

NEEDLE SELECTION GUIDE

3 MAIN THINGS NEEDED TO SELECT THE PROPER NEEDLE:

1 - NEEDLE SYSTEM, 2 - SIZE & 3 - POINT TYPE

The finish of the needle or other premium features can be reviewed in addition to those main things, to ensure you have the best needle for your task.

1. NEEDLE SYSTEM

Each machine has been created to accept a specific needle system. The shape, diameter and length of the shaft of the needle are specific to the needle system. Knowing what needle system your machine takes is the first thing you will need to know. This information can be found in the machine's manual, or on the needle package you are working with.

The needle packs list the needle system on the top. The needle systems listed underneath the main system are equivalent systems.

Home sewing machines use a flat shank needle and the systems are referred to 130/705, HAx1, and 15x1.







2. NEEDLE SIZE

As the size of the needle increases the thickness and the strength of the needle increases. The eye of the needle gets larger to accommodate thicker threads. A larger hole will be pierced into the material. It's best to use a needle that is the best size for the thread that will be used. If the needle is too small for the thread, the thread will fray and not move though the needle properly. Likewise, if the needle is too large for the thread, you may notice more damage to the fabric, as well as skipped stitches.

These needles are a size "10", generally the metric size is also listed. A size "10" is a metric size "70".







3. NEEDLE POINT TYPE

The type of needle point needed is based on the type of material that you will be sewing. Those packs all list the needle tip as "SES" which is a light ball point tip. "FFG" and "BP" are other codes that also mean ball point tip. See the following page for some other common point types.

SPECIFIC NEEDLE SYSTEM NOTES

DBx1- The shank will increase in size after a size 18 needle. After size 18, the shank size increases and the needle system becomes a needle system 134. If you can't use the larger shank in your machine, you will need to change to a 1738A or 16x95 needle system.

135x16 and 135x17 are the same system. 135x16 means that needle was created with a leather tip. 135x17 comes in multiple style tips for sewing different fabrics.





NAME	TIP CODE	DEFINITION	USES
Cross Point	SCH	Narrow cross point cuts lenticular shape. Good for leather.	Leathers.
Diamond Point	D, DIA,TRI	Cutting point for leather and vinyl.	Leather, suedes and vinyl.
Double Eye	DE	Comes with 2-eyes.	Decorative seams with decorative threads.
Embroidery	E, EBBR	For polyester and rayon embroidery.	Embroidery, woolen threads for embroidery and rayon.
Embroidery	ET, PD	Light ball point, titanium nitride coating for improved needle wear in high stitch count applications.	Embroidery and on coarse and densely woven fabrics.
Embroidery Anti-Glue	E-LP		
Embroidery Spring	SPR	Spring around needle for frame embroidery without a presser foot.	Embroidery without presser foot, free motion and for better viewing while sewing.
Heavy Ball Point	SKU, U Ball, BPH	For highly elastic materials.	
Hemstitch	WING	"Wing" on each side of the needle blade to push the fabric aside.	Decorative seams and hemstitching in loosely woven fabrics.
Jeans/Denim	J, Jeans, Denim	Modified medium ball point.	Canvas, denim, jeans and twill.
Jersey/ Ball Point	SUK, FG, BPM	Sewing on knits and stretch. Medium ball point.	Bed linen jersey, cotton jersey, fake fur, foundation garments, gauze, jersey knits, knits with elastic, lingerie, lycra, sweatshirts and tulle.
Leather	LL, LR	For leathers, artificial leathers, cutting point.	Artificial leathers, leathers and suedes.
Light Ball Point	SES, BPL, FFG	Used in overlock or industrial machines.	Bed linen jersey, cotton jersey, fake fur, foundation garments, gauze, jersey knits, knits with elastic, lingerie, lycra, sweatshirts, tulle, especially being sewn in overlock or industrial machines.
Metallic Thread	MET, MF, METAL	Has an elongated eye.	Decorative threads and metallic threads.
Microtex (Sharp)	M, SPI, S-SET, RS	Sharp slim acute point for microfibers.	Bamboo, brocade, chiffon, cork, crepe, crinkle, elastic, foils, microfiber, nylon, oil cloth, organdy, organza, polyester, poplin, sequined, silk, taffeta, vinyl and waxed cloth.
Quick Threading	HDK	Slip in thread slot.	Same use as regular tip needles, easier to thread.
Quilting	Q, DP, QU	Special taper and a slight round point for piercing multiple materials.	Quilting and patchwork.
Regular/ Universal	R, RG, H	Normal round point.	Bed linen woven, brocade, chambray, chenille, chiffon, corduroy, cotton, crepe, crinkle, felt, flannel, fleece, fake fur, gabardine, leather-thin, linen, nylon, organdy, organza, polyester, rayon, seersucker, taffeta, terry cloth, tulle, velour, velvet, voile, viscose and wool.
Stretch	S	Medium Ball point, special eye and scarf for highly elastic materials.	Bed linen jersey, cotton jersey, elastic, fleece, jersey w/ elastic, knots with elastic, lingerie, lycra, sequined, silk-jersey and velvet.
Super Universal Stretch	SU, SP	Non-stick coating. Extra-large eye, for embroidery work, normal round point.	Embroidery, Woolen threads for embroidery and rayon.
Titanium Nitride Coating- Premium	SAN® 5, SAN® 6, SERV, NY2	Less skipped stitches, reduced stress on machine, higher productivity.	For heavy fabric, multiple layers and sewing at faster speeds.
Top Stitch	N	Extra long eye.	Dense, thick, or decorative topstitching.
Twin Embroidery	E ZWI	2 needles on 1 shaft for embroidery.	Same use as embroidery needles, for parallel stitches.
Twin Jean Needles	J ZWI	2 needles on 1 shaft for more dense materials.	Same use as jean needles, for parallel stitches.
Twin Metallic	MET Zwi	2 needles on 1 shaft for metallic threads.	Same use as metallic needles, for parallel stitches.
Twin Needles	ZWI	2 needles on 1 shaft.	Same use as regular tip needles, for parallel stitches.
Twin Stretch Needles	S ZWI	2 needles on 1 shaft for more elastic materials.	Same use as stretch tip needles, for parallel stitches.