

Getting to Know: Diana

A-LINE SERIES Model BL480A



FOR THE LOVE OF SEWING

Baby Lock Consumer Helpline: 800-313-4110 www.babylock.com



Diana Model BL480A

Introducing Diana, the easy-to-use serger from the Baby Lock A-Line Series designed for creative techniques. If you're bursting at the seams with ambition, Diana's the perfect friend to help keep those stitches secure with cover stitching, chain stitching, rolled hems and more. Diana loves a challenge, and she's the perfect friend to call when you need an extra hand.

This Getting to Know You Guide will take you through a simple, step-by-step process on how to thread your serger and set tension dials for balanced stitches. Once you're familiar with your machine, refer to the instruction and reference guide (packaged with your machine) for additional directions.

Like all machines in the A-Line Series, Diana has the features and the durability to handle all of your projects – you can always count on her to be there for you. Be sure to ask your Baby Lock Retailer about Diana's friends in the A-Line Series, like Audrey, Anna and Grace. From classic tailored looks to modern-day fashions, the machines in the A-Line Series will help you sew and serge with success – all with the quality you've come to expect from Baby Lock.



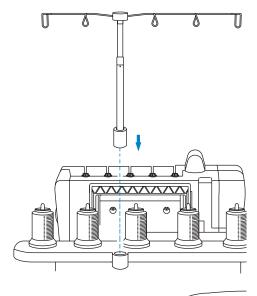


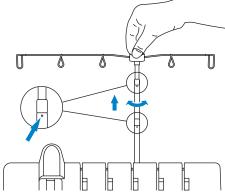
When threading, it's important to consider the type of thread you use for serging. Remember, a serger creates a finished look with reinforced stitches, so strong thread is an important ingredient. A top quality, long staple, polyester or poly/cotton blend is the best choice. Skipped stitches and broken threads are often the direct result of using old or inferior thread.

Preparation For Threading

Setting Up the Thread Antenna

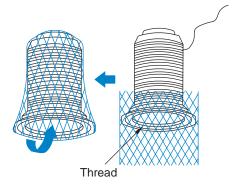
- Take out the thread antenna from the top of styrofoam, and insert it as shown in first illustration.
- Fully extend the thread antenna.
- The two joints on the telescope will click into place when they are correctly positioned as shown in second illustration
- · Center the thread guides above the spool pins.
- Place thread over the cone adapters on the spool pins.





Thread Net

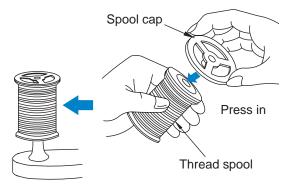
When using synthetic threads that easily spill off the cone, slip the thread net furnished with the machine, over the thread from bottom of the cone leaving the thread end hanging free at the top as shown on the right.





Spool Cap

• When using a regular thread spool, fit the spool cap supplied with the machine onto the thread spool as shown at right.

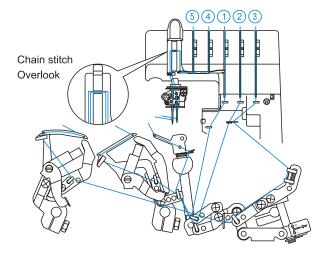


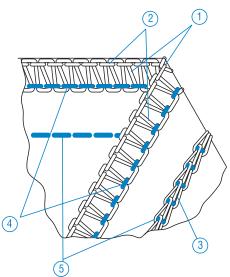
Threading the Machine

Threading Diagram Sequence: 5-Thread Chain Stitch-3-Thread overlock

- A color coded threading diagram is located inside the front cover for quick reference.
- Thread the machine in the order 1 to 5 as shown at right.

Note: Threads go through the take-up lever cover for Overlock and Chain stitching as shown.





Tension Color Code: 5-Thread Chain Stitch-3-Thread overlock

- 1. Upper looper thread Green
- 2. Lower looper thread Blue
- 3. Chain stitch looper thread Purple
- 4. Right needle thread Yellow
- 5. Chain stitch needle threadRed



Threading Triple Cover Stitch

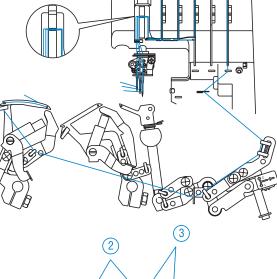
Threading Diagram Sequence: Triple Cover Stitch

- A color threading diagram is located inside the front cover for quick reference.
- Thread the machine in the order 1 to 4 as shown at right.

Note: Threads go through the take-up lever cover for cover stitch as shown.

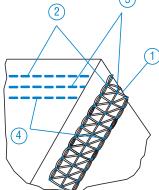
Tension Color Code: Triple Cover Stitch

- 4. Left needle thread Red



3

(1)



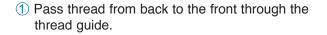


Manual Threading Threading the Upper Looper (Green)

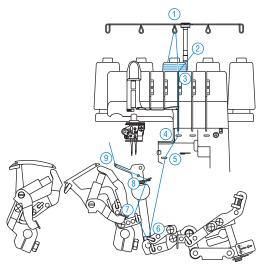
Open the front cover and thread the upper looper as indicated in steps 1 through 9.

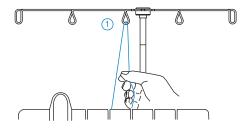
CAUTION: Be sure to turn off power switch

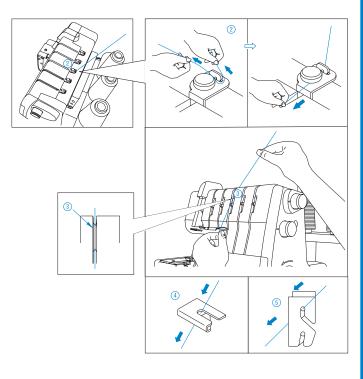
- Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.
- Thread the upper area of the machine following the green color-coded thread guides.



- ② Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.
- ③ While holding thread with fingers, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.
- ④ Place the thread from right to left into thread guide.
- (5) Place the thread from left to right and position thread behind finger on thread guide.





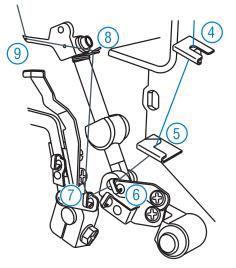


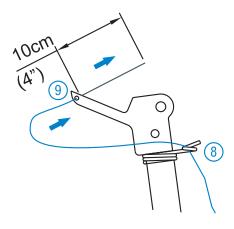


6 7 & 8 Thread the balance of the upper looper area of the machine following the green color-coded thread guides.

(9) Thread the hole in the upper looper from front to back. Make sure thread passes behind lower looper. Pull about 10cm (4 inches) of thread through the looper and place to the back of the needle plate.

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the looper.







Manual Threading Threading the Lower Looper (Blue)

(1)

(1)

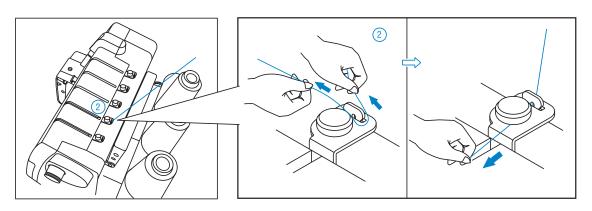
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Open the front cover and thread the lower looper as indicated in steps 1 through 10.

- Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.
- Turn the handwheel toward you until the lower looper eye extends out 5 10mm from the needle plate edge.
- Thread the lower looper area of the machine following the blue color-coded thread guides.

1 Pass thread from back to the front through the thread guide.

2 Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.



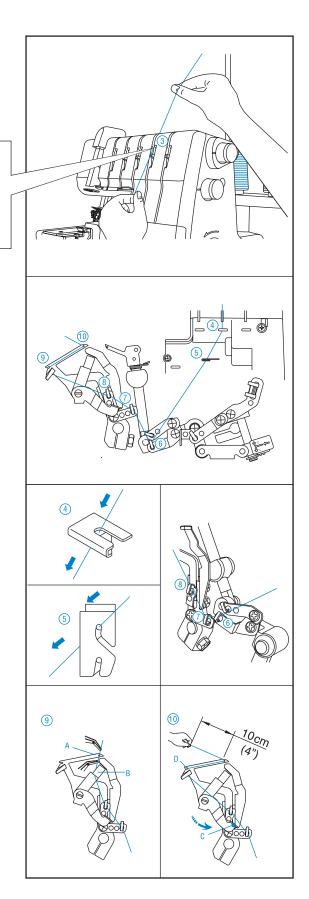


③ While holding thread with fingers, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

- ④ Place the thread from right to left, into the thread guide.
- ⑤ Place the thread from right to left, into the thread guide.
- (6) 7 & (8) Thread the balance of the lower looper area of the machine following the blue color-coded thread guides, placing thread in guides.

(9) & (10) Thread the lower looper eye (A) from front to back. Pull about 10cm (4 inches) of thread and position into V cutout (B) on looper threader. Firmly hold thread tail with left hand and pull threader lever (C) up into place (D).

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the looper.

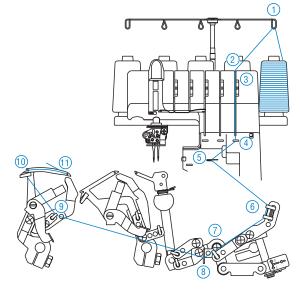


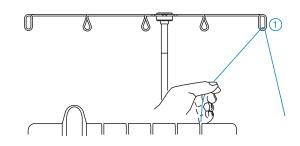


Manual Threading Threading the Chain and Cover Chain Stitch Looper (Purple)

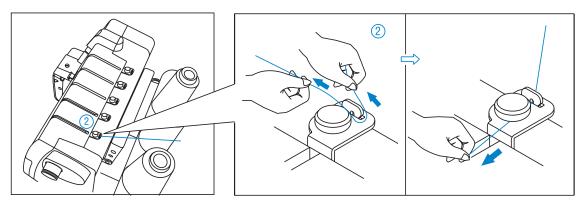
Open the front cover and thread the chain stitch/cover stitch looper as indicated in steps 1 through 11.

- · Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.
- Turn the handwheel toward you until the chain stitch looper eye extends out 5 10mm from the needle plate edge.
- Thread the chain looper area of the machine following the purple color-coded thread guides.





- 1 Pass thread from back to the front through the thread guide.
- 2 Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.





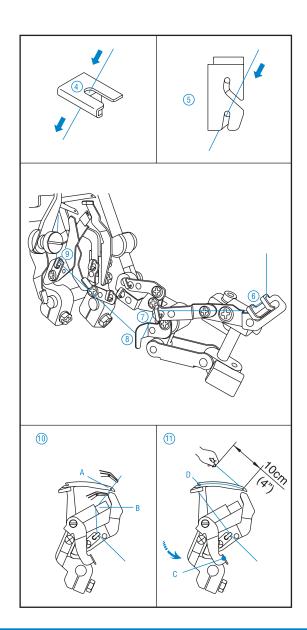
③ While holding thread with fingers, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

(3)

- ④ Place the thread from right and to left into threading guide..
- 5 Place the thread from right to left into threading guide.
- (6) 7 (8) & (9) Thread the balance of the lower looper area of the machine following the purple color-coded thread guides, placing thread in guides.

(1) & (1) Thread the looper eye (A) from front to back. Pull about 10cm (4 inches) of thread and position into V cutout (B) on threader. Firmly hold thread tail with left hand and pull threader lever (C) up to place thread into correct position (D) for sewing.

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the looper.

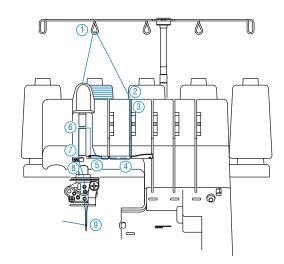




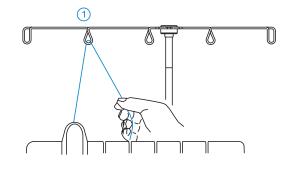
Manual Threading Threading the Overlock Right Needle (Yellow) (B on needle clamp)

Thread the center needle as indicated in steps 1 through 9.

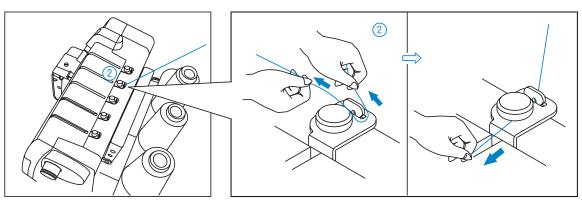
Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.



1 Pass thread from back to the front through the thread guide.

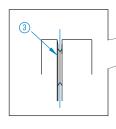


2 Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.





③ While holding thread with fingers, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

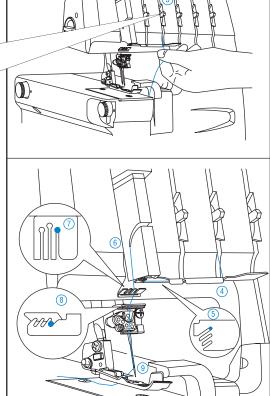


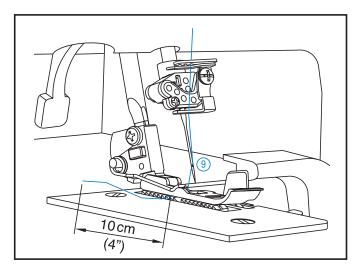
- 4 & 5 Slip thread behind metal guide and into rear slot on thread guide.
- 6 Pass thread into the slot of take-up lever cover.
- Position thread into the right guide located at base of take-up lever cover.
- (8) Slip thread from left to right into the thread guide located on bottom of the needle clamp. Position the thread into the right section of the guide.

Note: Before threading eye of needle, slip thread behind thread guide located on the bottom of the needle clamp.

(9) Thread the eye of the right needle from front to back. Draw about 10cm (4 inches) of thread through needle eye toward the rear of machine and place thread to the back, under the presser foot.

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the needle.



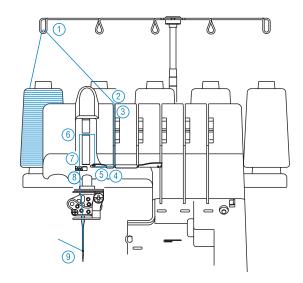




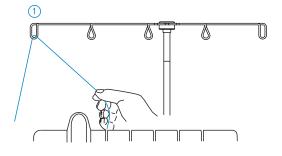
Manual Threading Threading the Chain Stitch Needle (Red) (D on needle clamp) Center Needle

Thread the center needle as indicated in steps 1 through 9.

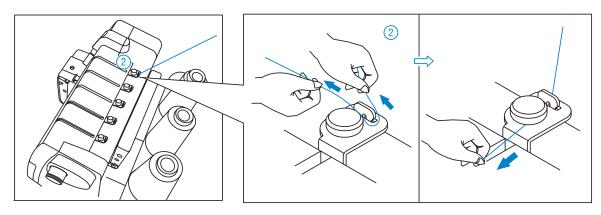
• Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.



1 Pass thread from back to the front through the thread guide.



2 Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.





③ While holding thread with fingers, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

(3)

- 4 & 5 Slip thread behind metal guide and into center slot on thread guide.
- 6 Pass thread into the slot of take-up lever cover.
- Position thread into the center slot on guide located at base of take-up lever cover.
- (8) Slip thread from left to right into the thread guide located on bottom of the needle clamp. Position the thread into the center section of the guide.

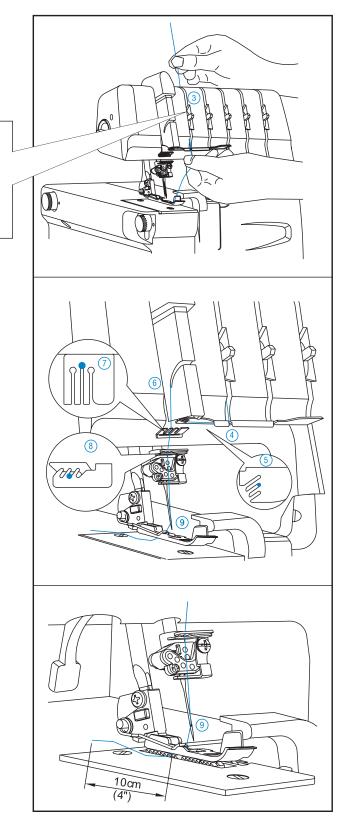
Note: For 4-Thread overlock left needle: Use Needle A.

Note: Before threading eye of needle, slip thread behind thread guide located on the bottom of the needle clamp.

Note: For Chain stitch: Use needle D before threading eye of needle, make sure thread is in front of thread guide located at bottom of the needle clamp.

(9) Thread the eye of the center needle from front to back. Position of the thread must be behind the thread guide for overlock stitching. Draw about 10cm (4 inches) of thread through needle eye toward the rear of machine and place thread to the back, under the presser foot.

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the needle.



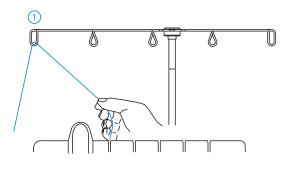


Manual Threading Threading the Left Cover Stitch Needle (Red) (C on needle clamp)

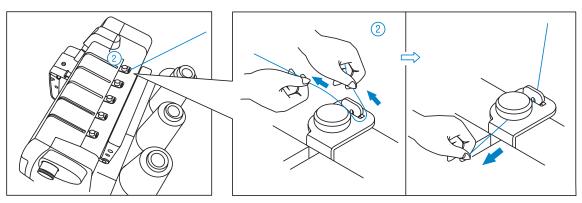
Thread the cover stitch/left chain stitch needle as indicated in steps 1 through 9.

• Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.

- (1) Pass thread from back to the front through the thread guide.

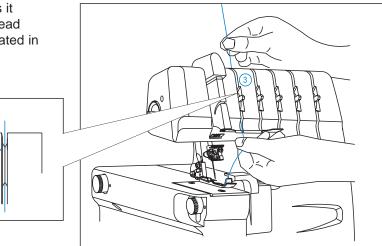


2 Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.





3 While holding thread with fingers, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

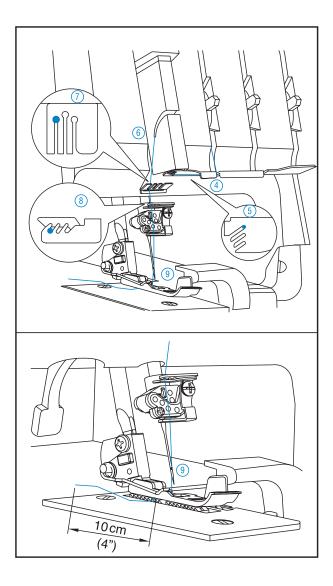


- (4) & (5) Slip thread behind metal guide and into rear slot on thread guide.
- 6 Pass thread into the slot of take-up lever cover.
- Position thread into the left guide located at base of take-up lever cover.
- (8) Slip thread from left to right into the thread guide located on bottom of the needle clamp. Position the thread into the left section of the guide.

Note: Before threading eye of needle, make sure thread is in front of thread guide located on the bottom of the needle clamp, for cover stitch and for chain stitch.

(9) Thread the eye of the left needle. Draw about 10cm (4 inches) of thread through needle eye to hang free. Place the thread to the back, and slightly to left under the presser foot.

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the needle.

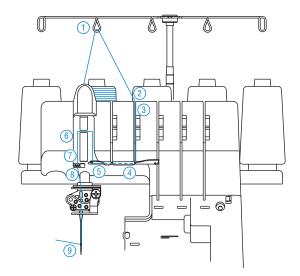


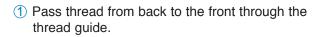


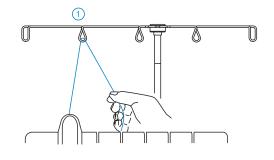
Manual Threading Threading the Cover Stitch Middle/Chain Needle (Yellow) (D on needle clamp) Center Needle

Thread the center needle as indicated in steps 1 through 9.

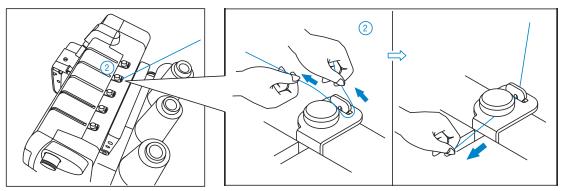
· Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.







② Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.





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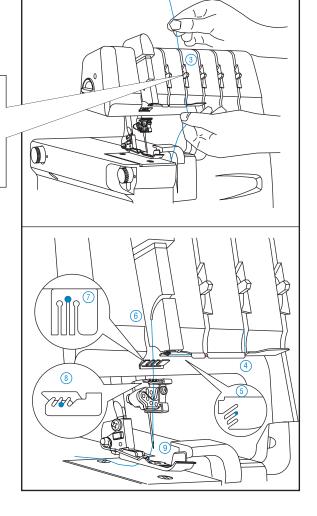
③ While holding thread with fingers, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

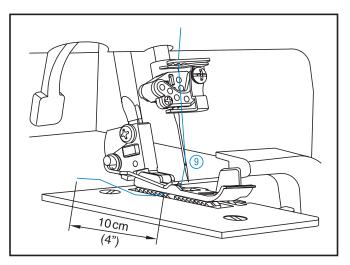
- ④ & ⑤ Slip thread behind metal guide and into center slot on thread guide.
- 6 Pass thread into the slot of take-up lever cover.
- Position thread into the center guide located at base of take-up lever cover.
- (8) Slip thread from left to right into the thread guide located on bottom of the needle clamp. Position the thread into the center section of the guide.

Note: Before threading eye of needle, make sure thread is in front of thread guide located on the bottom of the needle clamp, for cover stitch and for chain stitch.

(9) Thread the eye of the middle needle. Draw about 10cm (4 inches) of thread through needle eye to hang free. Place the thread to the back, and slightly to left under the presser foot.

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the needle.







Manual Threading Threading the Cover Stitch Right Needle (Green) (E on needle clamp)

Thread the cover stitch right needle as indicated in steps 1 through 9.

• Raise Presser foot to release tension discs.

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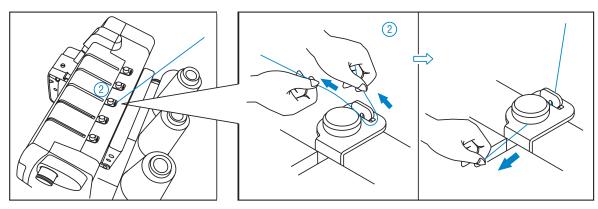
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1 Pass thread from back to the front through the thread guide.



② Thread the top cover thread guide by pulling the thread towards the left until it slips under guide. Then pull thread along the right side of pretension disc as illustrated.





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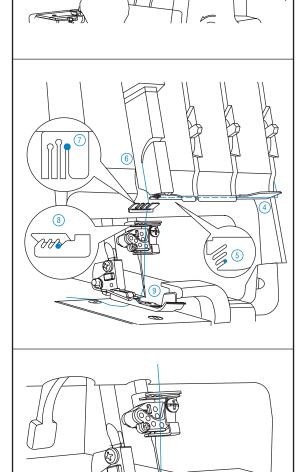
③ While holding thread with finger, pass it between the tension discs and pull thread down to make certain it is properly located in between the tension discs.

- ④ & ⑤ Slip thread behind metal guide and into front slot on thread guide.
- 6 Pass thread into the slot of take-up lever cover.
- Position thread into right guide located at base of take-up lever cover.
- (8) Slip thread from left to right into the thread guide located on bottom of the needle clamp. Position the thread into the right section of the guide.

Note: Before threading eye of needle, make sure thread is in front of thread guide located on the bottom of the needle clamp, for cover stitch.

(9) Thread the eye of the right needle. Draw about 10cm (4 inches) of thread through needle eye to hang free. Place the thread to the back, and slightly to left under the presser foot.

Note: Use tweezers provided in the accessory case to aid in threading the needle.



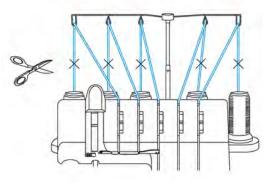
10 cm

(4")

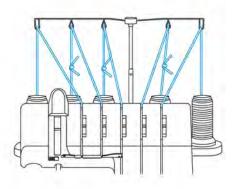


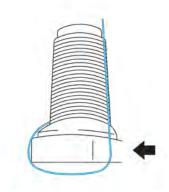
How to Change Threads Tie On Method

• To change thread type or color, clip thread near the spool.



- Place new thread on stand.
- Tie new thread and old thread ends together with a square knot. Clip thread tails to 2-3cm (1 inch) length. If clipped too short, threads may come untied.
- Firmly pull both thread to test knot security.
- Raise Presser foot to release Tension discs.
- Pull the threads through the machine one at a time.
- If threads do not pull easily, check for tangles on thread guides or looping under thread stand.
- When pulling thread through the needles, STOP when the knot is in front of the needle.
- Cut the thread, and insert it through the needle.

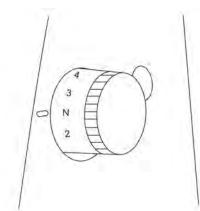






How to Adjust the Stitch Length

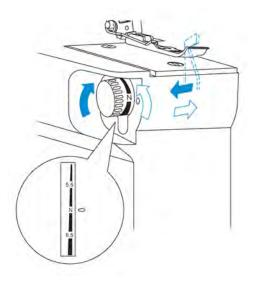
- The stitch length dial should be set on the N setting for most sewing conditions.
- Adjust the stitch length to N-4 when sewing heavy weight fabrics.
- Adjust the stitch length to 2-N when sewing lightweight fabrics to obtain excellent seams without puckering.



Stitch Width

Width adjustment dial

As shown on the illustration, turn the dial counter clockwise to increase width of cutting, and clockwise to decrease width of cutting.





Chaining Off and Test Sewing

Note: The following instructions do not apply to cover stitch.

For instructions on cover stitch, see page 48 "How to Sew a Cover Stitch", in the instruction manual.

- When the machine is completely threaded, bring all of the threads across the throat plate and slightly to the left under the pressor foot.
- Hold the threads and apply a slight tension.
- Turn the hand wheel toward you 2 or 3 complete turns to start the thread chain.
- · Lower presser foot.
- Continue holding the chain and press on the foot controller until chain is 5-7.5cm (2-3 inches) in length.
- Place fabric under the front of the presser foot and sew a test sample.

Note: Do not pull on the fabric while sewing as this may deflect the needle, causing it to break.

• At the end of the sample, continue to run the machine with the presser foot down until the chain reaches 15-20cm (6-8 inches) in length.

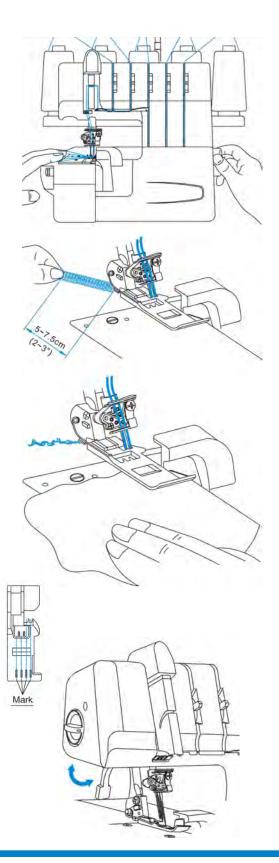
Note: In case it is difficult to chain off when chain stitching, pull the fabric lightly backward.

Presser Foot Markings

• A mark to indicate the needle location is provided on the presser foot fitted on this machine. Use this mark as a guide when sewing.

Presser Foot Lifter

- Put the presser foot lifter in the raised position to lower the presser foot for sewing.
- Swing the presser foot lifter down to lift the presser foot.
- For bulky fabrics, pull forward on the presser foot lifter to allow additional clearance under the foot.



Starting to Coverstitch

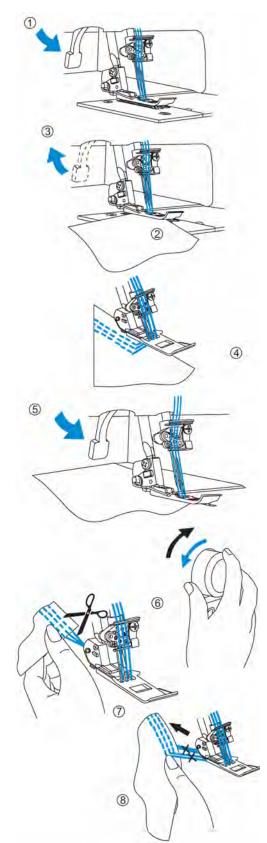
At start of sewing

- 1 Raise presser foot.
- 2 Place fabric under presser foot behind the needle.
- 3 Lower presser foot.
- ④ **Note:** When you start to sew from the middle of the fabric, place the fabric at the desired starting point of sewing.

At end of sewing

Stop sewing when the fabric is not under the needles

- 5 Raise presser foot.
- 6 Turn the handwheel toward you one circle (Counter-clockwise), then turn handwheel one circle back. (Clockwise)
- Pull out the fabric lightly to rear of machine and cut the threads to take out the fabric.
- 8 Note: Follow the instructions given, when sewing cover stitches, because chaining-off at the end of sewing is not possible.



Selection of Stitches & Auto Tension

This machine is capable of producing various types of stitches according to the combination of Auto Tension Selected, needle positions, threading methods, and the use of convertible right looper/ converter.

Stitch Type ATD : Auto Tension Dial Selected							
1. Chain Stitch		A 1-needle 2-thread straight stitch is used for construction or decorative stitching. Seams also can be sewn at desired distance from edge of fabric by disengaging the right looper and movable knife.	39				
2. 2-Thread Wrapped Edge Overlock ATD: D Narrow ATD: G Wide		1-needle 2-thread stitch is used for seaming lightweight or stretch fabrics. It is also ideal for rolled and blind hemming. A 4 mm and 6 mm overlock seam width can be obtained by changing the needle position.	40				
3. 2-Thread Overlock ATD: E		 1-needle 2-thread stitch is used for overedging common fabrics. It is also ideal for flatlock (butted or lapped) seams and blind hemming. A 4 mm and 6 mm overedge seam width can be obtained by changing the needle position. 	41				
4. 3-Thread Overlock ATD: A Narrow ATD: B Wide		1-needle 3-thread stitch is used for overedging and seaming on common fabrics. A mm and 6 mm overlock seam width can be obtained by changing the needle position.	42				
5. 3-Thread Flatlock ATD: F		1-needle 3-thread stitch is used for butted or lapped seams and ornamental stitching with decorative thread. Also, a 4 mm and 6 mm flatlock width can be obtained by changing the needle position.	43				
6. 3-Thread Mock Safety Stitch Overlock ATD: G		2-needle 3-thread stitch that is ideal for lightweight, extremely stretchy fabrics such as tricot and spandex.	44				
7. 4-Thread Mock Safety Stitch Overlock ATD: A		2-needle 4-thread stitch that is ideal for medium to heavyweight stretchy fabrics such as double knits and swim wear.	45				

Selection of Stitches & Auto Tension

This machine is capable of producing various types of stitches according to the combination of Auto Tension Selected, needle positions, threading methods, and the use of convertible right looper/ converter.

Stitch Type	ATD : Auto Tension Dial Sele	ected	Instruction Manual Reference Page
8. 4-Thread Chain Stitch- 2-Thread Overlock ATD: 1		The 4-thread stitch is a safety stitch made up of combined 2-thread overedge and double chain stitch.	46
9. 5-Thread Chain Stitch- 3-Thread Overlock ATD: A Narrow		The 5-thread stitch is a safety stitch made up of combined 3-thread overlock and double chain stitch. A wide seam is formed by using left needle. Overedge and seaming can be done in one operation on non-stretch fabrics.	47
ATD: B Wide		The 5-thread stitch is a safety stitch made up of combined 3-thread overlock and double chain stitch. A narrow seam is formed by using right needle Overedge and seaming can be done in one operation on non-stretch fabrics.	47
10. Cover Stitch ATD: K Narrow (2.8mm)		2-needle, 3-thread cover stitch is suitable for stretchy fabrics such as knits, etc.A narrow seam is formed by using left and middle needles.	50
ATD: H Wide (5.6mm)		2-needle 3-thread cover stitch is suitable for stretchy fabrics such as knits, etc. A wide seam is formed by using left and right needles.	50
11. Triple Cover Stitch (5.6mm) ATD: J		3-needle 4-thread cover stitch is suitable for stretchy fabrics such as knits, etc.A triple seam is formed by using left, middle, and right needles.	51
12. 3-Thread Rolled Hem (4.0mm) ATD: C		1-needle 3-thread stitch is used for sewing narrow rolled hems.	54

Handy Reference Chart

	Stitch Type	A T D	S L	D F	L / C	Needle Position	Tension Dial Selected : As select ATD option, the tension dial are set automatically.				Instruction Manual Reference – Page	
							Red	Yellow	Green	Blue	Purple	l aye
1	Chain Stitch	D	Ν	Ν	С			•			•	39
2	2-Thread Wrapped Edge Overlock	D	2	Ν	L	4.0mm		•	converter	٠		40
		G	2	Ν	L	6.0mm wide	•		converter	٠		40
3	2-Thread Overlock	Е	2	Ν	L	4.0mm		•	converter	٠		41
		Е	2	Ν	L	6.0mm wide	٠		converter	٠		41
4	3-Thread Overlock	А	N	N	L	4.0mm		•	•	٠		42
		В	N	Ν	L	6.0mm wide	•		•	٠		42
5	3-Thread Flatlock	F	2	N	L	4.0mm		•	•	٠		43
		F	2	Ν	L	6.0mm wide	•		•	٠		43
6	3-Thread Mock Safety Stitch Overlock	G	2	N	L		•	•	converter	٠		44
7	4-Thread Mock Safety Stitch Overlock	А	N	Ν	L		•	•	•	٠		45
8	4-Thread Chain Stitch- 2-Thread Overlock	I	Ν	Ν	L		•	•	converter	٠	•	46
9	5-Thread Chain Stitch- 3-Thread Overlock	А	N	N	L		•	•	•	٠	•	47
		В	N	N	L	wide U	•	•	•	٠	•	47
10	Cover Stitch Narrow/ Wide	К	N	N	С	2.8mm	•	•			•	50
		Н	N	N	С	5.6mm	•		•		•	50
11	Triple Cover Stitch	J	N	N	С	5.6mm	•	•	•		•	51
12	Three - Thread Rolled Hem	С	1	N	L	4.0mm		•	•	•		54

ATD: Auto Tension Dial Selection DF: Differential Feed

SL: Stitch Length

L/C: Upper Looper driving clutch position

- * When option 2, 3, 6, 8 selected, use converter.
- * When option 1, 10, and 11 selected, turn upper knife down, move seam width finger knob to setting R, and change front cover attached cover (A) into (B).
- * Auto tension settings are based on medium weight fabric and standard #60 polyester spun thread. It can satisfy most requirements for sewing. If using different thread number or fabric and the result is not what you expected, please adjust in small increments.



Wrap Skirt

Create a classic silhouette by making a simple A-line skirt all on the serger.

Skill Level: Beginner

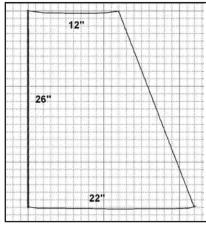
Supplies:

- Baby Lock Diana serger
- Wrap skirt pattern or template below
- Paper to trace pattern
- 4 Cones of Maxi-Lock serger thread
- 1 Spool decorative or contrasting color thread
- · Measuring tape
- 2 1/2 yards linen
- Interfacing
- · Hand sewing needle
- · Skirt hook and eye
- Pencil
- Ruler
- · Iron and ironing board

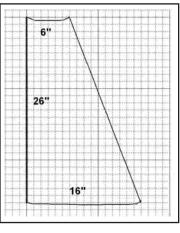


Instructions:

1. Measure and trace off pattern on to the pattern paper.



Template front



Template back



- 2. Measure your back waist (from hipbone to hipbone). Then, measure your front waist.
- 3. Adjust the pattern width according to your measurements. Add or subtract as needed. Remember the front pieces overlap.
- 4. On the front and back pattern, measure from the waist edge 4" down and draw a line. Trace this section off to form the front and back facings.
- 5. Cut the back on the fold. Cut two front pieces.
- 6. Cut four tie pieces 3-1/2" x 22". Cut one short end of the ties off at an angle.
- 7. Set up the serger for a 4-thread stitch.
- 8. Place two ties right sides together. Serge both long ends and the angled end. Turn the tie right side out through the open short end. Press.
- 9. Repeat for the remaining tie strand.
- 10. Serge the front to the back at the side seam. Place one of the ties in the left side seam.
- 11. Serge the facing front to the facing back at the side seams.
- 12. With right sides together serge facing to the skirt at the waist band edge.
- 13. Place the remaining tie on the right front.
- 14. Serge the front sides catching the facings. Continue along the front edge to the hem edge. Serge across the hem edge.
- 15. Turn the waistband edge to the right side and press.
- 16. Set the serger up for a chain stitch using a decorative or contrasting thread in the chain looper.
- 17. Chain stitch along the edges of the skirt waistband, skirt ties and skirt front, and hem turning under the serged edge when needed.
- 18. Hand stitch a skirt hook in place to secure the front without a tie to the waist band edge.



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