SINGER
188K

USE **SINGER*** OILS and LUBRICANTS

They insure freedom from lubricating trouble and give longer life to sewing equipment

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The following are the correct lubricants for this machine:

TYPE B — MANUFACTURING MACHINE OIL, HEAVY GRADE

When an oil is desired which will produce a minimum of stain on fabrics, even after a long period of storage, use:

TYPE D — MANUFACTURING MACHINE OIL, HEAVY GRADE

OTHER **SINGER*** LUBRICANTS

TYPE E — THREAD LUBRICANT

For lubricating the needle thread of sewing machines for stitching fabrics or leather where a thread lubricant is required.

TYPE F — MOTOR OIL

For oil lubricated motors and plain bearings in power tables and transmitters.

NOTE: All of the above oils are available in 1 quart, 1 gallon and 5 gallon cans.

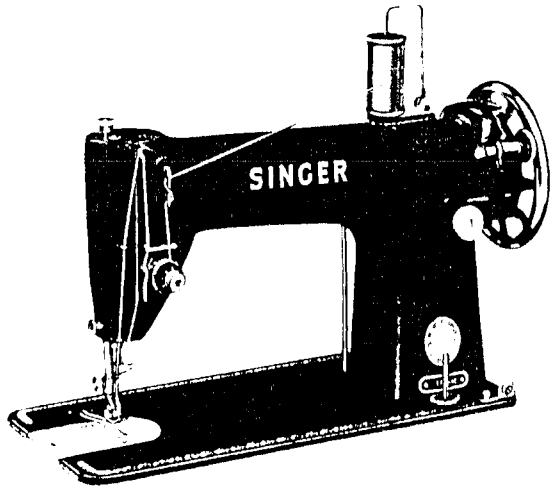
GEAR LUBRICANT

This specially prepared grease is recommended for gear lubrication on manufacturing sewing machines.

BALL BEARING LUBRICANT

This pure grease is specially designed for the lubrication of ball bearings and ball thrust bearings of motors and electric transmitters, ball bearing hangers of power tables, etc. **Furnished in 1 lb. and 4 lb. tins.**

Form K6350
(763)



Introducing the new **SINGER*** 188K

Quiet and smooth in operation, the SINGER 188K was designed for your sewing comfort—to make its operation more pleasant, faster and more profitable. It produces top-quality straight-line single-needle lock stitching in fabrics ranging from thin muslins to heavy denims and khaki drill.

Intended for operation by foot power or electric drive and provided with the means for operating by hand attachment, the 188K has the handling ease you will like—at speeds you want. It starts fast—reaching speeds up to 2250 revolutions per minute. Spiral bevel gears ensure smooth and dependable operation at all speeds.

Machine features a balanced rotary sewing hook and an effective spring return reverse feed mechanism for ease of back tacking. Stitch length is adjustable from 5 to 25 stitches per inch.

Printed in Great Britain

When you receive your new machine—

Clean and oil it! For best results, use SINGER "TYPE B" or "TYPE D" OIL. "TYPE D" OIL is used when an oil is desired which will produce a minimum of stain on fabrics even after a long period of storage.

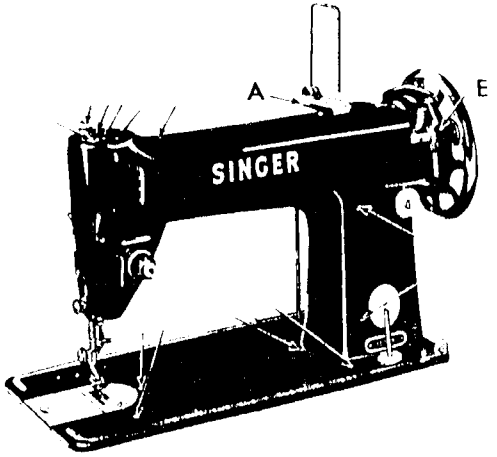


Fig. 2. Front View—Oiling Points

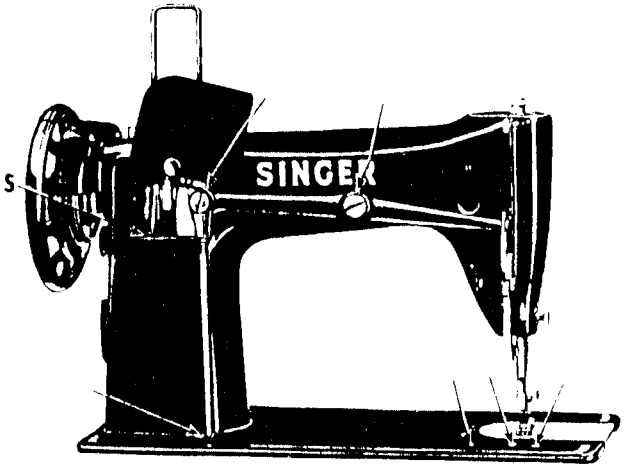


Fig. 3. Rear View—Oiling Points

- Apply a few drops of oil to all places indicated by unlettered arrows in illustrations on pages 2, 3 and 4.
- Keep wicks D, Fig. 4, saturated with oil.
- A machine in continuous use should be oiled frequently, especially when the machine is operated at maximum recommended speed.

When the machines leave the factory, the gear cases are packed with sufficient GEAR LUBRICANT for approximately 160 hours of operation.

Every 160 hours of operation thereafter, replenish the gear cases with GEAR LUBRICANT sold by Singer Sewing Machine Company.

To Lubricate Upper Gears--

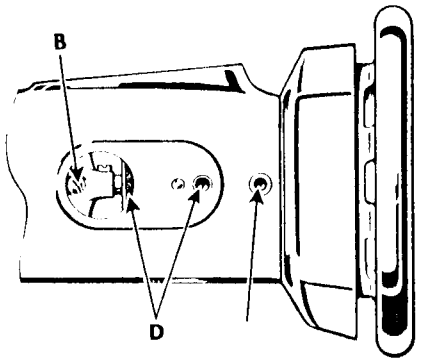


Fig. 4. Top View, Arm Top Cover Removed.
Upper Gear Lubrication and Oiling Points

- Lift and remove arm top cover A, Fig. 2.
- Apply lubricant to gears through hole B, Fig.4.
- Replace arm top cover.

To Lubricate Lower Gears—

- Tip machine back on its hinges.
- Remove gear case screw C, Fig. 5.
- Apply lubricant to gears.
- Replace and securely tighten screw C, Fig. 5.

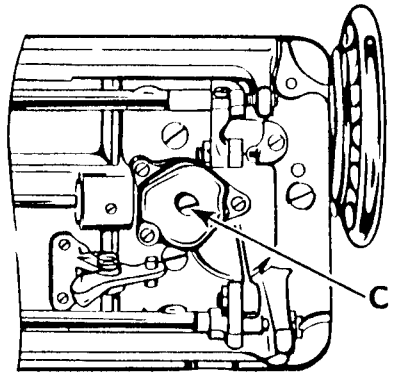


Fig. 5. Lower Gear Lubrication

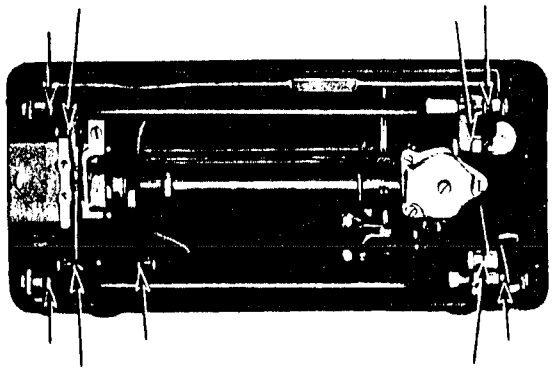


Fig. 6. Oiling Points in Base of Machine

Occasionally apply a drop of oil to the bobbin winder at E, Fig. 2. Frequently apply a drop of oil to the bobbin case holder bearing in the sewing hook race, as shown in Fig. 7.

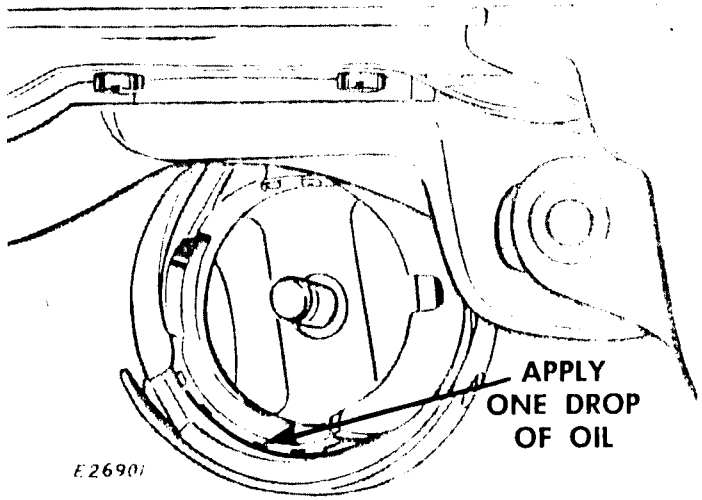


Fig. 7. Oiling Point in Hook Race

CAUTION: Never flood hook with oil.
Never attempt to oil sewing hook race through needle hole or feed dog slots in throat plate.

Before using a machine that has been idle for several weeks—

- Remove face plate and oil needle bar and take-up bearings.
- Oil feed regulator linkage mechanism through rear opening S, Fig. 3.
- Oil the machine as indicated on pages 2, 3 and 4.

Needles—

The needles you use have a very direct effect on the quality, strength and appearance of the stitching produced by your machine. From the standpoint of efficient machine performance, the proper needle is just as necessary as many of the parts inside your machine.

That is why it is so important—for best sewing results and for trouble-free operation—to use only the SINGER needles recommended here:

- Catalogue 2254, (16 x 231) for General Work
  available in sizes 8 to 14 and 16 to 21
- Catalogue 2258, (16 x 273) for Khaki Drill
  available in sizes 16 and 18

Whether you use size 8 or any size up to 21, in either nickel or chrome finish, the correct size will permit the thread to pass freely through the eye of the needle and avoid strain and breaking.

To avoid poor stitching and possible damage to your machine, check frequently for:

- Bent needle—may cause skipped stitches.
- Hook or burr on needle point—may cause skipping and fraying or picking of the material you are sewing.
- Clogged needle eye and groove—will cause skipped stitches.

It's important to use only SINGER parts and needles in SINGER machines—

The successful operation of your machine can only be assured if SINGER parts and needles are used. Supplies are available at all SINGER Agencies for the Manufacturing Trade.

Thread—

In the Class 188K use only left twist thread in the needle. Either right or left twist thread can be used in the bobbin. To determine the thread twist, hold the thread as shown below. Then roll the thread over toward you—if the strands of the thread wind tighter, the thread is left twist; if the strands unwind or separate, the thread is right twist.

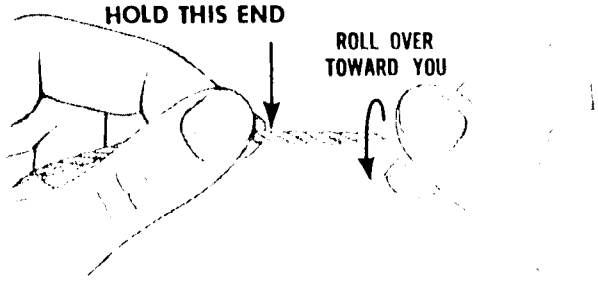


Fig. 8. Determining Thread Twist

To set the needle—

- Turn machine pulley over toward you until needle bar moves to its highest point.
- Loosen needle set screw F, Fig. 9.
- Insert needle UP into needle bar AS FAR AS IT WILL GO with long, continuous groove G, Fig. 9, of the needle facing LEFT end of machine, as shown in **Fig. 9.**
- Securely tighten set screw F.

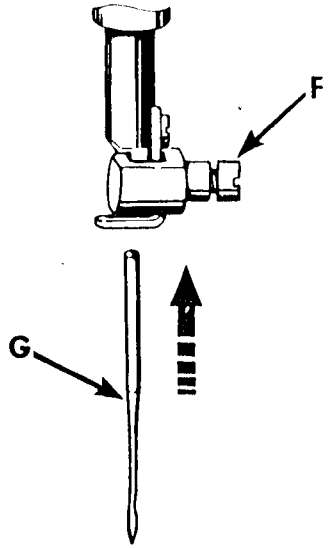


Fig. 9. Setting the Needle

Thread the machine—

- Turn machine pulley toward you until needle is at its highest point.
- Pass needle thread from spool through threading points in order shown in Figs. 10 and 11.

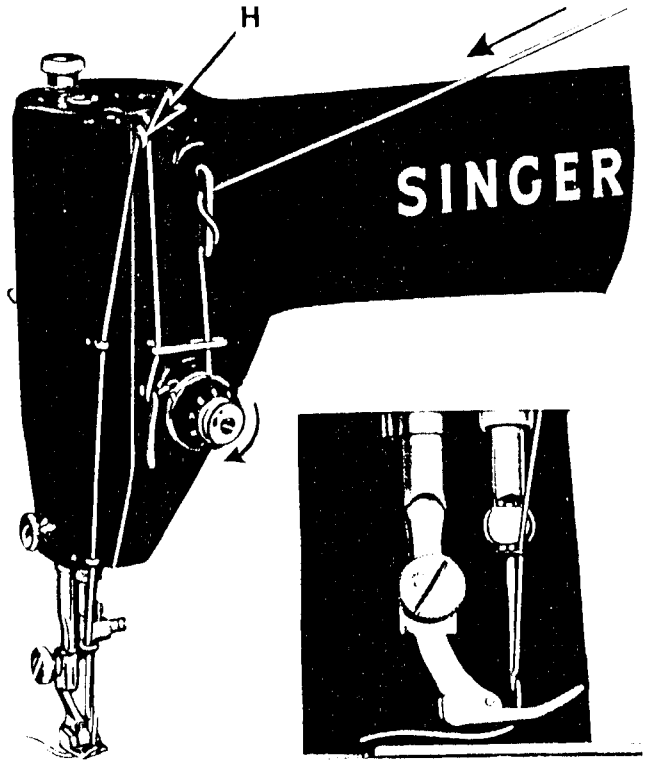


Fig. 10. Upper Threading

Fig. 11. Threading Needle

- Thread needle from left to right and draw about two inches of thread through eye of needle with which to start sewing.

Take out the bobbin—

- Turn machine pulley over toward you until needle thread take-up lever **H, Fig. 10,** is at its highest point.
- Tip machine back—reach under machine bed, open latch and draw out bobbin case, as shown in Fig. 12.

NOTE: While the latch is kept open, the bobbin will be retained in the bobbin case.

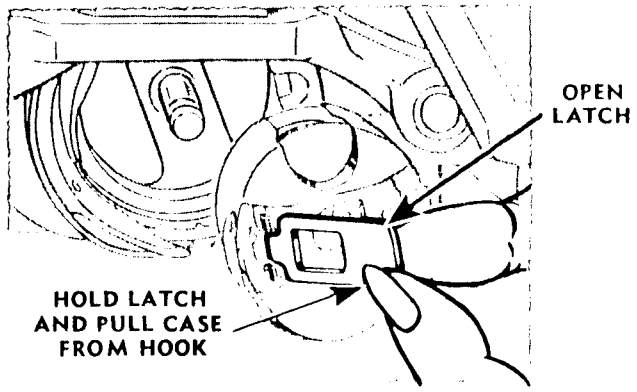


Fig. 12. Removing Bobbin Case from Sewing Hook

Release the bobbin—

- Release latch.
- Turn open end of bobbin case downward.

Bobbin will drop out as illustrated in **Fig. 13.**

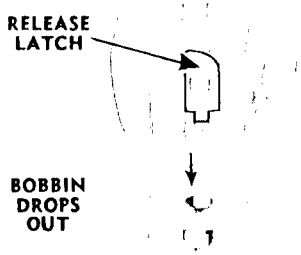


Fig. 13. Removing the Bobbin

To wind the bobbin—

- Place bobbin on spindle 4 with pin of spindle entering slot in side of bobbin.
- Place spool on spool pin and draw thread under and between tension discs 7 and, from inside, through slot 8 in left side of bobbin.
- Press bobbin winder 5 down until latch 6 engages.

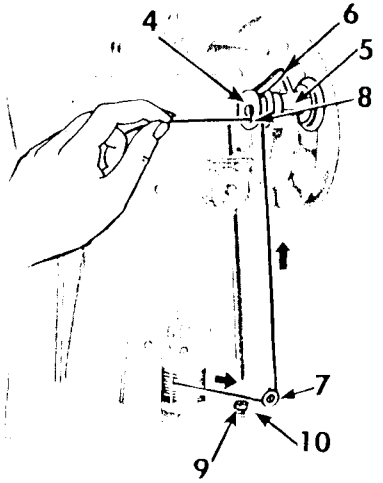


Fig. 14. Winding the Bobbin

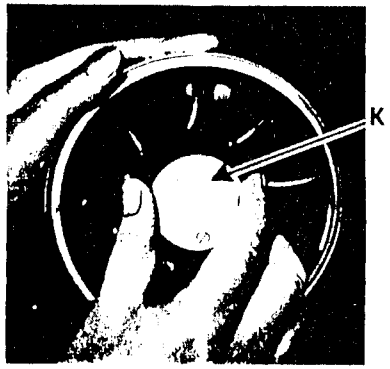


Fig. 15

- Hold machine pulley and loosen knurled screw K, Fig. 15.
- Hold end of thread and operate machine as for sewing. End of thread will break off after a few coils have been wound on bobbin.

Allow tension discs to control flow of thread. Do not guide or hold thread when winding bobbin. Bobbin winder will stop automatically when bobbin is filled.

- Remove bobbin from spindle 4, Fig. 14.
- Tighten knurled screw K, Fig. 15.

NOTE: To wind bobbins while machine is stitching, follow instructions above but omit loosening of knurled screw K, Fig. 15.

Bobbin winder adjustment—

If pressure of bobbin winder pulley against hub of machine pulley is insufficient for winding the bobbin—

- Press down bobbin winder until latch **6, Fig. 14.** engages.
- Loosen adjusting screw **L, Fig. 16.**
- Push back upper end of slotted plate **M** as far as it will go and press bobbin winder pulley against hub of machine pulley.
- Tighten adjusting screw **L.**

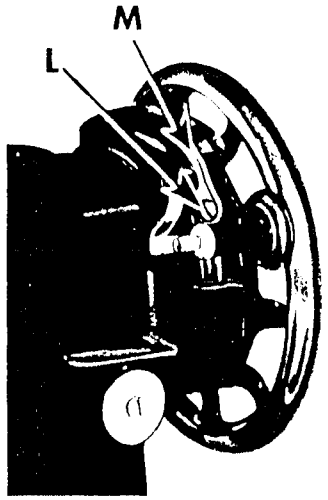


Fig. 16. Adjusting Bobbin Winder

If thread does not wind evenly on bobbin—

- Loosen screw **9, Fig. 14.**
- Move tension bracket **10, Fig. 14** to left if bobbin winds high on right; move bracket to right if bobbin winds high on left.

When bracket is properly centred, thread will wind evenly across bobbin.

- Tighten screw **9, Fig. 14.**

Thread the bobbin case—

- Hold bobbin so that thread will unwind in the direction shown in Fig. 17.
- Hold bobbin case as shown in Fig. 17 and place bobbin into it.

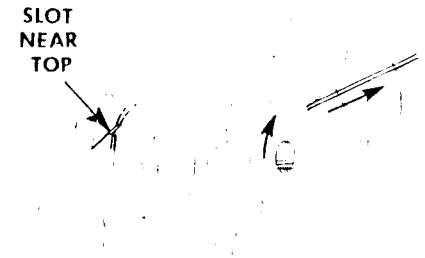
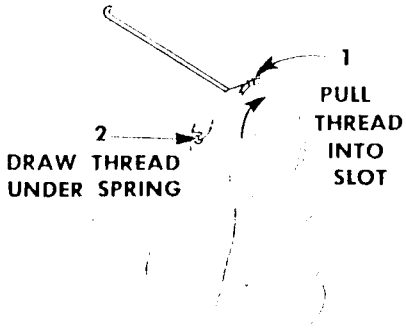


Fig. 17. Placing Bobbin in Bobbin Case



- Pull thread into slot 1 and under tension spring 2, Fig. 18.

Fig. 18. Pulling the Thread into the Slot

- Draw thread into delivery eye at end of tension spring.

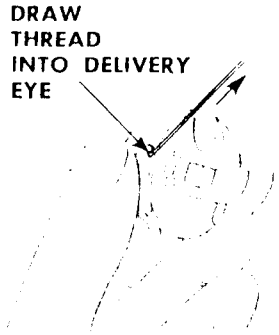


Fig. 19. Drawing the Thread Under the Tension Spring

Replace the bobbin case—

After threading, take bobbin case by latch **J, Fig. 20** and place bobbin case on centre stud **N, Fig. 20** of bobbin case holder. Release latch and press bobbin case back until latch clicks into place. Allow about two inches of thread to hang free.

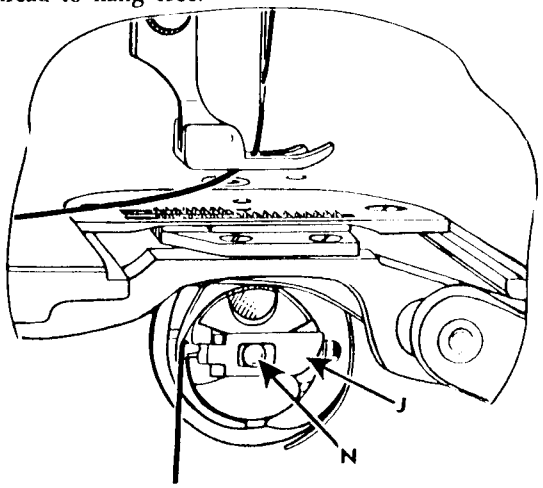


Fig. 20. Bobbin Case Threaded and Replaced

To prepare for sewing—

- Hold end of needle thread with left hand, leaving thread slack from hand to needle.
- Turn machine pulley toward you slowly until needle moves down and up again to its highest point.
- Pull on needle thread and bobbin thread will come up through hole in throat plate, as shown in **Fig. 21.**

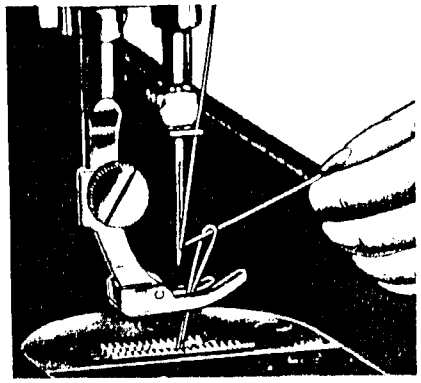


Fig. 21. Drawing up Bobbin Thread

- Push both threads back away from you and under presser foot.

To start sewing—

Place the material under the presser foot and lower the presser foot. You are now ready to sew—quickly, smoothly, easily.

To remove the work—

Stop the machine when the needle bar has just started its descent. In this position the upper thread will be free of the sewing hook and the take-up will not pull the thread out of the needle when the machine is started again. Raise the presser foot, draw the work back behind the presser foot and cut the threads close to the work.

Watch your thread tensions—

Normally—and probably for all of your sewing —tension on the needle and bobbin threads should be balanced so that if you were to look at a cross section of a line of stitching, the needle and bobbin threads would be locked in the centre of the thickness of the material like this:

RIGHT 

Fig. 22. Perfect Stitch

If there is too much tension on the needle thread or not enough on the bobbin thread, the needle thread will not be pulled down into the material and poor stitching will result with the needle thread lying on top of the material like this:

WRONG 

Fig. 23. Too Tight Needle Thread Tension

If there is too much tension on the bobbin thread and not enough on the needle thread, you will get the reverse of the condition shown in **Fig. 23**, but the stitching will be just as poor. The bobbin thread will lie on the bottom of the material like this:

WRONG 

Fig. 24. Too Loose Needle Thread Tension

Tension on Needle Thread—

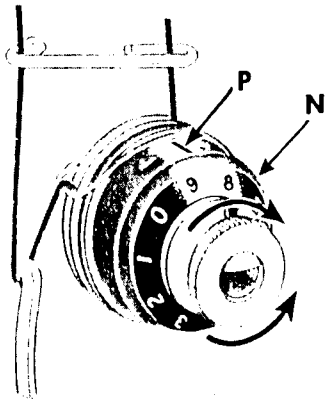


Fig. 25. Regulating Needle Thread Tension

First, regulate the needle thread tension only when the presser foot is down.

Numerals on dial N indicate different reference positions. The numbers do not denote size of thread or amount of tension but different degrees of tension only, that can be obtained.

Tension on the needle thread should be just enough to set the stitch properly in the material.

Having lowered the presser foot, turn the thumb nut at the front of the tension discs anti-clockwise for less tension; turn thumb nut clockwise for more tension. **(See Fig. 25.)**

When tension has been correctly set for average sewing, note number at indicator line **P.** This setting may be quickly regained should the tension be altered for special work or change in size of thread.

Bobbin Thread—

Once tension on bobbin thread has been properly adjusted, a correct stitch can usually be obtained by varying tension on needle thread only.

For average sewing, tension on bobbin thread should be very light.

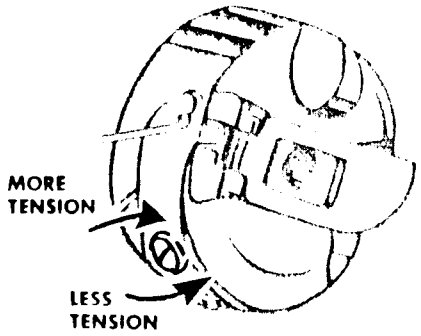


Fig. 26. Regulating Bobbin Thread Tension

To regulate tension on bobbin thread, remove bobbin case and turn screw in tension spring anti-clockwise for less tension; turn screw clockwise for more tension. **(See Fig. 26.)**

To regulate presser foot pressure—

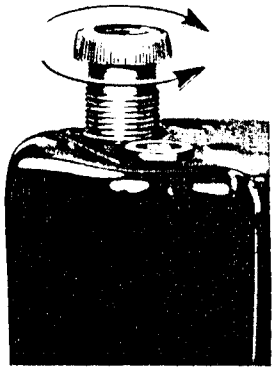


Fig. 27. Regulating Pressure on the Material

The amount of pressure on the material is regulated by means of the presser bar thumb screw, as shown in Fig. 27.

- For more pressure turn thumb screw clockwise.
- For less pressure turn thumb screw anti-clockwise.

Pressure on the material should be as light as possible, while still sufficient to ensure proper feeding.

When you want to change the stitch length—

NOTE: Numerals on stitch indicator dial are reference points and do not denote actual number of stitches per inch.

Depress and hold lever R in centre position and—

- Turn thumb screw Q to right to shorten stitch.
- Turn thumb screw Q to left to lengthen stitch.
- Release lever.

Machine will produce 5 to a maximum 25 stitches per inch.

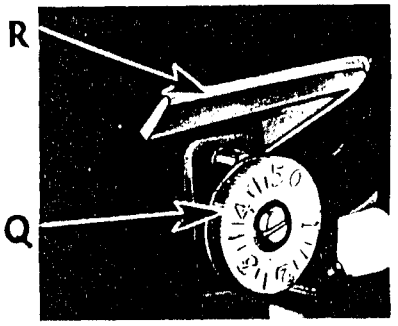


Fig. 28. Regulating Stitch Length

To change the direction of feed for back tacking, depress lever R to lowest position until back tack is completed.

Hints for perfect operation—

- Oil your new 188K regularly.
- When turning the machine pulley always turn it over toward you.
- Always keep the bed slide closed when the machine is in operation.
- Clean out any build-up of lint or other waste around the hook and between the feed rows on the underside of the throat plate.
- Don't run the machine with the bobbin case only partly inserted.
- Don't try to "help" the machine by pulling the fabric. The machine will feed the work itself. Pulling the fabric may bend or break the needle.
- Don't press the knee lifter while the machine is running.
- Don't run the machine when threaded unless there is material under the presser foot.