Instruction Manual

BERNINA 1001
Electronic
IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

When using an electrical appliance, basic safety precautions should always be followed, including the following:
Read all instructions before using this sewing machine.

DANGER

To reduce the risk of electric shock:
1. An appliance should never be left unattended when plugged in.
2. Always unplug the appliance from the electric outlet immediately after using and before cleaning.
3. Always unplug before rethreading. Replace bulb with same type rated 15 Watts.

WARNING

To reduce the risk of burns, fire, electric shock, or injury to persons:
1. Do not allow to be used as a toy. Close attention is necessary when the appliance is used by or near children.
2. Use the appliance only for its intended use as described in this manual. Use only attachments recommended by the manufacturer as contained in this manual.
3. Never operate the appliance if it has a damaged cord or plug. If it is not working properly, it should be repaired, replaced, or repaired. Return the appliance to a qualified service center for examination, repair, or adjustment.
4. Never operate the appliance with any air openings blocked. Keep ventilation openings of the sewing machine and foot controller free from accumulation of lint, dust, and loose cloth.
5. Keep fingers away from all moving parts. Special care is required around the sewing machine needle.
6. Always use the proper needle plate. The wrong plate can cause the needle to break.
7. Do not use bent needles.
8. Do not pull or push fabric while stitching. It may deflect the needle causing it to break.
9. Switch the sewing machine off when making any adjustments in the needle area, such as threading needle, changing needle, threading bobbin, or changing presser foot and the like.
10. Always unplug sewing machine from electrical outlet when removing covers, lubricating, or when making any other servicing adjustments mentioned in this instruction manual.
11. Never drop or insert any object into any opening.
12. Do not use outdoors.
13. Do not operate where aerosol (spray) products are being used or where oxygen is being administered.
14. To disconnect, turn all controls to the off position, then remove plug from outlet.
15. Do not unplug by pulling on cord. To unplug, grasp the plug, not the cord.

GROUNDING INSTRUCTIONS (for U.S.A. only)

This product must be grounded. In the event of malfunction or breakdown, grounding provides a path of least resistance for electric current to reduce the risk of electric shock. This product is equipped with a cord having an equipment-grounding conductor and a grounding plug. The plug must be plugged into an appropriate outlet that is properly installed and grounded in accordance with all local codes and ordinances.

DANGER

Improper connection of the equipment-grounding conductor can result in a risk of electric shock. The conductor with insulation having an outer surface that is green with or without yellow stripes is the equipment-grounding conductor. If repair or replacement of the cord or plug is necessary, do not connect the equipment-grounding conductor to a live terminal.
Check with a qualified electrician or servicer that the grounding instructions are not completely understood, or if in doubt as to whether the product is properly grounded.

Do not modify the plug provided with the product — if it will not fit the outlet, have a proper outlet installed by a qualified electrician.

This product is for use on a nominal 120V circuit and has a grounding plug that looks like the plug illustrated in sketch A. A temporary adaptor, which looks like the adaptor illustrated in sketches B and C, may be used to connect this plug to a 2-pole receptacle as shown in sketch B if a properly grounded outlet is not available. The temporary adaptor should be used only until a properly grounded outlet can be installed by a qualified electrician. The green colored rigid ear, lug, and the line extending from the adaptor must be connected to a permanent ground such as properly grounded outlet box cover. Whenever the adaptor is used, it must be held in place by the metal screw.

GROUNDING METHODS

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

This sewing machine is intended for household use only.
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</table>
Dear BERNINA Customer,

Congratulations on choosing a BERNINA 1001. You are now the proud owner of a sewing machine which fulfills every expectation in terms of use and quality. You own a first-class product which will give you sewing pleasure for many years to come.

Some hundred years ago, my great grandfather invented the first ever hemstitch machine. This was the beginning of the BERNINA family business and I am proud to be the fourth generation member of the family to have responsibility for the company. I am delighted to welcome you to the millions of satisfied BERNINA owners around the world.

If you require any further information about your sewing machine or sewing in general, please do not hesitate to contact your BERNINA dealer, who will be delighted to help you.

I wish you very happy and successful sewing.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Hanspeter Ueltschi
President
Display/Control panel

1. Red stitch programme
2. Green stitch programme
3. Selector lever
4. Basic setting panel, red stitches
   a. Presser foot
   b. Stitch width
   c. Stitch length
   d. Needle position
5. Basic setting panel, green stitches
   a. Presser foot
   b. Stitch width
   c. Stitch length
   d. Needle position
6. Stitch width knob
7. Needle position knob
8. Buttonhole knob
9. Stitch length knob
10. RED - GREEN stitch programme selector knob
11. Feed-dog knob
Details of machine

1. Hinged front cover
2. Stitch plate
3. Presser foot
4. Needle clamp
5. Thread regulator
6. Thread take-up lever
7. Pre-tension stud
8. Thread tension slot
9. Thread tension adjustment knob
10. Red stitches
11. Green stitches
12. Selector lever
13. Bobbin spindle
14. Bobbin winder stop
15. Handwheel
16. Stitch width knob
17. Needle position knob
18. Buttonhole knob
19. Power/light switch
20. Stitch length knob
21. Securing pins for sewing table
22. Stitch programme color indicator (RED – GREEN)
23. Combined mains/foot control socket
24. Stitch programme selector knob
25. Sewing/Darning selector knob
26. Presser foot lever
27. Carrying handle
28. Thread guide
29. Thread holder pins
30. Supplementary thread guide
31. Thread cutter
Setting up the sewing machine
Cover, accessories

The cover protects the machine from dust and dirt.

The outside pocket provides storage for the instruction manual, foot control and cable.

The machine is very easy to carry with the practical, retractable handle.

Standard accessories

- 6 bobbins
- Needle assortment
- Seam ripper
- Small screwdriver
- Special screwdriver
- Bobbin holder
- Cleaning brush
- Oiler, filled
- Reverse pattern foot
- Overlock foot
- Blind stitch foot
- Buttonhole foot
- Zip foot

Accessories box

The accessories are neatly stored in the accessories box (Fig. 2).

Fitting the accessories box onto the machine

The accessories box has two fixing lugs that fit into the base plate of the machine.

Lay the accessories box onto the base plate from the rear and press against the free arm until the fixing lugs engage in the holes provided (Fig. 4).

Removing the accessories box

Simply push the accessories box backwards (Fig. 3).
### Connecting mains cable and foot control unit

Plug the specially combined mains/foot control cable into the machine. Plug the foot control cable into the foot control and the machine cable into the mains socket.

### Foot control unit

This is used to regulate the sewing speed.

The sewing speed can be controlled from virtually 0 to maximum speed by varying the pressure on the plate of the foot control unit.

### Power switch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 5</td>
<td>On</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 1</td>
<td>Off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The power switch below the handwheel has 3 positions:

- **Off**: The machine is switched off.
- **On**: The machine is switched on.
- **M 5**: The machine and sewing light are switched on.
Removing the bobbin case

Set the power switch to the position.

Check that the needle is raised. Open the hinged front cover on the throat plate (Fig. 1).

With the index finger and thumb of the right hand, pull the bobbin case latch forward and remove the bobbin case (Fig. 2).

Winding lower thread

Holding the handwheel with the left hand, turn the handle of the handwheel release forward with the right hand. The sewing machine is now disengaged (Fig. 3). Place an empty bobbin on the spindle and press it to the right against the bobbin winder stop. The bobbin winder is now engaged.

Take thread from the reel of thread on the thread holder pin and pass it clockwise around the pre-tension stud to the empty bobbin. Wind around the empty bobbin several times, again in a clockwise direction (Fig. 4).

Press on the foot control to start the motor. When the bobbin is full, the bobbin winder will stop automatically. Push bobbin to left and remove.
Inserting the bobbin

Inserting the bobbin

Hold the bobbin case in the left hand; insert the bobbin with the thread running in a clockwise direction, see arrow.

Take the thread anti-clockwise to the slot.

Pull the thread into the slot and under the spring, until it lies in the T-shaped slot at the end of the spring.

When the end of the thread is pulled, the bobbin should turn clockwise, in the direction of the arrow.

Inserting the bobbin case

Make sure that the needle is fully raised when inserting or removing the bobbin case. Hold the bobbin case as in fig. 5 and insert.
Threading the upper thread

Thread the upper thread

Check that the needle is in the raised position. Place the presser foot.

Place the reel of thread on one of the two thread holder pins.

Firmly clip the thread into the thread guide on the top of the machine. Then pull it through the long slot (A) into the thread tension.

On the front of the machine, take the thread from the slot (3) downwards under the thread regulator (5), then up to the thread take-up lever at the top (6) and down again to the needle holder thread guide (7).

Always thread the needle from front to back.

The small white plate on the front of the presser foot shank helps when threading the needle eye.

Pull the thread approx. 10 cm (4") through the needle eye.

Supplementary thread guide on handle

Sewing with cross-wound reels, metal and silver thread, double or triple needles.

For perfect thread feed, take the thread through the special supplementary thread guide on the handle.

WARNING:
Please refer to the safety instructions.
Bringing up the lower thread, thread tension, feed-dog

Bringing up the lower thread

Hold the upper thread loosely. Turn the handwheel towards you until the thread take-up lever is fully raised.

Pull the upper thread so that the lower thread is brought up through the stitch plate hole. Take both threads through the slot in the presser foot and place to the side.

Thread tension

Normal tension is set when the red mark on the regulating dial matches the adjacent mark on the machine.

The thread tension should be adjusted for special sewing, e.g. buttonholes.

Turning the regulating dial forwards to number 4 or below gives a looser upper thread tension. Turning the regulating dial backwards to number 6 or above gives a tighter upper thread tension.

Do not forget: The thread tension should be reset to normal when special sewing has been completed.

Lowering the feed-dog

For certain types of sewing, e.g. darning, the fabric must not be moved by the feed. Therefore the feed dog must be lowered by turning the knob to the left until the mark points to the symbol #.

For all normal sewing, the mark on the knob should point to symbol #.
Inserting the needle

The small black screwdriver for loosening or tightening the needle clamp is provided in the accessories box.

Set the power switch to 2.
Check that the needle is in the raised position. If not, turn the handwheel.
Loosen the needle clamp screw by half a turn (anti-clockwise) and remove the needle (Fig. 1).
Insert a NEW needle - flat side to the rear.

Insert the needle until it reaches the top. If the needle is not inserted fully, i.e. is set too low, skipped stitches will result.
Tighten the needle clamp screw securely.

WARNING:
Please refer to the safety instructions.

Changing presser feet

See page 14 for the various presser feet and their uses.

The success of a piece of sewing depends largely on the correct choice of presser foot.
Changing the presser feet is easy and practical.

Turn the handwheel towards you until needle is fully raised.

Raise the clamping lever with the index finger of the right hand and using the middle finger and thumb, remove the presser foot (Fig. 3).

To attach the presser foot:
The procedure is the same but press the clamping lever downwards with the index finger (Fig. 4).
A few hints

Set your BERNINA far enough away from the table edge. Correct sitting position and correct guiding of the work will make sewing easier. Sit right in front of the needle, or in front of the working area. This will enable you to watch the working area without strain. Ensure that the height of your chair allows you to work comfortably.

It is best to guide the work from the side with the fingers of the left hand close to the presser foot. When sewing delicate work, it is preferable to stop and guide it a little at a time rather than let the work slide beneath the fingers.

To remove the work, raise the presser foot and check that the needle is raised. If not turn the handwheel. Take work out to the rear left and hook both threads into the cutter. The thread ends free themselves when you start sewing again.
Threads and needles

Needles and sewing machine

Your BERNINA has needle system 130/705 H. Make sure when buying new needles that they are the 130/705 H system. Commerially available needle sizes are nos. 70 to 120. The finer the needle, the lower the number. The opposite applies to thread. The finer the thread, the higher the number.

Needle and thread

The needle size required depends on the thread selected. The needle must match the thread. When sewing, the thread lies in the long groove to the front of the needle (Fig. 11). If the needle is too fine, the thread will not fit into the groove (Fig. 2) and skipped stitches will result.

Needle and fabric

Condition of needle

The needle must be in perfect condition. Sewing problems are caused by:
A. bent needles
B. blunt needles
C. hooked tips

Standard needles

130/705 H
Normal point, slightly rounded
All-purpose needle for woven synthetic and natural fibres, fine linen, chiflon, batiste, organdy, wool, velvet, decorative seams and embroidery.

Special needles

100/705 GES
Fine ball point
Fine knit, also specially suitable for synthetics.

130/705 H-SUK
Medium ball point
Heavier synthetic or natural fibre knits.

130/705 H-Stretch Medium ball point
Special needle for delicate or difficult stretch fabrics.

130/705 H-J Extra fine point
Twill, workwear, heavy linen, denim, canvas. Perforates dense fabrics more easily.

130/705 H-LL or H-LR Cutting point
Leather, suede, calfskin, kid, pigskin, imitation leathers and suedes, plastics, waxed fabrics.

Needle/Thread Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Needle</th>
<th>70</th>
<th>80</th>
<th>90</th>
<th>100</th>
<th>110-120</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Damming thread</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embroidery thread 30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercerised cotton sewing thread</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic sewing thread</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coarse mercerised cotton Mercerised synthetic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buttonhole thread for top stitching (Cordonnet)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table shows clearly which needle suits which thread.
1. Feed-dog and stitch length

With each stitch, the feed-dog moves forward by one step. The length of this step is governed by the stitch length selected. With an extremely short stitch length, the steps are extremely short. The fabric moves under the presser foot slowly. For example, buttons and selvedges are sewn with this short stitch length.

Important

a) Make sure that the fabric feeds evenly!

b) Pulling or pushing will result in "gaps".

c) Holding back will result in "pile-ups".

2. Feed-dog and fabric feed

a) The feed-dog can only work effectively if the presser foot is horizontal.

b) If the presser foot is tilted, e.g., at a very thick seam or hem, the feed-dog will be unable to grip the fabric. The work will stick.

c) Place a piece of fabric, neatly folded to the thickness of the seam, beside the sewing so that the presser foot is level again.

3. Feed-dog and sewing corners

a) The two rows of teeth of the feed-dog are quite a distance apart because of the width of the needle hole.

b) When sewing corners, only a small part of the fabric is on the feed-dog so it cannot transport the work correctly.

c) If a folded piece of fabric is placed against the corner, the feed-dog will be able to do its job properly.
Presser feet
Practical stitches
Practical sewing
Presser feet are an important sewing aid. They are designed with grooves and guides. Successful sewing depends on the correct choice of presser foot.

1. Reverse pattern foot
   - Red and green practical stitches
   - Embroidery stitches

2. Overlock foot
   - Vari-overlock seam
   - Vari-overlock hem
   - Overcasting seam edges

3. Buttonhole foot
   - Buttonholes

4. Zip foot
   - Sewing in zips
   - Sewing close along raised seam

5. Blind stitch foot
   - Blind hemming
   - Edge stitching
Range of applications

Green practical stitches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Straight stitch</th>
<th>Zig-zag</th>
<th>Blind stitch</th>
<th>Universal stitch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>All types of non-stretch fabric; All straight stitch work.</td>
<td>For most types of fabric.</td>
<td>For most types of fabric.</td>
<td>For finer knitted fabrics, felt, leather etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>All simple zig-zag work, e.g. over-stitching, especially on fine fabrics. Sewing elastic and lace.</td>
<td>Blind hemming, shell edging on soft jersey and fine fabrics, decorative work.</td>
<td>Flat joining seams, visible hems, patchwork, mending interlock fabrics, sewing on elastic, decorative seams.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Stretch stitch</th>
<th>Vari-overlock</th>
<th>Running stitch</th>
<th>Scallop stitch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>For very stretchy fabrics. Very stretchy open seams for ski, riding, climbing and hiking wear.</td>
<td>Primarily for fine, stretchy and silk jerseys, knickers, fine cotton and wool knits. Stretchy overlock seams and hems, particularly suitable for sports underwear, T-shirts, sweaters etc.</td>
<td>For most types of fabric. Darning with running stitch, mending of woven fabrics; reinforcing edges etc.</td>
<td>Primarily for woven fabrics. Edging of tablecloths, place mats, collars, cuffs etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Range of applications

Red practical stitches

Red decorative stitches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Triple straight stitch</th>
<th>Triple zig-zag</th>
<th>Towelling stitch</th>
<th>Double overlock</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>For durable, cotton, overall and deckchair fabrics, carpet binders, ruches, stripes, heading, sacking and similar. Hard wearing seam for joining pieces of fabric or top stitching seams.</td>
<td>For denim, corduroys, leathers, decorative items, light fabrics for blouses and similar. Visible hems and seams, sewing on tape, extra stitching seam for sportswear, woolen blankets, sleeping bags, ruches etc.</td>
<td>Primarily for towelling fabrics, denim, leather and other firm fabrics. Flat joining seams, visible hems for beachwear, craft work.</td>
<td>For all types of knitted fabric and hand and machine knitted articles. Overlock seam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Edge stitch

13

Reinforced overlock stitch

14

15/16 Decorative stitches

15

16
Straight stitch

Needle positions

Forward sewing
The machine sews forwards with the settings specified and with the selected stitch length. The stitch length is selected according to the type of sewing and fabric.

Reverse sewing
Push the stitch length knob upwards above 0 and hold until reverse sewing is completed. When the knob is released again, the machine will again sew forwards with the previously selected stitch.

Securing ends
At the beginning and end of a seam, sew in reverse for approx. 1 cm (⅛") and then forwards again.

Securing thick seams
When changing from forward to reverse sewing and vice-versa, stop the machine. The needle should be raised. It not, turn the handwheel forwards. This prevents the needle from being bent by thick fabrics.

Five needle positions
The position of the stitch can be set to left and right in five positions with the needle position knob.

Examples of use:
- Blind hemming: Page 24
- Edge stitching: Page 25
- Sewing in zips: Page 20
Setting zig-zag

Presser foot: 1
Thread: according to fabric
Needle: according to thread
Stitch: ▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲
Stitch width: 1-5
Stitch length: 1-5
Needle position: centre
Feed-dog: sewing
Colour indicator:

Setting zig-zag width and length
The stitch width and length can be altered during sewing or while the machine is stopped.

Stitch width 5
Stitch length 5
4
3
2
1
almost 0

Set the width of the zig-zag stitch with the stitch width knob. It is infinitely variable up to 5 mm.
The needle must not be left in the work when the machine is stopped.

Satin stitch = close zig-zag = IIII

Presser foot: 1 (8#)
Thread: embroidery thread No. 30
Needle: 80
Stitch width: 1½ - 5
Stitch length: IIII (satin stitch density)
8: Additional accessory

Set stitch length to very close zig-zag = IIII

Turn stitch length knob to the right until it locks.
The mark on the knob is at the top.
Stitch length is now 0.

By rotating half a turn to the left (mark at the bottom) the basic setting for satin stitch is obtained = IIII.
Adjust the stitch density from the basic setting according to the work. Turn anti-clockwise for thicker fabric, clockwise for finer fabric.

Generally, the zig-zag should not be too wide or the stitch length too long. Start by cutting a neat edge. Use as fine a thread as possible, especially on thin fabrics.

Guide the edge of the fabric to the centre of the foot so that the needle goes alternately into the fabric and then over the edge.
Selecting green stitches

- Presser foot
- Stitch width
- Stitch length
- Needle position
- Feed-dog
- Colour indicator

Universal stitch

| Presser foot: | 1 |
| Stitch: | 1
| Stitch width: | 4 |
| Stitch length: | 1 |
| Needle position: | centre |
| Feed-dog: | sewing |
| Colour indicator: | |

Blind stitch

| Presser foot: | 5 |
| Stitch: | 5 |
| Stitch width: | 3 |
| Stitch length: | 2 1/4 |
| Needle position: | right |
| Feed-dog: | sewing |
| Colour indicator: | |

Vari-overlock

| Presser foot: | 2 |
| Stitch: | 4 |
| Stitch width: | 1 |
| Needle position: | right |
| Feed-dog: | sewing |
| Colour indicator: | |

Push the selector lever to the right to disengage and select a stitch from 1–6.

Set the colour indicator to green.

The number for the basic setting is the same as the number of the stitch selected.

Each stitch has many different applications. The stitch width and length can be adjusted to the type of work and fabric. The presser foot display recommends the appropriate foot for easy work and perfect results.
Selecting red stitches

Push the selector lever to the right to disengage and select a stitch from 9-16.

Set the colour indicator to red.

The number for the basic setting is the same as the number of the stitch selected.

Each stitch has many different applications. The stitch width and length can be adjusted to the type of work and fabric.

The presser foot display recommends the appropriate foot for easy work and perfect results.

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Triple zig-zag

Presser foot: 1
Stitch: 
Stitch width: 5
Stitch length: 3
Needle position: centre
Feed-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: 

Towelling stitch

Presser foot: 1
Stitch: 
Stitch width: 4
Stitch length: 2
Needle position: centre
Feed-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: 

Double overlock

Presser foot: 1
Stitch: 
Stitch width: 5
Stitch length: 2
Needle position: centre
Feed-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: 
Sewing knitted fabrics

### Neckband with overlock seam

- **Presser foot:** 2
- **Thread:** sewing thread
- **Needle:** 80
- **Stitch:** \[ \frac{1}{2} \]
- **Stitch width:** 4 - 5
- **Stitch length:** 1
- **Needle position:** right
- **Feed dog:** sewing
- **Colour indicator:**

For all jerseys

Fold the nearly cut neckband in half and press. Pin and baste to the right side of the neckline with the cut edges of the band exactly in line with the neckline edge. When sewing, guide the edges to the pin of the overlock foot.

---

### Zip fastener

#### Inserted flat

- **Presser foot:** 4
- **Thread:** sewing thread
- **Needle:** 80
- **Stitch:**
- **Stitch width:** 0
- **Stitch length:** approx. 2
- **Needle position:** left/right
- **Feed dog:** sewing
- **Colour indicator:**

Sew in the zip, starting each side at the bottom and sewing to the top, once with needle position right and once with needle position left.

#### Preparation:

Baste entire length of seam. Mark length of zip and sew seam as far as the zip opening. Remove basting stitches, except in the zip section. Press the entire seam, trim and oversew. Remove remaining basting stitches. Baste the zip into position so that the teeth are covered by the fabric. Sew in the zip, starting each side at the bottom and sewing to the top, once with needle position right and once with needle position left.

---

### Sewing in zips

**Example:** interlock, jersey

When sewing knitted fabrics, the following points generally apply:

1. Use a perfect needle. Even a very slightly blunt needle will damage the knit, causing it to ladder.
2. Use fine sewing thread, particularly for fine jerseys. Coarse thread can also damage the knit.
3. Use darning thread for basting. After the seam has been sewn, darning thread is more easily removed than the considerably thicker and shorter fibre basting thread.
4. Press each seam as it is sewn. This will make subsequent work easier.
5. Sew a sample to test the stretch of the stitch. The seam should be as stretchy as the fabric. As modern textiles vary considerably in their elasticity, the basic setting of the practical stitches can be adjusted where necessary to suit the fabric. Use a slightly longer stitch length for sewing limits.

---

**Note:**

- When sewing in zips, ensure the zip is inserted flat and not twisted or bent out of shape. This will prevent the teeth from catching and damaging the knit.
Practical stitch hems

Preparation:
Baste the hem - depth of hem plus 1 cm (½") - mark the desired width, saw and cut off surplus fabric.

Visible hem with
Vari-overlock

Presser foot: 2
Thread: sewing thread
Needle: 80
Stitch: ________
Stitch width: 4
Stitch length: approx. 1
Feed dog: sewing
Colour indicator: ""

Stretchy visible hem for all stretch knits, towelling, Helanca, etc.

Visible hem with
Triple zig-zag

Presser foot: 1
Thread: sewing thread
Needle: 60
Stitch: ________
Stitch width: 2½ - 5 according to fabric
Stitch length: 2 - 3
Needle position: centre
Feed dog: sewing
Colour indicator: ""

Hard-wearing hem for closely woven fabrics, denim, etc.

Visible hem with
Universal stitch

Presser foot: 1
Thread: sewing thread
Needle: 80
Stitch: ________
Stitch width: approx. 4
Stitch length: ⅜ - 1
Needle position: centre
Feed dog: sewing
Colour indicator: ""

Stretchy hem for Lycra, firm knits and woven fabrics, flat joining seam for beachwear, craft work etc.
There are two types of seam:

**Open seams**
These are seams which are pressed open:
- They lie flat and are not bulky.
- They allow garments to be let out.

**Overlock seams**
These are seams that are sewn and overawn in one operation:
- They are quick to sew.
- They are narrow, but do not allow garments to be let out.

**Flat joining seams**
These are seams in which the cut edges are overlapped and then overawn:
- They lie flat.
- They are narrow and cannot be let out.
- They do not curl and the edges are neat.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Seam</th>
<th>Open Seam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Triple straight</strong></td>
<td>Hard-wearing seam for firm fabrics. Especially for denim corduroy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presser foot:</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thread:</td>
<td>sewing thread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle:</td>
<td>80 – 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch width:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch length:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle position:</td>
<td>centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed-dog:</td>
<td>sewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour indicator:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Seam</th>
<th>Open Seam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Zig-zag</strong></td>
<td>Stretchy seam for jersey fabrics in wool, synthetic or blended fibres, and for silk, cotton and wool interlock. Suitable for sweaters, jackets and all hand and machine knitted garments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presser foot:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thread:</td>
<td>sewing thread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle:</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch width:</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch length:</td>
<td>1½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle position:</td>
<td>centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed-dog:</td>
<td>sewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour indicator:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Seam</th>
<th>Open Seam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stretch</strong></td>
<td>Very stretchy seam for stretch fabrics, especially for sportswear of all kinds. Suitable also for lounge-wear and craft work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presser foot:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thread:</td>
<td>sewing thread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle:</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch width:</td>
<td>1½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch length:</td>
<td>7⁄8 – 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle position:</td>
<td>centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed-dog:</td>
<td>sewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour indicator:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Practical stitch seams

**Vari-overlock seam**

- Stretchy overlock seam for all fine jersey fabrics.
- Presser foot: 2
- Stitch: 
- Stitch width: 4
- Stitch length: 1
- Needle position: right
- Feed-dog: sewing
- Colour indicator:

**Double-overlock seam**

- Stretchy overlock seam for all thicker or loosely knitted jersey fabrics.
- Presser foot: 1
- Stitch: 
- Stitch width: 5
- Stitch length: 2
- Needle position: centre
- Feed-dog: sewing
- Colour indicator:

**Reinforced overlock seam**

- Stretchy overlock seam for sweatshirts, sportswear and casual wear, crafts, etc.
- Presser foot: 1
- Stitch: 
- Stitch width: 4-5
- Stitch length: 2
- Needle position: centre
- Feed-dog: sewing
- Colour indicator:

**Flat seam**

- Visible seam for towelling, felt, leather, denim, casual wear, crafts, etc.
- Presser foot: 1
- Stitch: 
- Stitch width: 4
- Stitch length: 2
- Needle position: centre
- Feed-dog: sewing
- Colour indicator:

**Reminder**

For sewing knitted fabrics see Page 26.
**Blind hemming**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presser foot:</th>
<th>5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thread:</td>
<td>sewing/darning thread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle:</td>
<td>80 – 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch:</td>
<td>[V]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch width:</td>
<td>approx. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stitch length:</td>
<td>2 3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needle position:</td>
<td>right/half right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed-dog:</td>
<td>sewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour indicator:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sewing table/special accessory**

**Important**
As with hand sewing, fine fabrics require a fine needle and fine thread.

**Preparation**
The hem should be prepared in the same way as for sewing by hand.
Overcast raw edge, bastle and press.

**Positioning the hem**
The hem is positioned under the foot as shown in Fig. 1.

**Sewing test**
(Either on a remnant of fabric or directly on the hem.)
Given the variations in fabric thickness, it is advisable to sew a test piece first.
As when sewing by hand, the needle should only catch the fold of the fabric.
Because of these variations, a slight adjustment may be necessary.
Sew slowly until the needle swings to the left. Using the handwheel, bring the needle down until it is just about to enter the fabric and check that it is only just catching the fabric. If necessary, adjust the stitch width slightly.
Narrower if the needle is going in too far and a little wider if it is failing to catch sufficiently.
Check the next zig-zag stitch in the same way. Then sew for approximately 10 cm (4") and check again.

**Guiding the work**
In this way, you can check that the hem is running straight.
Tip: While sewing, hold the underfabric back slightly (Fig. 2).
Edge stitching using the needle positions

Edge stitching on collars, cuffs, lapels, hems, etc.

Presser foot: 5
Thread: sewing thread
Needle: 80
Stitch: 
Stitch width: 0
Stitch length: 2–5 (as required)
Needle position: left/half left
Feed-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: 

Sewing table/additional accessory

Place the edge of the fabric from the left against the guide of the Blind stitch foot (Fig. 1). Set the needle position to left or half left.

Top stitching, for edges of all kinds.

Presser foot: 1
Thread: sewing thread
Needle: 80
Stitch: 
Stitch width: 0
Stitch length: 2–5 (as required)
Needle position: any position
Feed-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: 

Guide the edge of the fabric to the edge of the presser foot or along the grooves in the stitch plate.

Widths:

- Needle position centre
- Edge of presser foot = 7.6 mm (5/32") (Fig. 2)
- Grooves in stitch plate:
  - Line 1 = 1 cm (5/16")
  - Line 2 = 1.5 cm (9/32")
  - Line 3 = 2 cm (25/64")
  - Line 4 = 2.5 cm (1") (Fig. 3)
  - Line 5 = 3 cm (1-1/8")
- It is also possible to sew intermediate widths using the left, half left, right and half right needle positions.
Buttonhole

Presser foot: 3
Thread: sewing/darning thread
Needle: 80 - 70
Stitch: automatically
Stitch width: set
Stitch length: III (satin stitch)
Needle position: set automatically
Feed-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: [Diagram]

Sewing the buttonholes

For sewing buttonholes, set thread tension to symbol [Diagram].

Set stitch length: Turn knob to the right until it locks. The mark will be at the top (Fig. 2); Stitch length is 0. By rotating half a turn to the left (mark at the bottom) the basic stitch length setting for buttonholes is obtained. Set the stitch density according to the fabric. Turn anti-clockwise for thicker fabrics clockwise for finer fabrics.

Always sew a trial buttonhole.

Lay the fabric under the foot so that the edge of the fabric lies in front of the presser foot. Lower the needle into the fabric precisely at the start of the buttonhole. Lower the presser foot and sew the buttonhole in steps.

Knob to 1: Machine sews the first bead forwards.

Knob to 2: Machine sews a reverse straight stitch.

Knob to 3: Machine sews the bar tack.

Knob to 4: Machine sews the 2nd bead forwards.

Knob to 5: Machine sews the bar tack.

Knob to 6: Machine sews securing stitches.

Further buttonholes

Reset knob to 1. The sewing sequence continues as described. For all other sewing, set knob to 0.

Cutting the buttonhole open

It is best to cut from each end of the buttonhole towards the centre (Fig. 5). This avoids cutting through a bar tack.
Buttonhole with gimp cord

The gimp cord strengthens the buttonhole.

The gimp cord is especially important for all knitted fabrics - including hand and machine knits - to prevent the buttonhole from pulling out of shape.

The thickness of the cord depends on the fabric to be sewn. Suitable cords are: perle cord no. 8, thick hand sewing thread or fine crochet cord. Sew a trial buttonhole. Lay the fabric under the foot so that the folded edge or seam lies in front of the presser foot. The loop of the gimp will lie at the end of the buttonhole where the button will pull (Fig. 1).

Sewing with gimp cord

It is easier to position the cord if the needle is already in the fabric:
1. Using the handwheel, lower the needle and check that it is in the centre of the presser foot. If not, turn the handwheel. Lower the needle into the fabric precisely at the start of the buttonhole. Do not lower the foot yet.

2. Hook the gimp cord over the centre prong of the buttonhole foot and take both ends back under the foot (Fig. 2). Lower the foot and check that the cord is able to slide, i.e. is not trapped by the foot.

3. Sew the buttonhole. At position 2 (reverse straight stitch), the cord comes away from the prong of the foot. Therefore, it is advisable to hold the loop of gimp down LIGHTLY with the finger (Fig. 3).

Finally, pull the loop of gimp through. With knitted fabrics, pull the gimp ends to the rear with a coarse hand sewing needle (Fig. 4) and tie or sew in securely. In woven fabrics, the gimp ends can be simply cut off.
Mending interlock fabric

Patching

Presser foot: 1
Stitch: stitching
Stitch width: 3 – 4
Stitch length: approx. 1 – 1½
Needle position: centre
Feet-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: 

Can also be sewn with the Universal stitch.

Mending woven fabric

Mending tears using
Running stitch
(Modern mending method)
for tears and thin areas on virtually all fabrics.

Presser foot: 0
Thread: darn thread/Machine emb. 80
Needle: 60 – 70
Stitch: 
Stitch width: 5
Stitch length: 3
Needle position: centre
Feet-dog: sewing
Colour indicator: 

Always lay a fine fabric underneath. On tears, sew 3 – 5 rows of Running stitch, depending on the type of fabric (Fig. 1). On thin areas, saw sufficient adjacent rows to cover. Let each row overlap the previous one very slightly.

Cut out a patch, if possible, from the sound part of a discarded similar garment. Where possible, round off the corners to preserve elasticity in all directions. Pin on the patch and baste as close as possible to the edge. Then sew with 1 – 2 rows of zig-zag stitch, possibly sewing in thread simultaneously.

Finally, cut away torn/worn piece from behind patch.

For all kinds, refer to the general instructions "Sewing knitted fabrics" on page 20.
Troubleshooting
Maintenance
If the sewing machine does not sew properly, it is usually due to incorrect use.

**Check whether:**
- The upper and lower threads are correctly threaded.
- The needle has been correctly inserted with the flat side of the shank to the rear.
- The needle size is correct. See needle and thread table.
- The machine is clean. Brush away any thread remnants.
- The hook race is clean and lubricated.
- Any remnants of thread are tripped between the thread tension disc and beneath the bobbin case spring.

**Upper thread breaks**
- The upper thread tension is too tight.
- Poor quality needles. Ideally, needles should be purchased from a BERNINA dealer.
- The needle has been incorrectly inserted. The flat side of the shank must be to the rear.
- The needle is blunt or bent.
- Poor quality thread, knotted or dried-out thread.
- Stitch plate or hook tip damaged. Take to a BERNINA dealer.

**Lower thread breaks**
- The lower thread tension is too tight.
- The bobbin is jamming in the bobbin case. Replace bobbin.
- The hole in the stitch plate has been damaged by the needle. This must be re-polished by an expert.
- The needle is blunt or bent.

**Skipped stitches**
- Wrong needles. Use only 130/705H needle system.
- The needle is blunt, bent or incorrectly inserted. Push right to the top when inserting.
- Poor quality, badly polished needle.
- The needle point does not suit the fabric being sewn. If necessary, use ball point for knitted fabrics and cutting point for leather.

**Needle breaks**
- Needle clamp screw not sufficiently tightened.
- Fabric withdrawn forwards instead of backwards under the presser foot.
- When sewing over a thick area, the fabric was pushed while needle still in the fabric.
- Poor quality thread, unevenly wound or knotted.

**Machine fails to run**
- Plug is not inserted properly.
- Power switch in off position.
- Machine gummed up by use of unsuitable oil. Machine will have to be cleaned by a BERNINA dealer.
- Machine has been standing in a cold room.

**Faults in seams**
- Remnants of thread between the thread tension discs.
- Remnants of thread under the bobbin case spring.
- Lower thread still threaded in the bobbin case finger.
- Threaded with foot down.
- Incorrectly threaded. Check lower and upper threads.

**Important**
If you have to take your machine to a BERNINA dealer, please always take the foot control unit and accessories.
WARNING:
Please refer to the safety instructions.

Sewing light:
220V/15 Watt

Changing the bulb

Disconnect the machine from the mains – take the plug out of socket. Using the special bulb holder, press the bulb up, twist to the left and remove.

To insert new bulb:
Place the new bulb on the bulb holder. Insert the bulb into the socket, press upwards and twist to the right as far as it will go.
If the machine is stored in a cold room, it should be brought to a warm room approximately one hour before use, to restore the oil in the bearings to a fluid state.

**Cleaning and lubricating the hook**

- Disconnect machine from the mains by removing the mains plug from the socket.
- Check that the needle is raised.
- Remove presser foot and needle.
- Open the hinged front cover on the free arm.
- Lower the feed-dog by turning knob to symbol 

1. Using both thumbs, press the stitch plate up and back.
- Take out the bobbin case.
- Clean the feed-dog, underside of the stitch plate and hook.

2. Lightly lubricate the hook, 1-2 drops.
- Replace the bobbin case.

3. To retf the stitch plate, insert the stitch plate from the rear, push forward until it engages.
- Close the hinged cover on the free arm.
- Raise the feed-dog by turning knob to symbol 

**WARNING:**
Please refer to the safety instructions.
Bernina
Publications
It is not possible to cover more than the basics of sewing in an instruction manual. However, the creative potential of your BERNINA sewing machine and BERNETTE overlocker is enormous. To help you use your machines to the full, BERNINA regularly publishes sewing literature which covers everything from simple techniques to advanced fashion projects. Your BERNINA Dealer will be delighted to give you more information.

**Sewing Service Leaflets**

Each issue of our Sewing Service Leaflets deals with a particular sewing technique presented in easy-to-follow steps. Success is guaranteed!

**BERNINA Creative Sewing**

The BERNINA Creative Sewing magazine appears twice yearly, Fashion, "Couture Rapide", home decoration, sewing for teens and tweens and craft projects are all regular features of the magazine. Special sewing techniques which are featured in the sewing projects are described in detail in words and pictures. Unusual and imaginative ideas are also included from enthusiastic sewers around the world. Read about new sewing developments and trends in the comfort of your own home. The Creative Sewing magazine is a source of inspiration for all sewers. Ask your BERNINA Dealer and learn how to get the most out of your machines.

**BERNINA Collection**

These booklets deal with one particular theme in all its variations. Based on information, pattern suggestions, detailed sewing instructions with coloured illustrations and many tips and tricks of the trade will turn you into a sewing pro in no time at all. They are issued two to three times a year, so he sure to ask your BERNINA Dealer when the next one is expected.
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**WARNING:**

Before using your sewing machine, please read the Safety Instructions.
Sollte diese Maschine in ein anderes Sprachgebiet verkauft werden, fordern Sie beim nationalen Importeur oder BERNINA-Händler eine Bedienungsanleitung in der entsprechenden Sprache an.

If this machine has been purchased in a foreign country, please request an instruction manual in your own language from the national Importer or a BERNINA dealer.

Si cette machine est vendue dans une autre région linguistique, demandez à l'importateur national ou à l'agent BERNINA, un manuel d'instructions dans la langue correspondante.

In caso questa macchina fosse venduta in un territorio di lingua diversa si prega di richiedere il libretto d'istruzione nella lingua adeguata presso l'importatore nazionale oppure presso un rivenditore BERNINA.

Si esta máquina se vende en otra región lingüística entonces pida Vd. de su importador nacional o del representante BERNINA un manual de instrucciones en el idioma correspondiente.

Indien deze machine in een ander taalgebied werd gekocht, kunt u bij de nationale importeur of BERNINA vakhandelaar een handleiding in de overeenkomstige taal aanvragen.

Skulle denne maskine blive solgt i et andet sprogområde, bedes du henvende dig hos den nationale BERNINA-importør eller en BERNINA-forhandler, hvor du kan købe en brugsanvisning på det ønskede sprog.

Om den här maskinen har köpts i ett annat land, var vanligt beställ en instruktionsbok på Ditt eget språk från importören eller en BERNINAN-återförsäljare.

Er denne maskinen kjøpt i utlandet, kan instruksjonsbok bestilles på ditt eget språk fra BERNINA importøren eller nærmeste BERNINA forhandler.

Tarvittaessa voit tiedustella omakielistä käytöohjekirjaa BERNINA-maahantuojalta tai jälleenmyyjältä.

Se esta máquina foi comprada num país estrangeiro, dever-se-á pedir o manual de instruções naquela língua ao importador nacional ou ao fornecedor da BERNINA.

Ан у машина екз аграставе се в мю екзин хъва, поради колко зглъщете ова око лерариа си дик си а филосо ато то огно антпреросмо ти БЕРНИНА и ап на тоу пилетес ти БЕРНИНА.