

# Using a Sewing Machine

**Lesson 4**  
**Study Guide**

**Directions:** As you read the lesson, answer the following questions. Later you can use this study guide to review for the Handbook test for Part 2.

1. Why is a ballpoint needle especially good for knits? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. How is a leather needle designed for its purpose? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Which size needle is finer, a 9 or a 14? How do you know this? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Why must the take-up lever move up and down as you sew? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. What is the function of the tension discs? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. What do the numbers on the stitch-length control indicate? \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Lesson 4**  
**Study Guide** (continued)

7. How do a basting stitch and a reinforcement stitch compare in length? What is the reason for this difference?

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8. How does a properly balanced stitch appear? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. Why is correct pressure between the presser foot and feed dogs important to sewing a secure seam?

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10. Identify three possible causes for skipped stitches in a seam. \_\_\_\_\_

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11. Why is the zipper foot useful for attaching zippers? \_\_\_\_\_

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12. How would you remove lint from a sewing machine? \_\_\_\_\_

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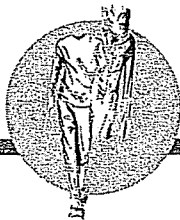
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13. Why might you choose a computerized machine? Why might you not? \_\_\_\_\_

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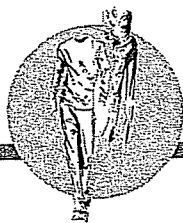
# Parts of a Sewing Machine

**Lesson 4**  
**Activity**

**Directions:** Read the functions of the sewing machine components described below. In the space provided, write the name of the correct part. No part will be used more than once. Some parts will not be used.

Bobbin	Needle	Stitch-pattern control
Bobbin case	Needle clamp	Stitch-width control
Bobbin winder	Presser foot	Take-up lever
Feed dog	Reverse button	Tension control
Foot or knee control	Spool pins	Thread guides
Hand wheel	Stitch-length control	Throat or needle plate

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Helps guide upper thread from spool to needle without tangling.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Controls movement of the take-up lever; can be turned by hand to raise or lower the needle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Teeth that move the fabric under the presser foot, advancing the fabric one stitch at a time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Holds the bottom thread.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Hold spools of thread.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Holds the fabric against the feed as you stitch.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Regulates the tension of the tension discs on the needle thread.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Control that allows you to stitch backwards.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Regulates the starting, running, and stopping of the machine.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Controls the amount of thread pulled from the top spool for each stitch; moves up and down as you stitch.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Regulates the width of zigzag stitching and positions the needle for straight stitching.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Regulates the length of the stitch.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Located directly under the needle; usually has guidelines to help maintain straight stitching.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Pierces the fabric with the upper thread to form stitches.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Regulates the selection of different stitches.



# Identifying Sewing Equipment

**Directions:** As you read the lesson, answer the following questions. Later you can use this study guide to review for the Handbook test for Part 2.

1. What are the six basic purposes of sewing equipment? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What is a sewing gauge used for? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. For what tasks is a transparent ruler especially useful? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Describe three uses for pins in sewing. \_\_\_\_\_

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5. What kind of pin is best for working with a knitted fabric? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Why do shears have bent handles? \_\_\_\_\_

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7. What is the purpose of pinking shears? Would you use them if you are using a serger for your project? Why or why not?

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**Lesson 6**  
**Study Guide (continued)**

8. List four tools used to mark fabric. \_\_\_\_\_

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9. What is one advantage of using a fabric marking pen? \_\_\_\_\_

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10. How are glue sticks and basting tape similar? \_\_\_\_\_

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11. What are two uses for a press cloth? \_\_\_\_\_

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12. What pieces of equipment are specially made for pressing curved areas of a garment? \_\_\_\_\_

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13. Give three tips for organizing a sewing box. \_\_\_\_\_

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14. What may result from ironing over pins? \_\_\_\_\_

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