

Machine maintenance Snapshot Demo

Greenbaum's Winter Retreat

Three Main Reasons for machine problems

1. poor quality/damaged needle
2. incorrect thread for project or poor quality thread
3. dirty/poorly maintained sewing machine

Needles- we recommend:

1. Schmetz 80/12 Microtex or Quilting needles for quilting fabric piecing.
2. Schmetz 90/14 Microtex or Quilting needles for quilting through three layers

Thread- good quality is a must. Thread is damaged by dust and sunlight.

Look for consistent diameter with no slubs.

- Use 50 wt for piecing quilt quality cottons
- Use 30 wt for quilting your quilt sandwich.
- 40 or 50 wt or decorative threads are fine for quilting/embellishing wall-hangings that will not get wear.

Machine Maintenance

- New needles every four hours of sewing.
- Brush out lint from bobbin area at each bobbin change.
- One drop of high quality machine oil on metal hook assemblies each 3-4 hours of sewing.
- After each major project, 1) use rubbing alcohol on a medical swab in bobbin area. Use a vacuum attachment for sewing machines if you have one. 2) Use rubbing alcohol on a non lint cloth and clean out tension disks.

Tools you need for Sewing Machine Maintenance and Troubleshooting.

- Straight blade and Philips screwdrivers that fit screws on your sewing machine.
- Good quality lint brush
- High quality sewing machine oil
- Serger tweezers

Greenbaums Quilted Forest carries two different machine maintenance kits in the store.