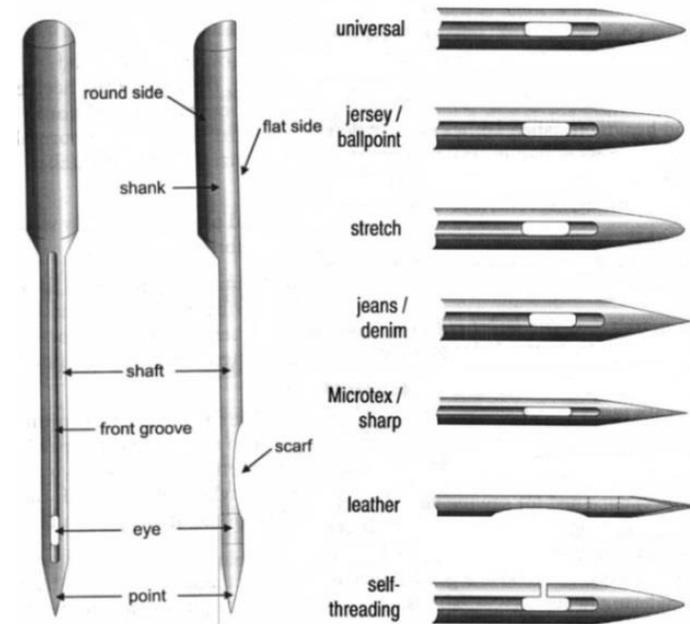


The SEWING MACHINE

NEEDLE ORGANIZER



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Parts of a Sewing Machine Needle

Eye: The size and shape of the needle eye influences what kind of thread will work best with it
Scarf: An indentation on the back of the needle that makes it easier for the hook to catch the loop of thread when the needle pierces the fabric.
Flat side: Almost all needles for home sewing machines have a round side and a flat side so that you can ensure the needle is inserted in the correct direction
Needle size: Written in tiny letters on the shaft. Most needles have both an American size (8-19) and a European size (60-120). The larger the number, the thicker the needle
Point: Needles have been engineered with a variety of points for working with different fabrics
Groove: Thread lies in the groove of the needle as it pierces the fabric. Thread that is too thick for a needle size will not lie in the groove properly or form stitches well
Shaft: The shaft refers to the entire needle from the tip to the end. A needle with a thicker shaft can go through heavier fabrics, but also makes a larger hole
Shank: The shank is the part of the needle that is inserted into the needle bar. Most needles have a flat side and a rounded side of the shank

Introduction

I hope you all find this a useful reference and handy storage for all your new and used needles!



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Karen

Selecting the correct needle for your project is just as important as selecting the fabric, thread and stabilizer. There are different sizes and types of needles for different types of fabric.

The European metric sizing system for sewing machine needles is numbered from 60 to 110. The American sizing system is numbered from 8 to 18. For both sizing systems, the lower the number the finer the needle and the higher the number the larger the needle. Most needle companies show both sizes on the package.

A good rule of thumb to keep in mind: the lighter the fabric the smaller the needle size and the heavier the fabric the larger the needle size.

Many times the thread you will be using for your sewing project will also determine the type of needle you choose. For example, when using a fine, delicate thread, be sure to use a smaller needle size.

*Change needles regularly (after 16 hours of use) as dull/weak needles can cause damage to your machine and fabric.**

Sources:

*<http://www.singerco.com/sewing-resources/machine-needles>

www.sewitworks.com/needle-guide/

www.schmetzneedles.com/all-about-needles/

Contents

Parts of a Sewing Machine Needle

Universal/Standard

Ballpoint/Jersey

Stretch

Embroidery + Titanium/Gold

Topstitch

Metallic

Microtex/Sharp

Leather/Vinyl

Jeans/Denim

Quilting

Hemstitch/Wing

Double Eye

Twin Universal

Twin Stretch

Twin Embroidery

Twin Metallic

Twin Jeans/Denim

Twin Wing/Hemstitch

Triple Universal

Overlocker

Fabric, Needle & Thread Chart

Sewing Machine Needles - UNIVERSAL								
Universal needles are rounded enough to be compatible with knits, but sharp enough to pierce woven synthetic and natural fibres. They may not be sharp enough for some heavy woven fabrics like denim.								
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>								
60/8	65/9	70/10	75/11	80/12	90/14	100/16	110/18	120/19

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UNIVERSAL	

BALLPOINT/JERSEY	

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Sewing Machine Needles – BALLPOINT/JERSEY			
Ballpoint needles have a rounded tip that makes it easy for them to pierce knits, jerseys, lingerie, net, and similar fabrics without destroying the knitted or elasticized fibres			
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>			
70/10	80/11	90/14	100/16

Sewing Machine Needles - STRETCH	
Stretch needles can be used when ballpoint needles still cause skipped stitches. The medium ball point, specially designed eye and scarf prevent skipped stitches. They are especially good for elastic, lycra, and other very stretchy fabrics.	
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	
75/11	90/14

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STRETCH	

EMBROIDERY	

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Sewing Machine Needles - EMBROIDERY	
Machine embroidery needles have a special scarf, widened groove and enlarged eye to protect fragile threads from shredding and breaking, and guard against excess friction allowing trouble-free embroidery and decorative stitching.	
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	
75/11	90/14

Also available in **Gold/Titanium** needles - Titanium coating resists adhesives, improves needle wear & penetration of coarse and densely woven fabrics.

Sewing Machine Needles - TOPSTITCH		
Topstitch needles have very a sharp point, a large eye, and a deep groove to enable them to accommodate the thicker topstitch thread and sew through thick materials		
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>		
80/12	90/14	100/16

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TOPSTITCH	

METALLIC	

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Sewing Machine Needles - METALLIC	
Metallic needles have a longer eye to keep metallic thread from fraying or breaking. They work well with monofilament threads (threads that are made from a single strand of material, rather than multiple fibres wound together)	
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	
80/12	90/14

Sewing Machine Needles – MICROTEX/SHARP					
Sharp/Microtex needles are ideal for woven fabrics, heirloom quality sewing, quilt piercing, and fine fabrics that require delicate stitching. The very thin acute point creates beautiful topstitching and perfectly straight stitches for quilt piecing when precision is paramount.					
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>					
60/8	70/10	80/12	90/14	100/16	110/18

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MICROTEX/SHARP	

LEATHER/VINYL	

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Sewing Machine Needles – LEATHER/VINYL				
Leather/vinyl needles have a wedge-shaped point to cut through materials without leaving a large hole behind				
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>				
70/10	80/12	90/14	100/16	110/18

Sewing Machine Needles – DENIM/JEANS				
Denim/jeans needles have sharp points and stiff shanks that give them the strength to sew through thick and densely woven fabrics.				
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>				
70/10	80/12	90/14	100/16	110/18

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DENIM/JEAN	

QUILTING	

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Sewing Machine Needles - QUILTING	
Quilting needles have a sharp, tapered point that can easily pierce multiple layers of cloth	
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	
75/11	90/14

Sewing Machine Needles – WING/Hemstitch	
Wing/hemstitch needles create holes in fabric to give it an “eyelet” effect. They are often used for heirloom sewing, or in sewing decorative hems and borders	
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	
100/16	120/19

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WING/Hemstitch	

DOUBLE EYE	

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Sewing Machine Needles – DOUBLE EYE	
	80/12
Universal needle with two eyes.	
Suitable for knits and woven	
Use two different threads for shading and texturing effects for embroidery and top stitching	
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	

Sewing Machine Needles – TWIN UNIVERSAL									
The single shaft has two needles to create two parallel lines on the right side for perfect topstitching. On the reverse the bobbin thread produces a zigzag as it travels between the two needles. Use for Heirloom Pintucks and applying narrow ribbon.									
<i>The first number is the space between the needles; the second is the size of the needle. The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>									
1.6/ 70	1.6/ 80	2.0/ 80	2.5/ 80	4.0/ 80	3.0/ 90	4.0/ 90	4.0/ 100	6.0/ 100	8.0/ 100

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TWIN UNIVERSAL	

TWIN STRETCH	

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Sewing Machine Needles – TWIN STRETCH		
<p>The single shaft has two needles to create the parallel lines on the right side (similar to the cover stitch effect) and on the reverse the bobbin thread produces a zigzag as it travels between the two needles!</p> <p>It is important to buy a stretch twin needle for sewing knit fabrics because a universal twin needle will cause missed or skipped stitches on the surface</p> <p><i>The first number is the space between the needles; the second is the size of the needle. The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i></p>	2.5/75	4.0/75

Sewing Machine Needles – TWIN EMBROIDERY		
<i>The first number is the space between the needles, the second is the size of the needle.</i>		
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	2.0/75	3.0/75
<p>Twin needles. Light ball point, wide eye and groove. Use with rayon, polyester and other specialty embroidery threads.</p> <p>The special scarf, widened groove and enlarged eye protect fragile threads and guard against excess friction allowing trouble-free embroidery and decorative stitching.</p>		

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TWIN METALLIC	

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TWIN EMBROIDERY	

Sewing Machine Needles – TWIN METALLIC		
<i>The first number is the space between the needles, the second is the size of the needle.</i>		
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	2.5/80	3.0/90
<p>Twin Machine needles for top stitching and sewing with metallic threads.</p> <p>The elongated eye helps prevent metallic threads from shredding and allows the use of thicker threads for top stitching</p>		

Sewing Machine Needles – TWIN DENIM/JEAN	
A medium Ballpoint with reinforced blade for penetrating extra thick woven fabrics, denims, or quilts with minimum needle deflection. Reduces risk of needle breakage and skipped stitches. For hemming and topstitching. Twin needles create two perfectly parallel lines of stitching. If sewing stretch denim you may need to use the twin stretch needles instead. The bobbin will zigzag between the two needles on the underside	4.0/100
<i>The first number is the space between the needles, the second is the size of the needle. The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	

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TWIN JEAN	

TWIN WING/HEMSTITCH	

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Sewing Machine Needles – TWIN WING	
The single shaft has two needles, a wing/hemstitch needle and a universal needle. The 'wing' creates a hole in loosely woven fabric, and used with certain stitches produces Heirloom effects. Best used with an open toe foot for clear visibility. On the reverse the bobbin thread produces a zigzag as it travels between the two needles.	2.5/100
The first number is the space between the needles; the second number is the size of the needle. <i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	

Sewing Machine Needles – TRIPLE UNIVERSAL	
The single shaft has three needles to create three parallel lines on the right side for perfect topstitching. On the reverse the bobbin thread produces a zigzag as it travels between the three needles.	
The sizes have two number designations, one is the space between the needles and the other is the needle size.	
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	
2.5/80	3.0/80

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TRIPLE UNIVERSAL	

OVERLOCKER	

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Sewing Machine Needles – OVERLOCKER HAX1SP		
<i>The smaller the number, the finer the needle</i>	75/11	90/14
Special point universal needles. Chrome-plated with a reinforced blade. Has a medium ball point and is mainly for stretch and other elastic materials.		
Has a longer and wider eye than the normal Universal needle which makes the needle suitable for thicker sewing or embroidery thread		

Fabric, Needle and Thread Guide

Fabric, Needle and Thread Guide

Weight	Fabric Type	Needle Size	Needle Type	Thread Type
Very fine	batiste, chiffon, crepe, fine tricot, gauze, georgette, lace, lawn, net, organdie, silk, taffeta, tulle, voile	60/8-65/9	Ballpoint or Sharp Microtex	Extra fine mercerized cotton or polyester
Light	calico, challis, chambray, charmeuse, eyelet, seersucker, thin linens	65/9 70/10 75/11	Sharp Microtex	Fine mercerized cotton, cotton covered polyester, silk, or synthetic/polyester long-fibre thread
	cotton/poly knits, jersey, light sweater knit, nylon, stretch terry cloth, stretch velour, tricot	65/9 70/10 75/11	Ballpoint	All-purpose cotton or polyester, cotton wrapped polyester, or polyester long-fibre thread
	very stretchy fabrics: lycra, spandex, very stretchy knits	70/10 75/11	Stretch	Mercerized cotton or polyester
	delicate leather, suede	70/10-75/11	Leather/vinyl or Sharp/Microtex	All-purpose cotton or polyester

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Weight	Fabric Type	Needle Size	Needle Type	Thread Type
Medium	cottons, gabardine, gingham, linen, flannel, muslin, poplin, medium weight satin	75/11-90/14	Universal or Sharp/Microtex	All-purpose mercerized cotton or polyester
	light wool, flannel, fleece, chino, percale, pique, velveteen, velour	75/11-90/14	Ballpoint	All-purpose mercerized cotton or polyester
	medium leather, suede, vinyl	90/14	Leather/vinyl	All-purpose cotton or polyester
Heavy	fake fur	75/11-90/14	Ballpoint	All-purpose cotton or polyester
	denim, drapery, sailcloth, thick wool and tweed, ticking	100/16	Jean/Denim	Heavy duty mercerized cotton, polyester, or silk
	canvas, duck, upholstery	110/18	Jean/Denim	Heavy duty mercerized cotton, polyester, or silk
	thick leather, suede, vinyl	100/16	Leather/vinyl	All-purpose cotton or polyester

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