



Photos courtesy of Wayne Sponholtz





Photos courtesy of Wayne Sponholtz



INSTRUCTIONS
FOR USING THE

GENERAL  ELECTRIC

*Portable
Sewing
Machine*

INSTRUCTIONS
FOR USING THE

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Sewing
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Instructions For Using the General Electric Portable Family Sewing Machine



VALUABLE SUGGESTIONS

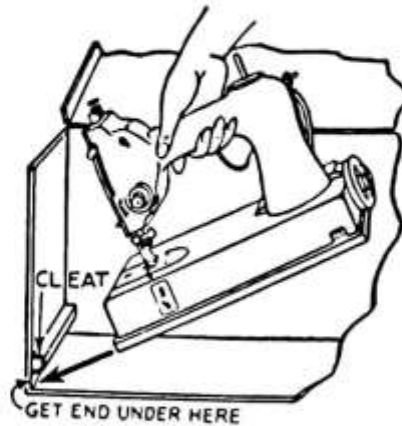
YOU now possess the most modern Electric Sewing Machine ever designed for home use. In order that you may obtain the utmost enjoyment and service from your machine, this booklet of suggestions and instructions has been carefully prepared for your use.

This booklet tells in plain, easily understood language how you may get the best results from your General Electric Machine. Study it carefully and you will find fascinating pleasure in learning all about the marvelous things your machine will do and how easy it is to use and take care of.

INTERNATIONAL
GENERAL  ELECTRIC
SCHENECTADY NEW YORK, U. S. A. **COMPANY** 570 LEXINGTON AVE.
INCORPORATED NEW YORK, U. S. A.

THE SEWING MACHINE

HOW TO REMOVE THE MACHINE AND REPLACE IT IN THE CARRYING CASE



FIRST remove the tray which contains the attachments, etc., tip the right end of the machine upward as shown in the above cut, and it will then lift out easily. To replace the machine in the case, tip the left end downward as shown, so that the end of the baseboard will fit into the recess under the cleat across the bottom of the Case, as indicated by the arrow.

When packing the Machine for traveling, be sure to place the piece of corrugated paper around the spool pin and between the spool plate and the underside of the tray, so that the machine will be held down securely by the latter when the lid of the Case is closed.

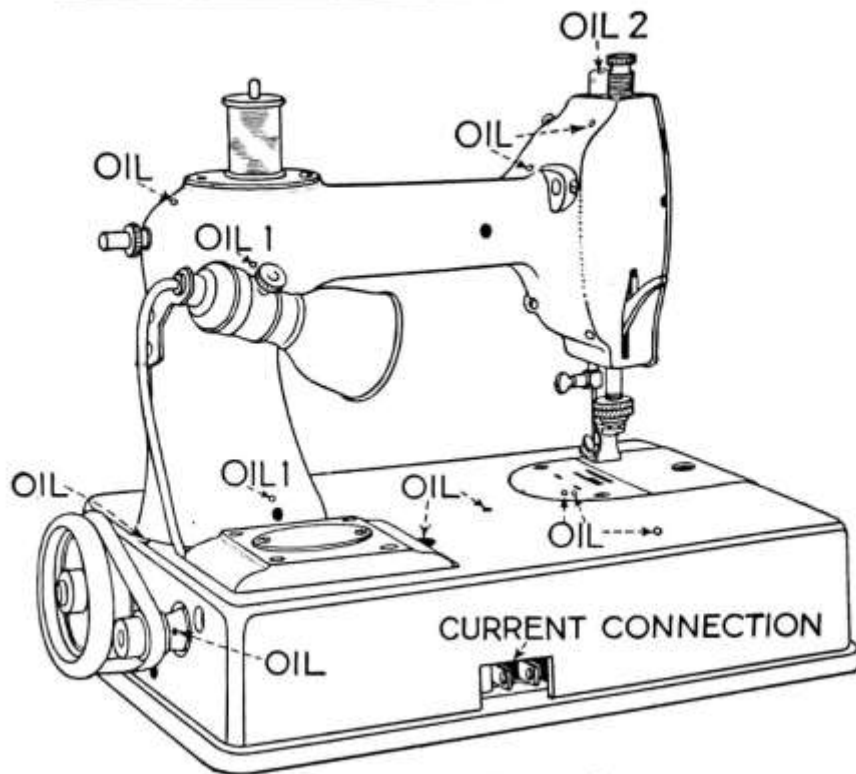
Always keep the rheostat, when not in use, in the cloth bag prepared for it and place it on the bed of the machine under the arm, when putting the machine back into the Case, to avoid scratching the enamel.

TO CONNECT THE MACHINE WITH ELECTRIC CURRENT

TWO pieces of connection cord are packed with each machine. One of these cords has attached to it the foot control, or rheostat. Place the rheostat on the floor and plug the other end of the cord into the opening marked "Q" (Fig. 1.), page 6. The other current supply cord has a flat plug on one end and a round plug on the other. Insert the flat plug into the opening in the bed of the machine marked "current connection," (Fig. 2), page 4. The other end of this wire has the round combination plug which can be screwed into any electric light socket or may be inserted into a floor or baseboard electric current outlet by pulling the screw part of the plug off, and inserting the two prongs of the plug into the outlet.

When you have finished sewing, always disconnect the supply cord from the house electric outlet and also from the machine.

THE SEWING MACHINE



Rear View. Figure 2

OILING INSTRUCTIONS

CAUTION! Use only the best light sewing machine oil, which can be purchased at all General Electric Stores.

Oil moving parts frequently, as shown by oiling places indicated plainly on Fig. 2. All oiling places are easy to get at without removing the base of the machine.

In oiling through holes marked "Oil 1," Fig. 2, push the spout of the oil can all the way in against the shaft. *This is important.*

To oil the needle bar connection and the lower needle bar bearing, it will be necessary to remove the bottom screw "J" on the face plate "R" (Fig. 1) and loosen the top screw, also "J", so that the face

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plate can be swung out of the way as shown in Fig. 3, to permit oiling these parts. The upper needle bar bearing is oiled through the hole marked "Oil 2," Fig. 2.

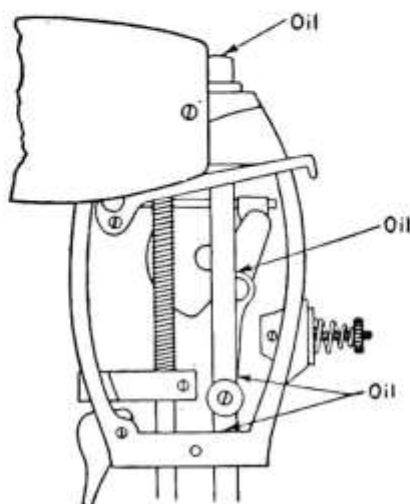


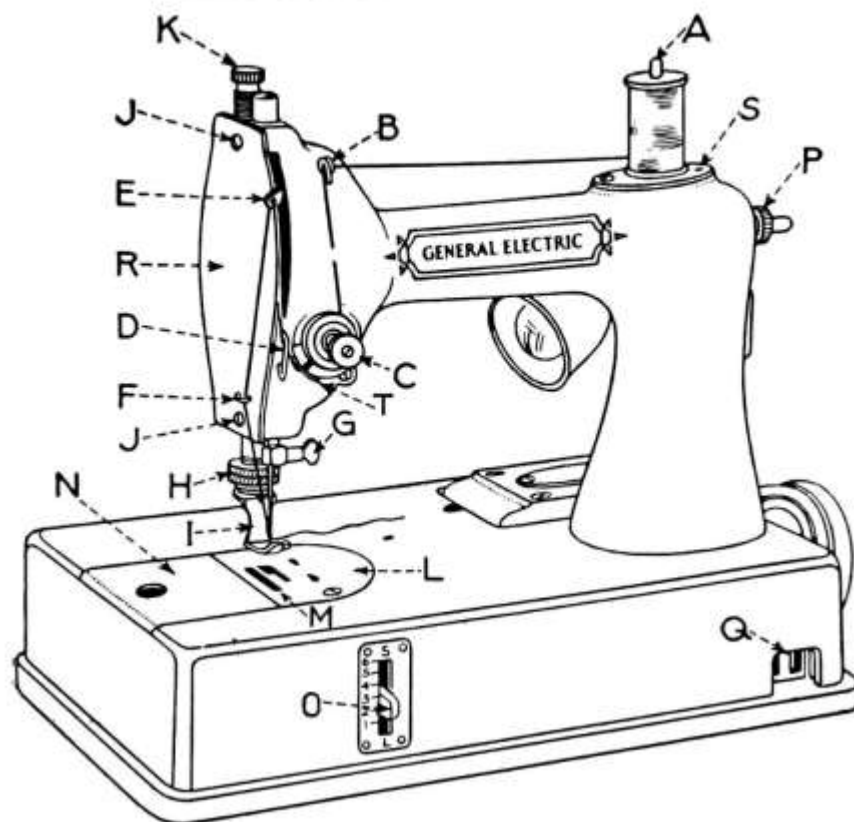
Fig. 3

Use only a *few drops* of oil on each of these parts as, if too much oil is used, the surplus will be likely to drip on to and stain the fabric being stitched.

To oil the hook, take the bobbin case out and *put a drop or two of oil on the bobbin case bearing surface of the hook*. This should be done each time you start to use the machine, and if the machine is run steadily all day, should be done two or three times during that time. After this oiling, sew a minute or two on a piece of waste goods to absorb any surplus oil that may be on the hook.

Do not oil the gears. These are lubricated with a special grease at the factory and should not need attention for at least a year, and when they do, ordinary vaseline may be used.

THE SEWING MACHINE



Front View. Figure 1

- A Spoon Pin
- B Thread Guide
- C Tension
- D Thread Guide
- E Take-up
- F Thread Guide
- G Needle Clamp Screw
- H Presser Foot Nut
- I Presser Foot
- J Face Plate Screws
- K Presser Bar Cap Screw
- L Needle Plate
- M Feed
- N Slide Plate
- O Stitch Regulator
- P Bobbin Winder
- Q Motor Connection
- R Face Plate
- S Top Arm Cover
- T Spring Takeup

METHOD OF THREADING THE SPOOL THREAD

THE correct method of threading is very simple, as shown by front view (Fig. 1). Place the spool on the spool pin "A," loop the thread into the guide "B," then down to the right of and between the tension discs "C," then into the loop of the spring take-up "T," then the guide "D" and up and through the take-up "E," then down through the thread guide "F" and thread through the eye of the needle from left to right.

TO REMOVE THE BOBBIN CASE

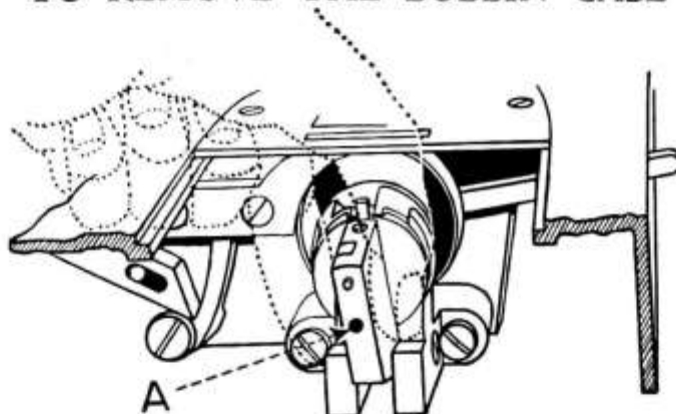


Figure 4

TURN the machine by hand until the take-up "E" (Fig. 1) is at its highest point. Raise the presser foot, remove any fabric you may have in the machine and cut the threads loose from the same. Pull the slide plate "N" (Fig. 1) to the left. This will provide sufficient opening in which to insert the thumb and forefinger of the left hand. Press the retaining latch "A" (Fig. 4) with the finger until the bobbin case retainer "B" (Fig. 5) falls back and lift the bobbin case out, as shown in that figure.

TO REMOVE THE BOBBIN FROM THE CASE

THROUGH the two large semi-circular openings "C" (Fig. 5) in the front of the bobbin case, press out the bobbin until you can grasp the rim with the thumb and finger and pull it out.

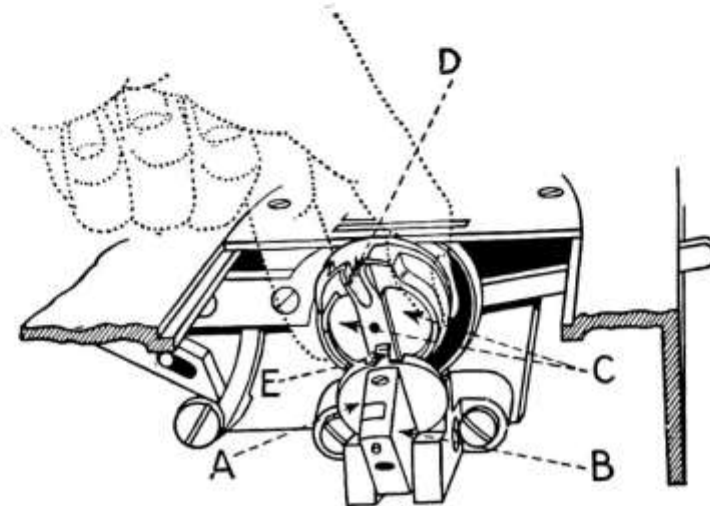


Figure 5

TO WIND THE BOBBIN (SEE FIG. 6)

RAISE the presser foot "I" (Fig. 1) and see that the bobbin case is out of the machine, then place the bobbin on the winder "P" (Fig. 1) as shown in Fig. 6. Now draw some thread from the spool and wind the end around the bobbin three or four times by hand toward you, then hold the thread with the forefinger and keep a gentle pressure on it with the thumb, as shown in Fig. 6. Now start the machine with the foot as in sewing and run at a moderate speed until the bobbin is wound, not quite full. Never wind the bobbin full, as the thread is

THE SEWING MACHINE

liable to slip off the rim and break in sewing.



Figure 6

TO INSERT THE BOBBIN IN THE CASE

PLACE the hole in the bobbin over the stem of the bobbin case and press it down into the case until the rim is below the edge of the case and the bobbin turns freely.

CAUTION! Always put the bobbin in the bobbin case so the thread will unwind in the direction of the arrow (Fig. 7).

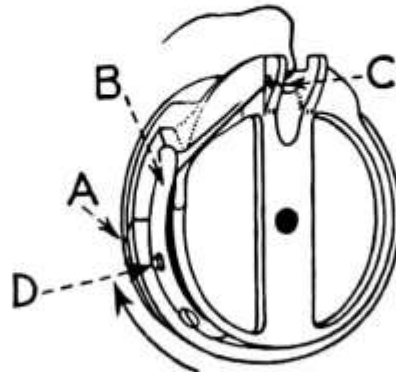


Figure 7

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TO THREAD THE BOBBIN CASE (SEE FIG. 7)

WITH the bobbin inserted in the case so that the thread will unwind in the direction of the arrow as instructed, draw the thread through the slit "A," then under the tension spring "B" and thread through the hole "C." Now test the strength of the tension as per instructions for regulating the bobbin case tension. See page 11.

TO REPLACE THE BOBBIN CASE IN THE MACHINE

BE SURE to have the take-up and needle bar at their high position, then lay the bobbin case against the plate "A" (Fig. 5) with its forked part "D" (Fig. 5) over the holding tongue "E" of the plate "A," and close the latch "B" until it is firmly locked in place. If the latch will not lock securely you may be sure the bobbin case is not in its proper position.

CAUTION! The machine should never be started or run with the bobbin case in place until the latch is closed and securely locked.

TENSIONS

Perfect stitching depends largely upon the thread being drawn evenly into the fabric so it will look alike on both sides as shown in Fig. 8. To secure the proper tension do the following:



Figure 8

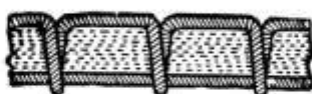


Figure 9



Figure 10

FIRST—Regulate the Bobbin Tension.

Take hold of thread (Fig. 7) and pull out about six inches. Hold case suspended by thread. If case slips down, adjustment is too loose. Use small screw driver and adjust screw "A" (Fig. 7) slightly until the case will sustain itself when held still, but when jiggled a little, will gradually slide down the thread. This is the proper bobbin case tension adjustment, and it is rarely necessary to change it after it has been properly adjusted.

SECOND—Regulate Top Tension.

Sew on a piece of cloth and examine stitch. If the thread is straight along under side of fabric as in Fig. 9 then tighten the top tension "C" (Fig. 1) until stitch is the same on both sides of the fabric.

If the thread is straight along the top of fabric (Fig. 10), then loosen top tension slightly until stitch is the same on both sides of fabric.

ADJUSTING THE TOP OR SPOOL TENSION

TURN the regulating nut "C" (Fig. 1) to the right to tighten, and to the left to loosen, adjusting it back and forth as required, until the stitches show alike on both sides of the fabric, as illustrated in Fig. 8.

PRESSER FOOT

THE adjustment of the pressure of this part of the fabric is controlled by the presser bar cap screw "K" (Fig. 1). Turning this screw in will increase, and turning it out, or to the left, will decrease the pressure. Your machine will come to you with this part properly adjusted for ordinary sewing and it will seldom be found necessary to make a change. If this part is taken out for darning, replace it with about one-quarter inch of threads showing.

STITCH REGULATION

THE length of the stitch is regulated by the stitch regulator "O" (Fig. 1). Move it up to shorten, and down to lengthen the stitch.

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TO SET THE NEEDLE

TO INSERT and adjust the needle; first, be sure the needle is *straight* and has a *sharp point*. Turn the machine by hand until the needle bar is at its highest point. Hold the needle in the left hand with the flat side toward the right and loosen the needle clamp screw "G" (Fig. 1). Insert needle as far as possible. Now, tighten the clamp screw "G" down solid on the needle and test its security by trying to pull the needle out of the bar, which you should not be able to do.

CAUTION! It is very important that the needle be pushed up as far as it will go into the bar and that it be securely held with the clamp screw against the danger of coming out and breaking and injuring the sewing mechanism, in operation.

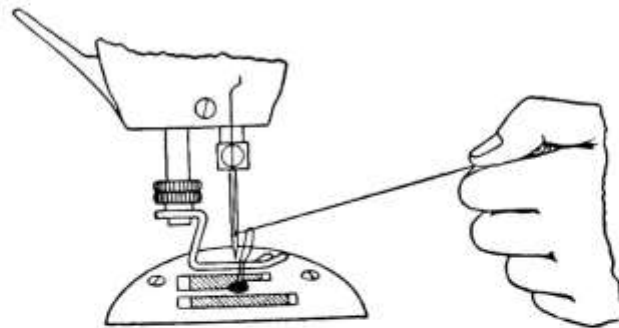


Fig. 11

TO PREPARE FOR SEWING

BEING sure that machine is threaded according to instructions, hold the end of the needle thread with the left hand, leaving it slack from the hand to

THE SEWING MACHINE

the needle. Turn the hand wheel top from you until the needle moves down and up again to its highest point. Then pull the needle thread taut and the bobbin thread will be drawn up through the needle hole in the plate as shown in Fig. 11. Lay both threads back under the presser foot and close the slide plate "N" (Fig. 1). Place the fabric under the presser foot, lower the same and you are ready to sew.

OPERATION

START the machine by pressing the foot on the rheostat. Should the machine fail to start because of heavy material or thick seams, give the hand wheel a slight turn away from you.

SPEED

THE speed of the machine is very easily controlled by the pressure of the foot on the rheostat. More pressure giving greater speed, less pressure giving less speed.

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NEEDLES AND THREADS

Use Type 15x1 Needles

IN SELECTING the thread and needle for the fabric to be sewed, refer to the following Table:

<i>Material</i>	<i>Thread</i>	<i>Needle</i>
Crepe, Georgette and Light Silk	90-100 Cotton O Silk	# 14
Muslin, Cotton Goods, Medium Weight Silk and Linen	80-100 Cotton A Silk	# 16
Heavy Cotton, Linen, Light Woolen, Heavy Silk	60-80 Cotton A-B Silk	# 17
Heavy Woolens, Clothing, Coats, etc.	40-60 Cotton B-C Silk	# 19

Best results are obtained with the best soft finished cotton and a good grade of sewing silk.

CAUTION! Be sure the needle to be used is straight and has a sharp point.

HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS

IF THE top thread breaks, examine the needle to make sure it is not bent and that it has a perfect sharp point; also be sure it is set up as far as it will go into the needle bar and securely tightened with the needle clamp screw "G" (Fig. 1). Or the machine may not be properly threaded: See threading instructions Fig. 1. Or your tension may be too tight or the thread too large for the size of the needle: See table for needle and thread sizes on page 15.

If the machine slips stitches it is most likely caused by a bent or imperfect point needle or because the needle is not set fully up in the needle bar.

Needle breakage is usually caused by the presser foot or attachment not being securely fastened with the presser foot nut "H" (Fig. 1), or because point of the needle is damaged or by pulling the work while sewing.

If the machine runs heavy use a few drops of kerosene in the various oil holes and after running it a few minutes oil with good light sewing machine oil.

ATTACHMENTS

The attachments are the best obtainable and if used carefully and according to directions, satisfactory work will result.

Directions For Use of Attachments

HEMMING

RAISE the presser foot and needle bar; attach the hemmer in place of the presser foot (see cut). Insert the edge of the cloth in the hemmer, folded as shown; draw the cloth far enough through the hemmer so the needle will enter its extreme edge. Let the hemmer foot down and proceed to sew, guiding the work and keeping the scroll of the hemmer just full.

Any width of hem can be made with the hemmer and feller, by folding the goods the desired width of hem and passing the edge through as in narrow hemming.



Hemming and Felling

FELLING

THE hemmer is also the feller. Stitch two pieces together, their edges to the right, and the lower edge projecting about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch beyond the upper, then open the work out flat edges up; draw the edges at the beginning of the seam into the hemmer, and proceed to sew, as in cut on page 17. French seams suitable for curve or body seams can also be made with the feller by inserting two pieces with edges even.

The hemmer and feller which accompanies this machine is made with a slot for the needle to pass through instead of a round hole. This slot is to enable the operator to make a hem and sew on lace at the same time. Start a narrow hem and pass the end of the lace through the slot



Hemming and Sewing On Lace, One Operation

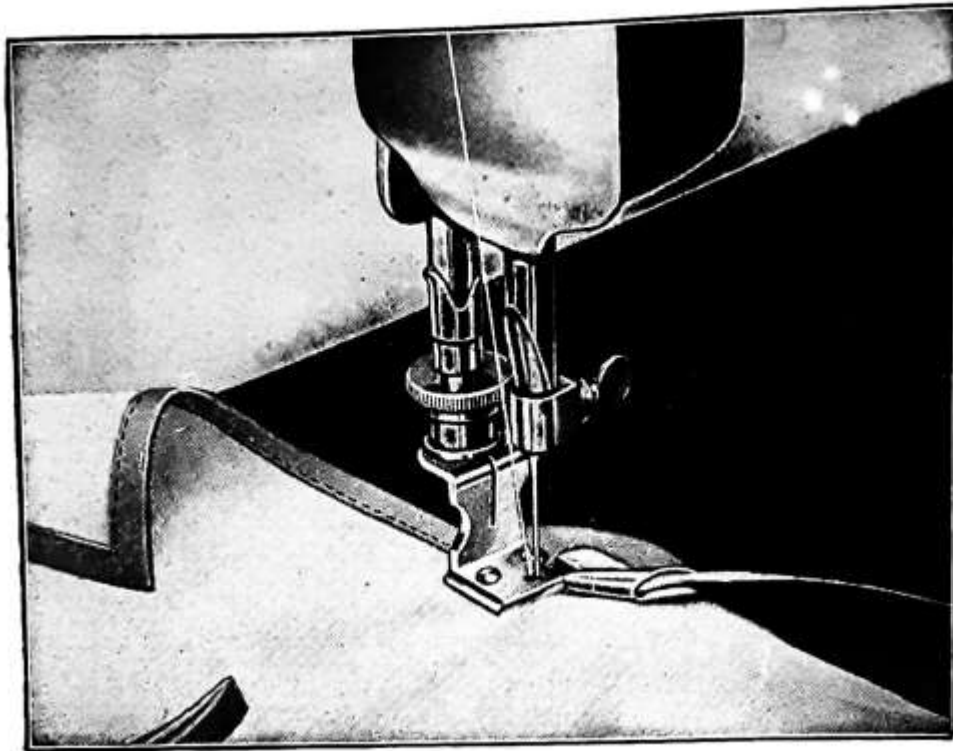
in the side of the hemmer, carrying it under the back of the hemmer and on top of the hem, as in cut on page 18; then proceed as in ordinary hemming. Keep the lace well in the slot so that the needle will catch it every time.



Wide Hemming

WIDE HEMMING

THE wide hemmers belong to the regular set of attachments and are used for wide hemming, and on heavy goods. Attach in place of presser foot. Fold the goods (by hand) the width of hem required, turning one fold only, adding about one-eighth of an inch, which will be turned under by the hemmer; introduce the edge of the cloth the same as for a narrow hem, and proceed in the same way, holding the goods in the right hand.



Binding

BINDING

RAISE the presser bar and the needle. Attach the binder in place of the presser foot.

Pass the binding through the scroll of the binder and draw it back under the needle. Place the edge of the goods to be bound between the scrolls of the binder and draw it under the needle. Lower the presser bar and sew as usual.

For bias binding, goods of any description can be used. For the binder ordinarily used, the binding should be cut seven-eighths of an inch wide, in order to turn under at the edges.

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TO BIND WITH COMMON DRESS BRAID

PROCEED the same as when using bias binding, as explained above. The only difference is, the dress braid being narrower, the edges will not be turned under, as is the case with bias binding.

TO BIND SCALLOPS

IN BINDING scallops, after binding around the scallops, stop the machine with the needle in the goods, fold the elbow or angle of the following scallop so as to form as nearly as possible a straight line, and continue binding. Hold the goods being bound, a little firmer than the binding, which will prevent its being drawn.

TO MAKE FRENCH FOLDS

ATTACH the binder as usual. Pass the binding through the binder and sew as usual, stitching the edges together. This can be sewed on at the same time if desired.

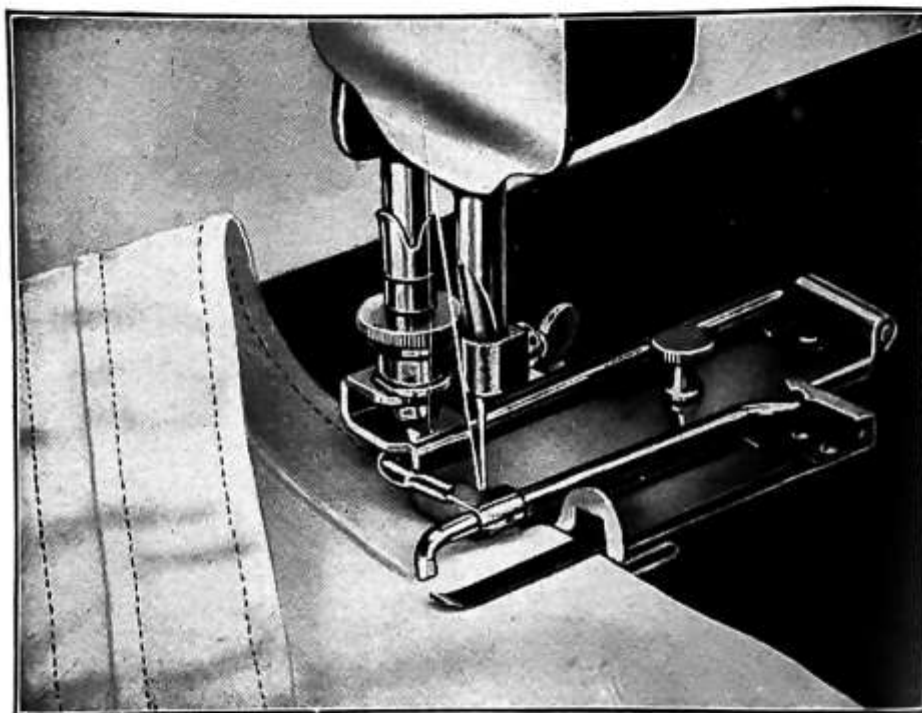
Tucking

TO ATTACH TUCKER TO MACHINE

ATTACH the tucker firmly to the presser bar in place of the foot; see that the lever which works the creasing arm is under the needle clamp screw.

TO ADJUST THE TUCKER

LOOSEN the thumb-screw. The *width of the tuck* is regulated by the distance of the edge-guide to the right of the line of the needle or seam; the tuck will be exactly as wide as this distance.



Tucking

The *space between tucks* is determined by the distance of the creasing blade to the left of the line of the needle or seam. The figures on the scales on the tucker are for convenience in adjusting the width of tuck and distance between tucks. If the guides on the two scales are at the same figure (to the right), then the creasing blade is twice the distance to the left

of the needle that the edge-guide is to the right, and the tucks will meet; that is, the crease of one tuck will lie exactly over the seam of the last tuck. When adjusted as wanted, tighten thumb-screw.

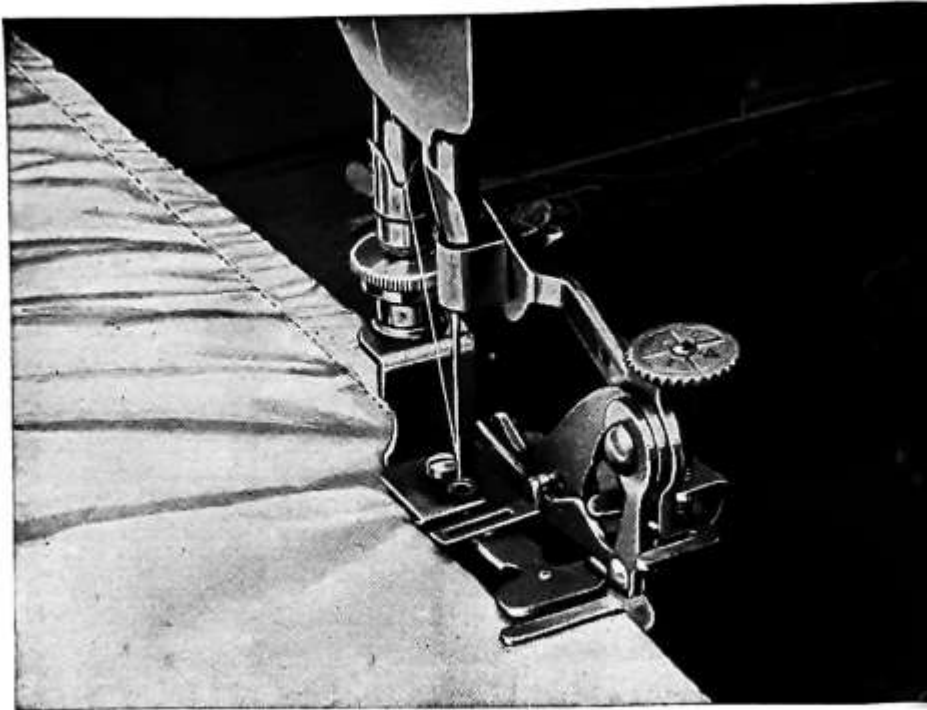
TO OPERATE TUCKER

MAKE the first crease in the usual manner by hand. Insert the cloth between the creasing arm and blade and the blade spring; the part that is to be tucked on the top. Draw it to the right until the crease of the cloth comes against the edge-guide. Then sew as in plain work. Fold at the crease in making subsequent tucks. Take care that the tuck last made is inside the gauge that is directly beneath the creaser blade.

Ruffling

TO ATTACH THE RUFFLER

RAISE the presser bar and needle, remove the presser foot and put the ruffler in its place, adjust so that the needle passes through the center of the hole in the foot, and the prongs of the fork will be on either side of the needle clamp screw. Fasten firmly in place. Oil working parts lightly before using.



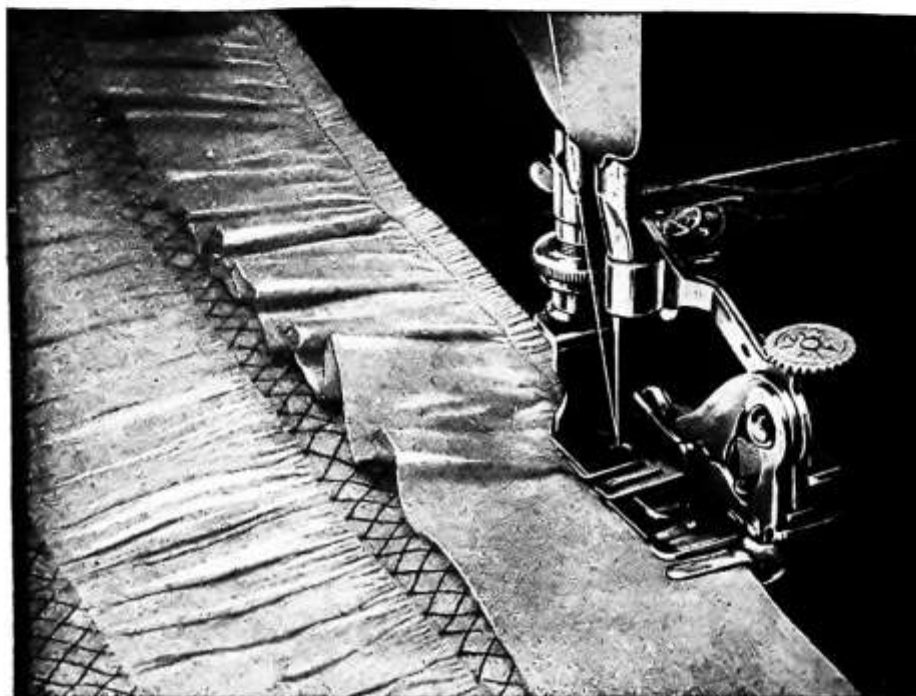
Plain Ruffling

TO OPERATE RUFFLER

INSERT the goods to be ruffled between the blued blades, pushing the cloth from you with the aid of the small screw-driver or stiletto, until it lies smoothly under the needle, over first but under second guide. Drop the presser bar and proceed as in plain sewing. To make a very full ruffle, shorten the stitch and turn the thumb-screw or disc to the left until you have the desired amount of fullness. To make wide plaits, turn same to the left until it stops, then lengthen the stitch to match; the length of stitch should be regulated so that the plaits will lie evenly and not pile upon each other, or lie too far apart. To make fine scant gathers, use

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short stitch and regulate ruffler by turning thumb-screw or disc to the right until the blued blade moves back enough to just catch the goods, thus making the finest possible ruffle.



Ruffling and Sewing On

RUFFLING AND SEWING ON

PLACE goods below both blued blades on feed of machine and up over first guide. Place material to be ruffled as in "plain ruffling," under second guide. Proceed as in plain sewing, being careful to keep the goods smooth and straight.

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SEWING ON RUFFLE WITH NARROW HEADING

FOLD over edge to be gathered $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Place material to be ruffled between blued blades, under second guide and over first guide. Place garment underneath the ruffler, allowing it to come to the left of the needle the width of the ruffle; this will make bottom of ruffle and bottom of garment perfectly even. Be sure to keep garment straight.

RUFFLING, SEWING ON AND PUTTING ON FACING AT ONE STITCH- ING OPERATION

PLACE goods and material to be ruffled exactly as in "ruffling and sewing on." Place facing over the blued blades and under the foot, and proceed as usual, being careful to keep goods and facing straight and smooth.

UNDERBRAIDING



USE the short prong braider foot in place of the regular presser foot. The underbraider is placed in position as follows: At the right of the presser foot you will see two openings. Place the point A in the opening farthest from you, and the pin C in the opening nearest you. Push the attachment into

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these openings as far as it will go, which will fasten it. Before pushing it into place be careful to put the braid into the channel of the attachment with enough projecting from the end to insure its coming under the needle and presser foot. Place the goods wrong side up with the pattern traced on the upper side, and proceed as in ordinary sewing, following the pattern.



Underbraiding

10 pcs

HAXI

130/705H

Size 75/11

from

Organ Needles

model A General
Electric Serial #

