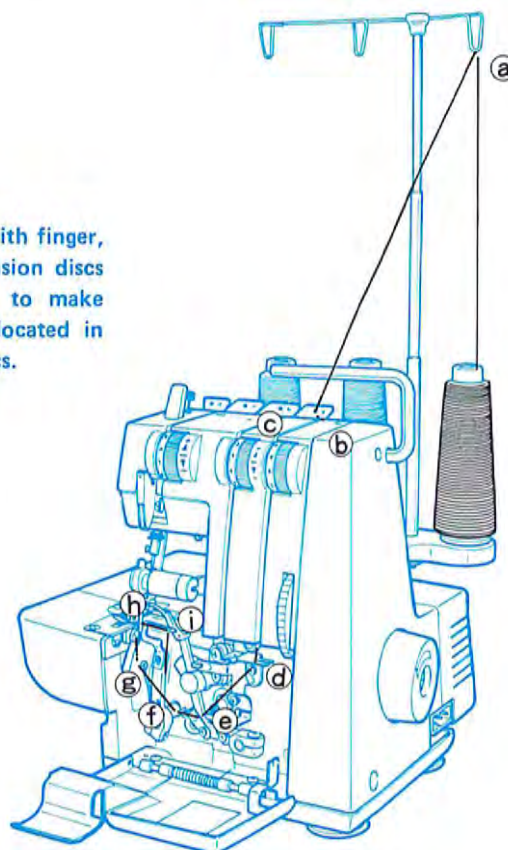
- (2) Thread left looper in sequence from ① to ⑩ (marked in yellow color). Cylinder cover must also be removed when threading this part. (Refer to page 5 for cylinder cover removal).



While holding thread with finger, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

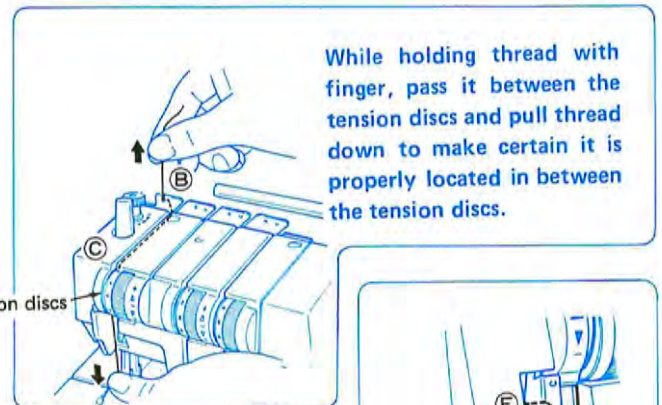
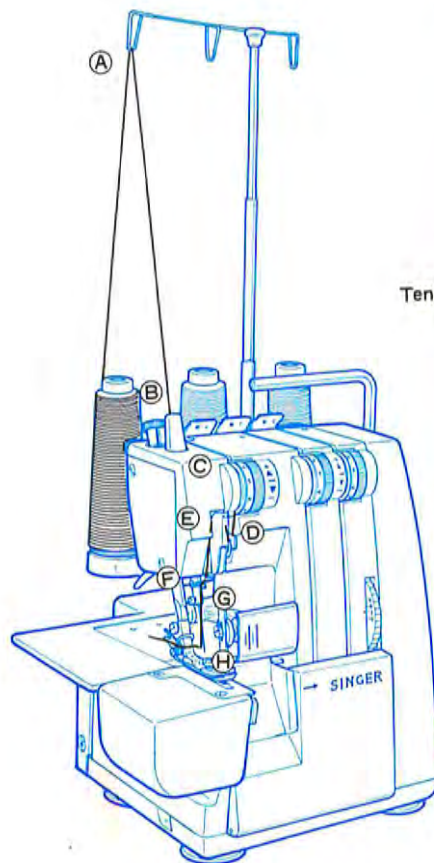


Turn machine pulley toward you until left looper is at left as far as it will go and thread looper thread hole ① from left to right. (Use tweezers provided in your accessory set).



Turn machine pulley toward you until the looper is at right as far as it will go passing the thread under the throat plate, then using a tweezer, thread the looper thread hole ⑩ from front to back. Draw about 5cm (2 inches) of thread from thread hole.

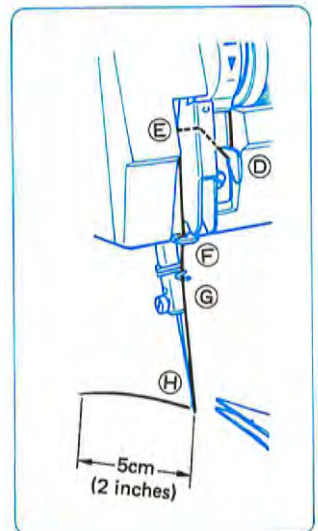
- (3) Thread the needle thread in the order (A) to (H) (blue mark).  
 Threading of needle eye (H) becomes easier when the movable knife is set at the nonoperating position  
 (See figure on page 16 for movable knife non-operating position).



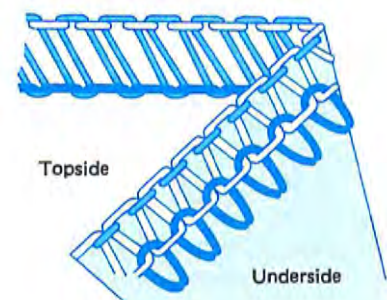
- Lower needle bar when threading (E) .

Use tweezers to thread eye (H) .

- Draw about 5cm (2 inches) of thread from needle eye.



- (4) When needle thread is not correctly threaded between the tension discs, it will lie loose on the underside of the material as shown in figure at right.



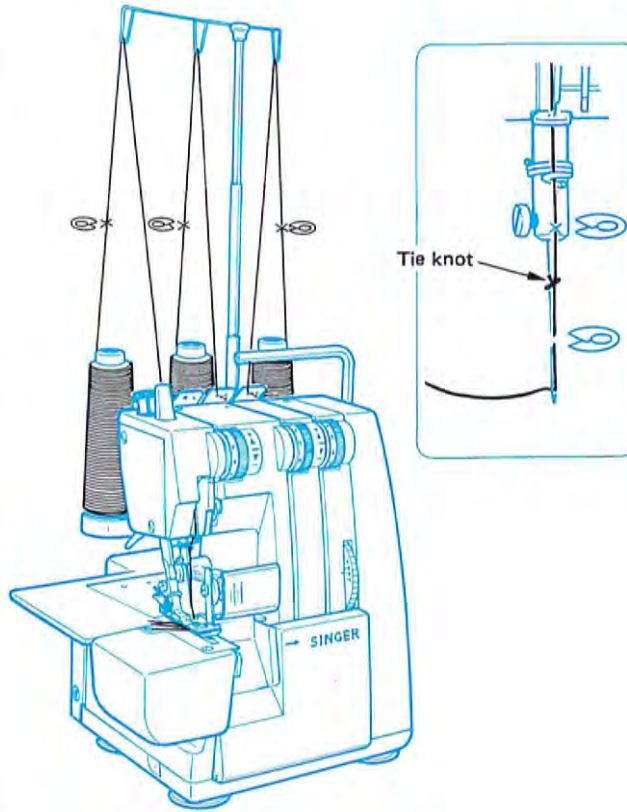


### • How to change thread

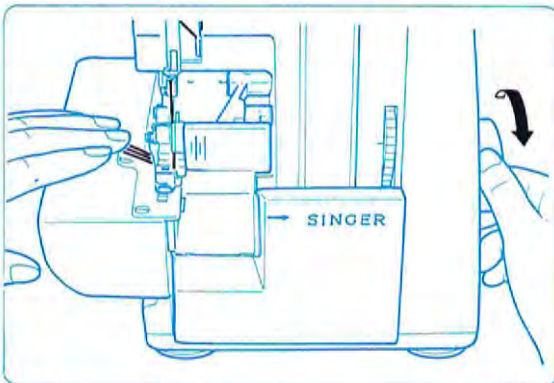
The thread is pre-set at the factory before shipment.

When you wish to change the needle thread, left looper thread or right looper thread with a different thread, the following steps will make the changing convenient.

- (1) Cut the thread near the spool and tie the end to the thread you wish to change to as shown in figure at right.
- (2) Raise presser foot.
- (3) Turn the tension dials down toward the minus (—) sign until the dial stops and draw the thread out so that the tie knot of the threads extend about 5cm (2 inches) from the presser foot. When drawing needle thread through the needle eye, stop the tie knot before the needle eye, cut the thread and pass it through the needle eye.

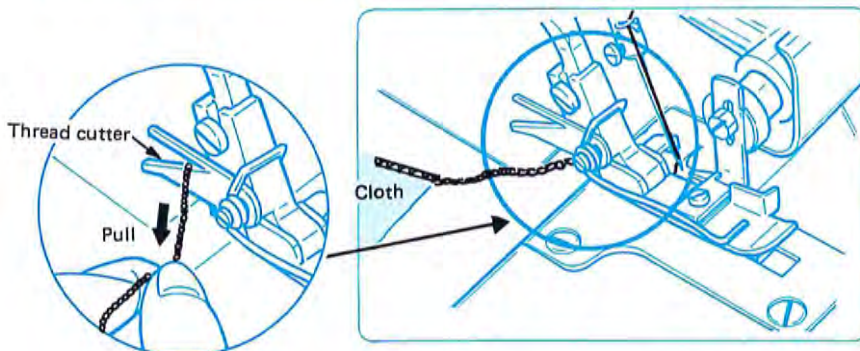


## 4. Chain off and test sew



When the machine is completely threaded, turn the machine pulley toward you 2 or 3 turns while holding the 3 threads applying a slight tension as shown in figure at left.

After chaining off, make a test stitch on a sample of your fabric so that you can adjust the thread tensions correctly.



After completing the seam, chain off approx. 5cm (2 inches) as shown in figure at left and cut thread with the thread cutter on the presser foot.

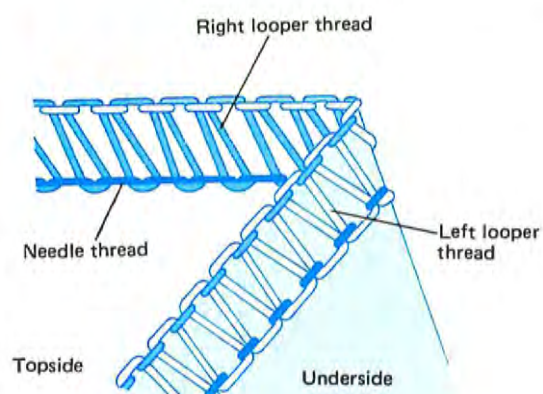


## 5. How to adjust thread tension

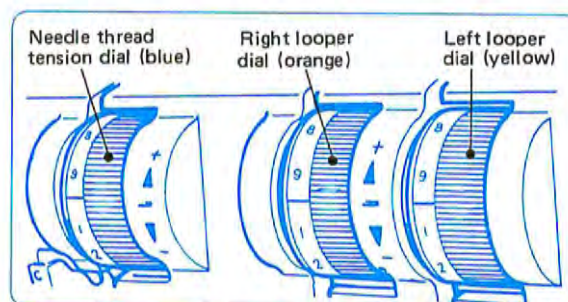
Adjust thread tension to suit the type of material and size of the thread used. The thread tension dial on this machine are a one-turn system and as the number on the thread tension dials increases, the thread tension become tighter.

### • Correct thread tension

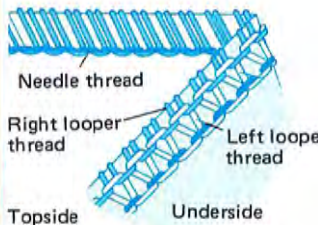
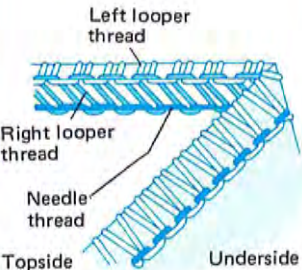
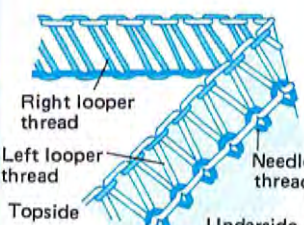
Be sure the threads are correctly threaded since otherwise proper thread tension cannot be obtained (See page 6).



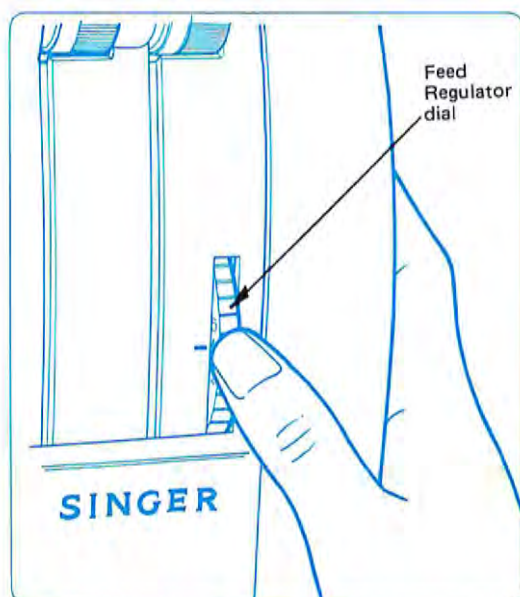
When each of the dials are set to the standard settings shown in the table, correct tension can be obtained. Slight adjustments may give better thread tensions.



Thread Tension Dial Setting	Needle thread									Right Looper Thread									Left Looper Thread								
Fabric	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Light Weight																											
Medium Weight																											
Heavy Weight																											

<p>When the right looper thread lie on the underside of fabric.</p>  <p>Turn right looper dial (orange color) toward the plus sign (+). Or, turn the left looper dial (yellow) toward the Minus sign (-).</p>	<p>When the left looper thread appears on the top.</p>  <p>Turn left looper dial (yellow) toward the plus sign (+). Or, turn the right looper dial (orange) toward the minus sign (-).</p>	<p>When the needle thread tension is too loose.</p>  <p>Turn the needle thread tension dial (blue) toward the plus sign (+). Or, turn both right and left looper dials (orange and yellow) toward the minus sign (-).</p>
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## 6. How to adjust stitch length



The feed regulator dial on this machine is pre-set to 3mm for normal sewing condition. Since the adjustment can be made easily, adjust the stitch length to 4mm when sewing heavy weight fabrics such as quilting and to 2mm when sewing light weight fabrics such as lining fabric, crepe, etc. and you will obtain excellent seams without puckerings.

## 7. How to rolled hemming

### 1. Fabric, needle and thread

**Fabric:** Light to medium weight (See page 20)

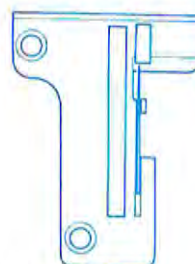
- Rolled hemming is done by rolling the fabric and overedging (seam width 1.5mm), and is not suited for heavy or stiff fabrics.

**Needle:** Singer Cat. No. 2053 #10, #11.

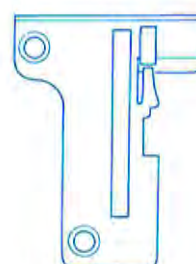
**Thread:** A variety of thread combinations can be used for rolled hemming.

### 2. How to exchange throat plate

A throat plate for rolled hem stitching has been furnished in the accessories for this machine. By exchanging the ordinary overedge throat plate on the machine with on rolled hemming throat plate by the following procedure, the machine can be used for rolled hem stitching.

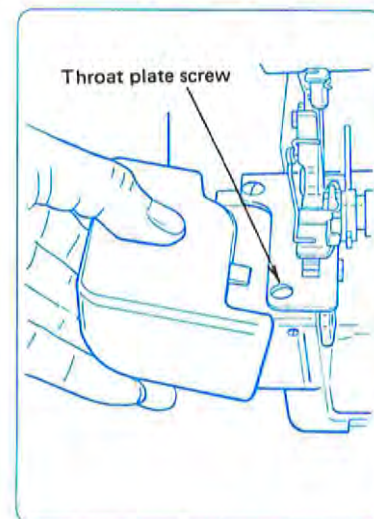


Rolled hemming  
throat plate



Ordinary overedge  
throat plate

1. First of all, always disconnect the power line plug from the receptacle.
2. Turn the hand wheel towards you until the needle is at its highest point.
3. Lift the Presser foot.
4. Remove the cylinder cover. (see page 5).
5. Unscrew the throat plate screw (1) and remove the throat plate.
6. Install the ordinary overedge throat plate and replace the screw (1).
7. Replace the cylinder cover (See page 5).



- Note:**
- When replacing the throat plate, be careful that the thread is not caught between the throat plate and machine.
  - When the overedge seam width has been widened for ordinary overedge stitching and returned again for rolled hemming, after exchanging the throat plate, move the stationary knife back until it contacts the rolled hemming throat plate.



### 3. How to adjust thread tension

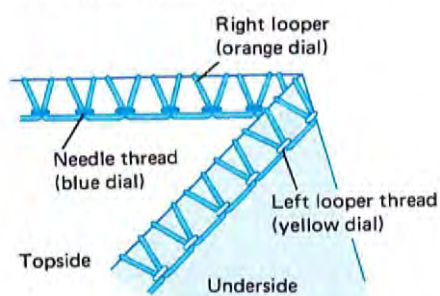
#### 1. Standard rolled hem stitching

Set each dial to the standard settings shown in the table for correct tension. For adjustments refer to page 10, Item 5. How To Adjust Thread Tension.

Thread Tension Dial Setting	Needle Thread									Right Looper Thread									Left Looper Thread								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Standard Rolled hem																											
Rolled hem Variation																											

#### 2. Right looper thread wrapped rolled hem stitching (rolled hem variation)

- Correct thread tension



For light and medium weight fabrics which are difficult to roll, a fine seam can be obtained by this stitching.

To correctly adjust the thread tension, first set the dials to the standard settings shown in the above chart and adjust to proper tension. Next set the dials as follows from the above standard thread tension dial settings.

- Turn the right looper thread tension dial (orange) towards the minus (–) sign half settings.
- Turn the left looper thread tension dial (yellow) towards plus (+) sign 2 – 3 settings.

When the right looper thread is too loose	When the left looper thread is too loose	When the needle thread is too loose
<p>Turn right looper thread tension dial (orange) towards the plus (+) sign.</p>	<p>Turn left looper thread tension dial (yellow) towards the plus (+) sign. Or, turn right looper thread tension dial (orange) towards the minus (–) sign.</p>	<p>Turn needle thread dial (blue) towards the plus (+) sign. Or, turn both right and left looper dials (orange and yellow) towards the minus (–) sign.</p>

#### 4. How to sew and cautions

##### 1. Stitch length adjustment (See page 11)

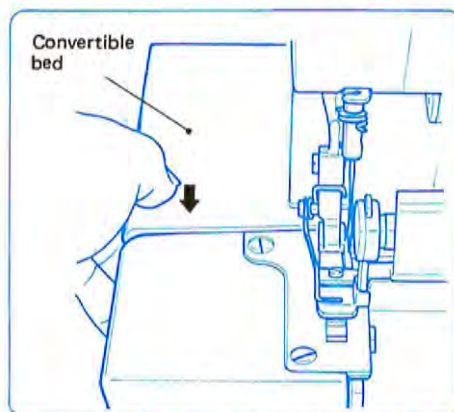
For rolled hemming, set the feed regulator dial to "2" or "F" and a fine seam can be obtained.

##### 2. Sewing

- See page 9, "4. Chain off and test sewing".
- For rolled hemming, if a slight tension is applied to the material in the sewing direction, a finer seam finish can be obtained.
- At the start of sewing, slightly pull the end of the chain off so it will not be entangled in the stitch.
- The overedge stitch width for rolled hemming is approximately 1.5mm and cannot be adjusted. In this case, note that the fabric cut width is 3.5 mm (adjusted at shipment).
- When using tetron and other threads that spill easily, slip the anti-spill net furnished with the machine over the thread from the bottom of the cone and place it on the spool stand so as the bottom of the net folds inside the cone.

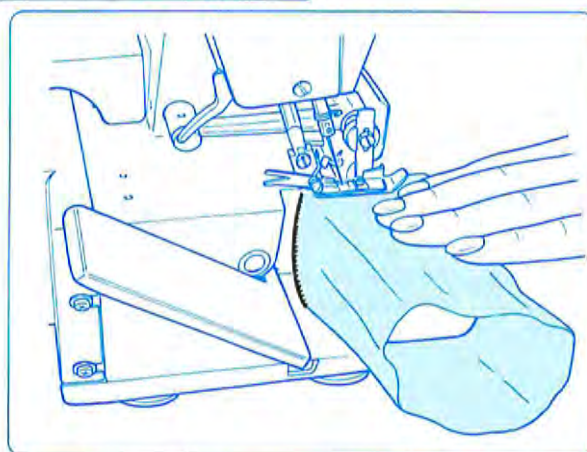


#### 8. Free arm sewing (Tubular work)



As shown in figure at left, this machine becomes a free arm machine simply by pushing the convertible bed plate down making tubular work such as sewing sleeves very easy.

This is especially convenient for finishing hard-to-reach areas such as arm holes and overcasting trouser cuffs.



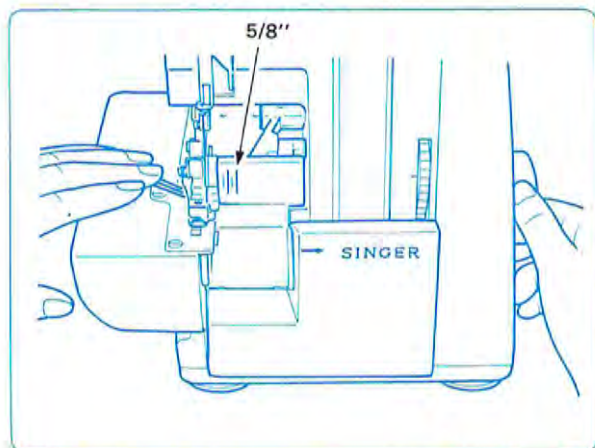
Slip tubular work onto the free arm and sew.



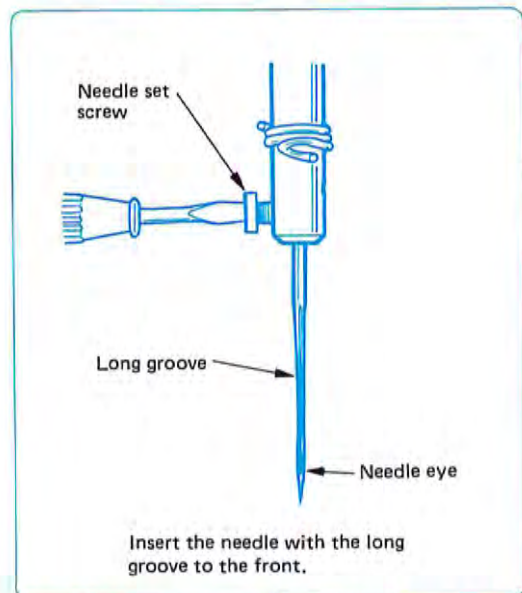
## 9. Margin lines

Use margin lines on looper cover.

Thick line on extreme right is 5/8 inch from center of needle.



## 10. How to replace needle



Use Singer needle Cat. No. 2053. Available in sizes #10, #11, #14, #16.

**Needles for household machines can not be used.**

### To remove the needle:

- Be sure the power line plug is disconnected from the wall receptacle.
- Turn the machine pulley toward you until the needle is at its highest position. Loosen the needle set screw with a screw driver and remove needle.

### To replace the needle:

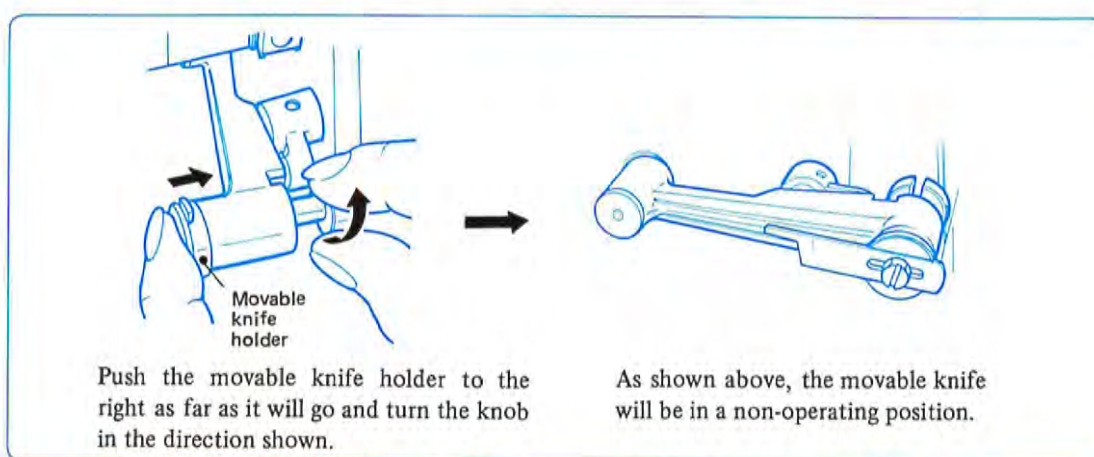
- Insert the needle into needle bar as far as it will go, with long groove toward you, as shown in figure at left.
- Hold needle firmly so that its direction can not change and securely tighten the needle set screw.



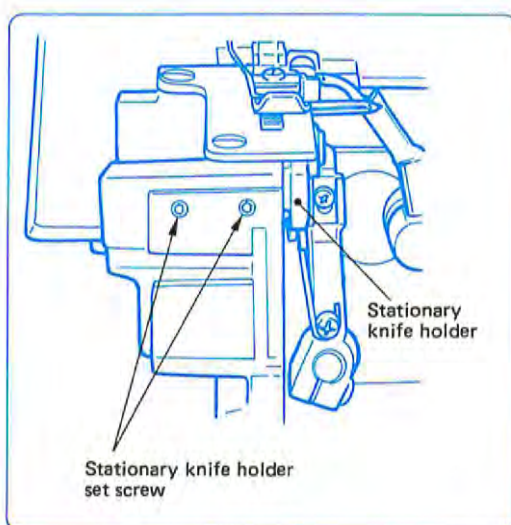
## 11. Adjustment of overedge seam width

The overedge seam width of this machine is set to 3.5mm (9/64 inches) for normal sewing condition, however it can be increased up to 5mm (13/64 inches) for overedging heavy weight fabrics as instructed below. If any problems arise in making the adjustment, call your Singer representative.

- (1) Before making the adjustment, be sure that the power line plug is disconnected from the wall receptacle.
- (2) Open the looper cover. (See page 5)
- (3) Turn the machine pulley toward you, lower the movable knife as far as it will go and set it in the nonoperating position as shown in figure below.



- (4) Press down convertible bed plate and remove the cylinder cover. (See page 5)



- (5) Loosen the 2 stationary knife holder set screws with the hex-head wrench provided in the accessories, move the stationary knife holder to the right or left and tighten the set screw.

(When a wider seam is desired, move the holder to the right and when a narrower seam is desired, move the holder to the left).

Be sure to align the cutting edge of the stationary knife level with the top surface of the throat plate.

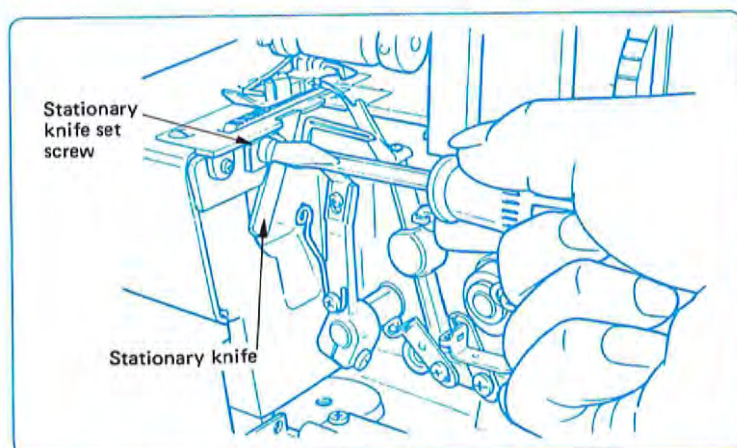
- (6) Replace the cylinder cover. (See page 5)
- (7) Return the movable knife to its original position.
- (8) Test Sew

## 12. How to replace knives

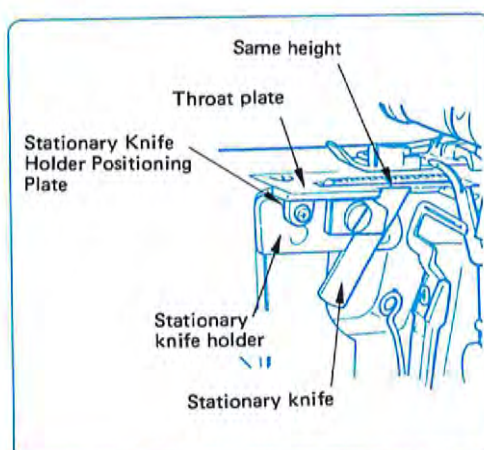
The stationary knife should be changed when it becomes dull.

The stationary knife can be replaced according to the following steps, however if there are any difficulties experienced, call your Singer representative to make the adjustment.

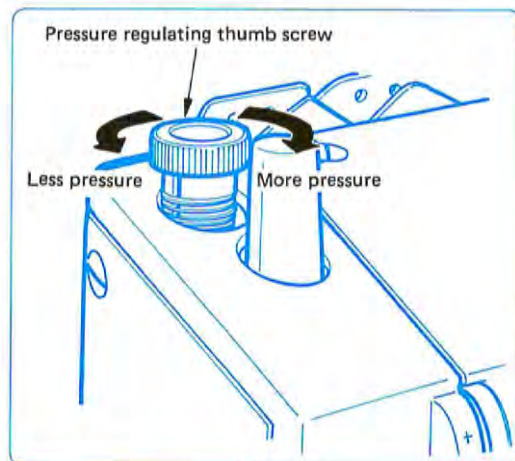
- (1) Be sure that the power line plug is disconnected from the wall receptacle.
- (2) Open the looper cover and set the movable knife in the non-operating position (see page 16).
- (3) Loosen the stationary knife set screw and remove the stationary knife.



- (4) Place a new stationary knife in the groove of the stationary knife holder, align the cutting edge level with the top surface of the throat plate and tighten set screw.
- (5) Return the movable knife to its original position.



### 13. Adjustment of presser foot pressure



The presser foot pressure of this machine is preadjusted at the factory to suit the sewing of medium weight fabrics.

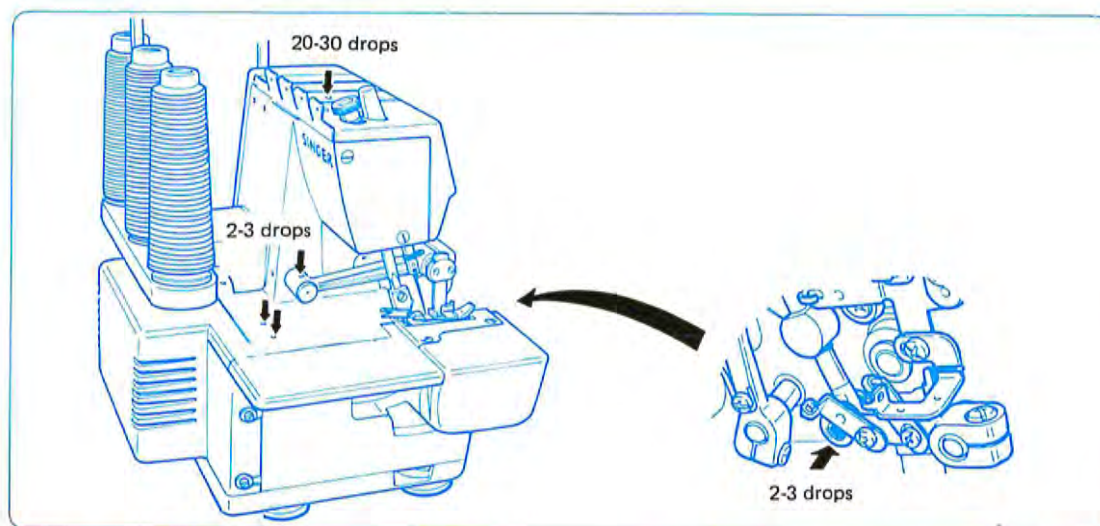
It may become necessary to adjust the pressure in the case of delicate or heavy weight fabric.

For light weight fabric – Decrease the pressure (as shown at left).

Heavy weight fabric – Increase the pressure (as shown at left).

### 14. Lubrication

Special material is used for the important parts of this machine, therefore only occasional lubrication is required. The oiling points shown on the figure below should be lubricated periodically.





## 15. Reasons for poor stitches and how to make adjustment

Whenever sewing difficulty is encountered, make the adjustments as noted below.

Condition	Reason	Method of Adjustments (reference pages)
When the fabric is not fed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient presser foot pressure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase presser foot pressure (page 18).</li> </ul>
When the needle breaks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needle not inserted properly.</li> <li>Fabric being pulled too hard.</li> <li>Loose needle set screw.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insert needle correctly or replace with correct needle (page 15).</li> <li>Do not pull the fabric by hand. Use hand only to guide the fabric.</li> <li>Tighten screw firmly.</li> </ul>
When the thread breaks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorrect threading.</li> <li>Bent needle or needle point damaged.</li> <li>Thread tension too tight.</li> <li>Thread tangled.</li> <li>Needle inserted incorrectly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thread machine correctly (page 6).</li> <li>Change to correct needle (page 15).</li> <li>Adjust tension (page 10).</li> <li>Thread correctly (page 6).</li> <li>Insert needle correctly (page 15).</li> </ul>
When stitches skip.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needle bent or needle point damaged.</li> <li>Needle set loosely.</li> <li>Incorrect threading.</li> <li>Wrong needle used.</li> <li>Insufficient presser foot pressure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace with correct needle (page 15).</li> <li>Set needle firmly in position (page 15).</li> <li>Thread machine correctly (page 6).</li> <li>Use Singer Cat. 2053 #10, #11, #14.</li> <li>Increase presser foot pressure (page 18).</li> </ul>
When stitches are irregular.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thread tension not balanced.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjust tensions (page 10).</li> </ul>
When fabric puckers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thread tension too tight.</li> <li>Threading incorrect or tangled.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjust tension (page 10).</li> <li>Thread correctly (page 6).</li> </ul>
When the machine does not operate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Power line plug not connected.</li> <li>Motor damaged.</li> <li>Controller damaged.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Connect with power source.</li> <li>Change carbon brush.*</li> <li>Have your Singer representative repair and service the controller.</li> </ul>
When motor is excessively noisy or when sparking is excessive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor damaged.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change carbon brush.*</li> </ul> <p>* Have your Singer representative replace the carbon brush.</p>

## 16. Relationship between cloth, thread and needle

Type of Fabric	Type of Thread	Needle Singer Cat. No. 2053
<b>Lightweight</b> Lawn, Organdy, Voil, Crepe, etc.	Cotton #100 Silk #100 Spun #80 – #90 Tetron #80 – #100	#10
<b>Medium Weight</b> Muslin, Soccer, Satin, Gabardine Broadcloth, etc.	Cotton #60 – #80 Silk #50 Spun #60 – #80 Tetron #60 – #80	#11, #14
<b>Heavy Weight</b> Oxford, Denim Tweed, Corduroy Serge	Cotton #40 – #60 Silk #40 – #60 Spun #60 – #80 Tetron #50 – #80	#14
<b>Knit</b>  Tricot  Jersey  Wool (woven, knit)	Spun #80 – #90 Tetron #60 – #80	#10, #11
	Spun #60 – #80 Tetron #60 – #80 Cotton #60 – #80	#11, #14
	Spun #60 – #80 Tetron #50 – #60 Wooley nylon Wooley tetron	#11, #14

## 17. Accessories

(Accessory Box)

1. Needle set	1
2. Screwdriver (medium size)	1
3. Hex-head wrench	1
4. Tweezers	1
5. Thread unwinder spool cap	3
6. Brush	1
7. Oiler	1
8. Anti-spill net	3
9. Rolled hemming throat plate	1

## 18. Specification of the 14U 52A machine

Item	Specification
Sewing speed	1,500 spm maximum
Stitch length (feed amount)	1 ~ 5 mm (Standard: Rolled hemming F ~ 2, ordinary overedge 3)
Overedge stitch width	Rolled hemming 1.5mm, ordinary overedge 3.5 ~ 5mm (standard 3.5mm)
Needle bar stroke	25mm
Presser foot rise	5mm
Needle	Rolled hemming Singer Cat. No. 2053 #10, #11, Ordinary overedge #10, #11, #14
Number of threads	3
Machine dimensions	width 257mm X depth 231mm X height 290mm
Weight	8.5 kg



