

CHOOSING THE RIGHT MACHINE NEEDLE
















+

Brought to you by *Klasse'*
www.klasse.com

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Choose the needle size based on your fabric

Metric	Imperial	Fabric Weight	Metric	Imperial	Fabric Weight
60	8	Very fine synthetics and cottons	90	14	Poplin, chintz, gingham, syn velvets
70	10	Net, chiffon, nylon sheers	100	16	Cord, denim, gabardine, heavy suiting
75	11	Voile, chiffon, organza	110	18	Heavy denim, leather etc
80	12	Cotton lawn, taffeta, silks, tricot	120	20	Cord, denim, gabardine, heavy suiting

NEEDLE TYPES	#	WHAT FABRIC SHOULD I USE THEM WITH?	WHY CHOOSE THIS NEEDLE?
UNIVERSAL 	K0	Most woven fabrics, synthetics and some knits.	They have a slightly rounded ball point making them a versatile needle for general sewing.
BALL POINT 	K1	Most knit fabrics, including cotton knits, interlock, rib knits, fleece, double knits & microfibre.	The ball point tip prevents the needle from piecing and breaking the fibres.
STRETCH 	K2	Knits with two way stretch, fabrics with Lycra content, swimwear, lingerie and sewing elastic.	The stretch needle has a specially designed scarf to prevent skipped stitches.
JEANS 	K3	Denim, canvas and tightly woven fabrics. Jeans needles are excellent for top-stitching woven fabrics.	The sharp strong point will penetrate dense fabric.
LEATHER 	K4	Best for genuine leather. Not suitable for microfibre, textile or vinyl.	The chisel point will penetrate difficult to sew projects.
SHARPS 	K5	Silk and most densely woven fabrics including microfibre.	The sharp point is designed for perfect straight stitching, top stitching and button holes.
QUILTING 	K6	Ideal for piecing and quilting layers of cotton fabrics with batting.	The longer and sharper point penetrates layers and maintains straight stitches.
OVERLOCK 	K7	Stable, fine, dense and firm fabric, two-way stretch, lycra and other knitted fabrics.	For specific use with overlockers and sergers.
EMBROIDERY 	K8	Use for decorative embellishment on a variety of fabrics, for machine embroidery using rayon, polyester and cotton embroidery threads.	The nickel plated larger eye allows for smooth thread flow at higher speeds minimising shredding and breakage.
METAFIL 	K9	For decorative sewing on a variety of fabrics when using rayon and metallic threads.	Larger nickel plated eye accommodates thread flow at all stitch speeds.
TOPSTITCHING 	K10	For penetrating easily through medium to heavy fabrics.	The extra large eye and extra sharp point is best for thick topstitching thread (e.g. sashiko and blanket stitching)
TWIN 		Available in universal, ballpoint, stretch, jeans, embroidery and metafil types. Available in Size 2mm, 2.5mm, 3mm, 4mm and 6mm indicates the distance between the 2 needles.	Ideal for heirloom sewing, hemming and decorative top stitching. <i>NB. Twin & Triple needles are fixed in a nylon block and should be used at slower speeds and not for prolonged periods.</i>
TRIPLE 		3 needles evenly spread on one shaft. Available only in Sharps [K5] Size 3mm - 80/12.	Ideals for heirloom sewing, decorative hems & top stitching. <i>NB. See special instructions for twin needle.</i>
WING 		For heirloom sewing to help create the much wider hole due to the fins on both sides of the needle. Available in Size 100/16.	The extra large eye and extra sharp point is best for thick topstitching thread.
SELF THREADER 		Most woven fabrics, synthetics and some knits. Standard universal needle with a slit in the eye. Available in Size 80/12.	By sliding thread down the shaft and into the slit in the eye, the needle will thread itself.

All Klasse' machine needles are stamped with the needle type and size on the curved side of the needle for easy sorting.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT MACHINE NEEDLE

+

Brought to you by *Klasse*
www.klasse.com



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. With the right machine needle you will avoid skipped stitches, fabric pulls or frayed edges and help give a quality finish to your handmade projects and creations.

What are all the numbers?

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; the higher the number the larger the needle.



Where to start

If your project is general sewing or overlocking choose a needle based on the type of fabric you are sewing, the lighter the fabric the smaller the needle size, the heavier the fabric the larger the needle size. The quality and evenness of stitches depends on using the correct size needle for your thread, fabric and the type of fabric.

Tips

- Machine needles are designed to break, WHY? To protect the hook mechanism on your sewing machine.
- When a machine needle breaks it's a warning - time to check that your thread, needle and machine tension are working in harmony.
- Sewing with a bent needle will result in poor sewing results and can damage your machine.
- Machine needles should be replaced after every 8 hours of sewing time.

Stitch Quality is dependent on using the correct needle for your thread, fabric and the type of machine sewing you are using for your project. When the wrong needle is used you may get stitching that puckers, skips or the thread may break.

1. Fabric

Consider fabric weight, thickness, weave type (woven or knit), weave density (close weave or loose weave) and composition (natural fibre or synthetic).

2. Thread

Consider matching your thread composition to your fabric (polyester thread for synthetics, cotton for cotton fabrics etc.) and to your sewing purpose (seams, hems, topstitching, quilting, machine embroidery etc.).

After selecting your fabric and thread type the final consideration is the style and size of needle to achieve the best results.

3. Needle Style

If your project or thread is specialised, choose your needle based on that rather than fabric type e.g. embroidery, quilting and twin needle work have a specific needle while there is a specific thread for topstitching which requires a certain needle.

If your project involves general sewing or overlocking, base your needle choice on the characteristics of the fabric you are sewing with. For instance are you working with woven fabrics (heavy or light denim jeans), leather, or stretch fabric?

4. Needle Size

When you have chosen the type of needle you must also choose the size (width) of needle.

Replace Needles

Machine needles should be replaced after a maximum sewing time of 8 hours. Replace needles more frequently when sewing synthetic fabric, appliques or machine embroidery. This will avoid skipped stitches, fabric pulls and frayed threads.

Breaking Needles

Machine needles are designed to break for the protection of the sewing machine hook mechanism. If a needle bends - do not sew with it. When a machine needle breaks, it is a warning to check the following:

- Is the needle type and size correct for the fabric?
- Is the thread too thick or unsuitable for the needle size and application?
- Is the upper thread feeding freely?
- Are the thread tensions set too tight?
- Does the machine need cleaning?
- Is the correct presser foot fitted?
- Is the correct sewing technique being used?
- Is the fabric being pulled, pushed or dragged during sewing?
- Twin needles, triple needles and other specialty needles can break due to excessive heat build up. To avoid breakage reduce speeds and avoid prolonged usage.

German Precision & Technology
Klasse needles are made using German technology developed over 125 years and conform to the highest standards of needle manufacturing using German made wire, German machinery and complying with ISO 9002, DIN 5354 (Germany). Klasse needles are manufactured in India exclusively for Sewgroup International. Worldwide sales through HTL Ltd. Hong Kong | Fax No.: 852 2329 5911 | sewgroup.com