



Greist

A U T O M A T I C

DECORATOR

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Parts and Their Function	4
Attaching the Automatic Decorator	6
Preparing Your Machine for Decorative Stitching	7
Adjusting for Stitch Pattern	10
Adjusting for Width and Length of Stitch	12
Adjusting for Straight Stitching	13
The Stitch Patterns	14
Starting the Stitch Pattern	15
Changing Stitch Patterns	16
Helpful Suggestions	17
Breaking of Thread	23
Ways to Use the Zigzag Pattern (1)	24
Ways to Use the Arrowhead Stitch Pattern (2)	26
Ways to Use the Icicle Stitch Pattern (3)	28
Ways to Use the Lightning Stitch Pattern (4)	30
Ways to Use the Sierra Stitch Pattern (5)	32
Ways to Use the Domino Stitch Pattern (6)	34
Ways to Use the Scallop Stitch Pattern (7)	36
Way to Use the Tack Stitch Pattern (8)	38
Ways to Combine the Stitch Patterns	40
Care of Your Automatic Decorator	42

The Automatic Decorator

As the owner and user of the new Automatic Decorator, you are to be congratulated. You have an attachment which has assembled beneath its cover the results of 88 years of sewing machine attachment invention, development, refinement, and success. It is sturdy, attractive, and efficient. With only a bit of care, it will give you years of satisfactory service.

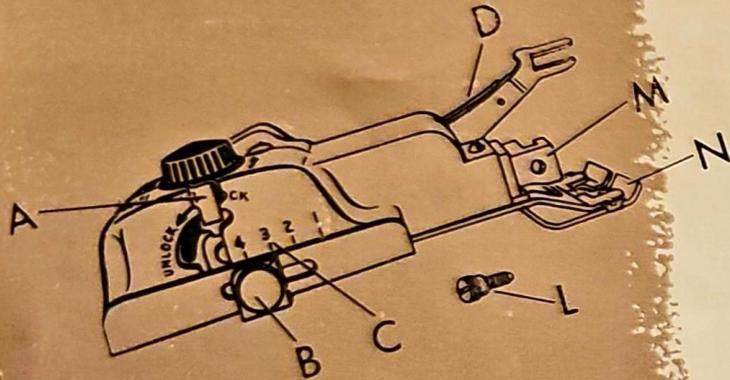
Although this new Automatic Decorator was designed primarily to produce a variety of decorative stitches, it also can be used for practical finishes. By making certain adjustments, the stitches may be changed from simple zigzag ones to more intricate stitch patterns. And the amazing thing is that this conversion can take place without removing or interchanging any of the parts.

The possibilities for creating new and pretty trimmings are unlimited. It requires just a little practice and imagination. A few ideas for using each of the stitch patterns are given in this booklet. But do experiment, so that such items as your household linens, children's clothes, blouses, skirts, jackets, aprons, and scarves can be given a distinctive and original touch.

Be sure your machine is clean and in good working order—see page 23.

Parts and Their Functions

Before using the Automatic Decorator, be sure to read the instructions in this booklet carefully. Become familiar with the various parts. Know the function of each lever, handle, knob, and opening.



A. **LOCKING HANDLE**—controls locking mechanism. In locked position, it allows selected stitch pattern to be made. In unlocked position, it allows the stitch pattern to be changed. It must always be in unlocked position when shifting the selector handle (I).

B. **STITCH WIDTH ADJUSTING KNOB**—controls width or the sidewise travel of the decorative stitch. Knob is loosened so that it can be moved forward or backward as desired. After adjustment has been made, it should be tightened securely.

C. **NUMBERS (1-4) ON LEFT SIDE OF DECORATOR**—used as guide in setting width of stitch pattern. Number 1 indicates the narrowest stitch; number 4, the widest.

D. **FORK ARM**—straddles needle clamp hub to provide motion of attachment.

E. TIMING-SCREW—loosen when making timing adjustment.

F. POINTER—to indicate position of the fork arm when timing.

G. SETTING KNOB—controls starting point of each stitch pattern and position of foot.

H. SIGHT HOLE—opening in cover which is used when starting the stitch pattern.

I. SELECTOR HANDLE—selects the stitch patterns #1—#8.

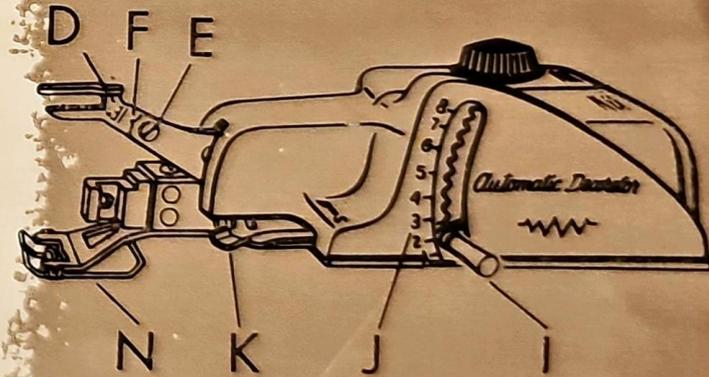
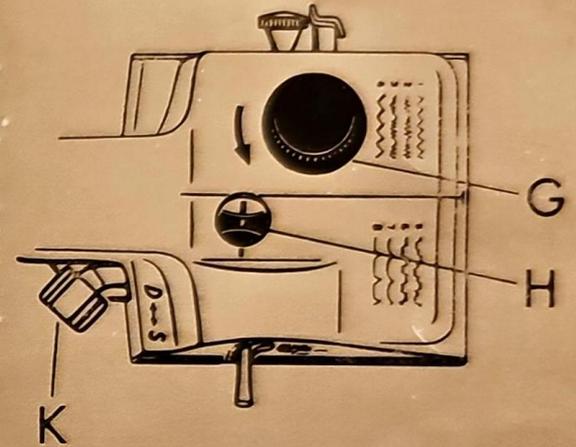
J. NUMBERS—(1-8)—on right side of Decorator indicate different stitch patterns and correspond to designs shown on cover.

K. LEVER—regulates type of stitching; in "D" position, decorative stitching in "S" position, regular stitching.

L. CLAMPING SCREW—fastens Automatic Decorator to the presser bar of the sewing machine.

M. ADAPTOR—fits the Automatic Decorator to the presser bar of the sewing machine.

N. FOOT—moves material from side to side.



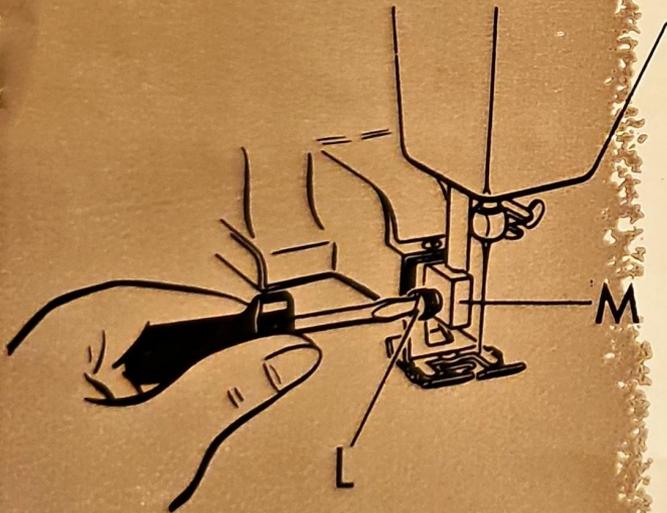
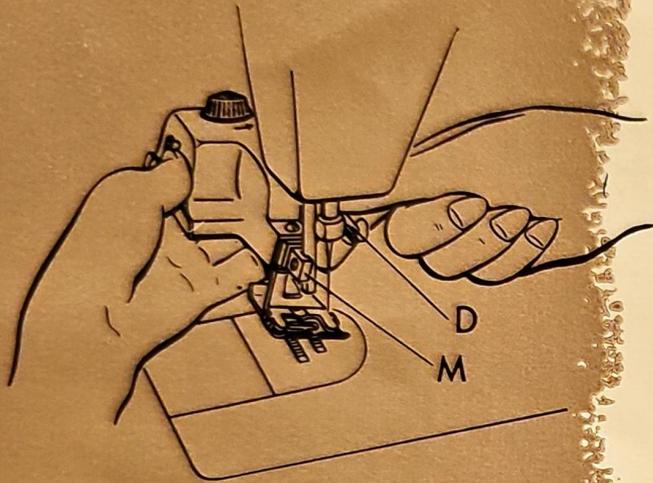
Attaching the Automatic Decorator

With presser bar up and the needle at its highest point, remove presser foot and thumb screw from machine. Keep presser bar and needle in these positions when putting Decorator on machine.

Hold Decorator in back of machine. Guide into position so that adaptor (M) fits around presser bar and fork arm (D), which is up as far as it will go, straddles needle clamp hub.

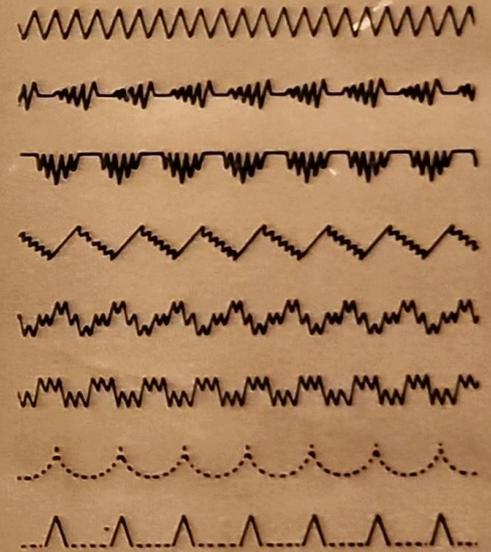
Securely fasten the adaptor (M) to the presser bar with the clamping screw (L) which is furnished with the attachment, using a screw driver.

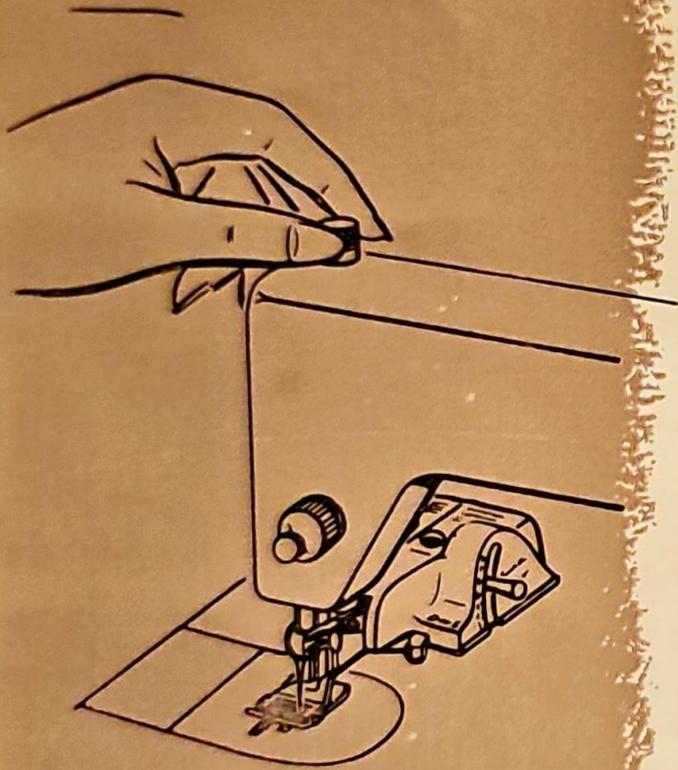
Be sure that Decorator remains squarely on machine at all times.



Preparing Your Machine for Decorative Stitching

Before beginning to stitch, a few adjustments must be made to the Automatic Decorator and your sewing machine to achieve best results. TENSIONS. Although no specific rule can be given for the adjustment of the upper and lower tensions, it is usually considered best to have the upper tension slightly looser than the bobbin tension or the tension used for normal straight stitching. Sometimes, both the upper and lower tensions have to be loosened in order to keep the fabric from puckering. A good rule to follow when starting is to record the position of the upper tension for straight sewing and loosen approximately a quarter turn. For the wider stitch patterns, it may be necessary to further loosen the upper tension or both tensions. Return tensions to original positions for regular sewing.



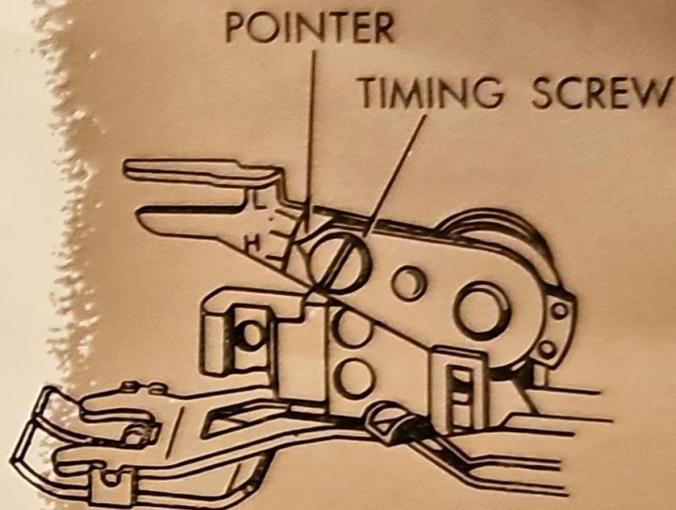


PRESSURE ON FOOT. To permit the cloth to zigzag freely, it is sometimes necessary to adjust the pressure on the presser bar. The exact amount of pressure will depend on the type of fabric being used. Start your sewing with pressure half-way down and make further adjustments according to the directions given in your sewing machine instruction booklet, if necessary.

FEED DOGS. If the Decorator is being used on a foreign built machine, it is sometimes necessary to lower the feed dogs in order to improve the appearance of the stitch pattern and to prevent any injury to the fabric. Some machines are provided with a knob or lever which allows the feed dog to be lowered. If your machine has this feature, set the lever at half-way position and make further adjustments as necessary.

TIMING. This attachment has been properly timed at the factory. However, due to machine variations, it may be necessary to retime your Decorator to YOUR machine to achieve best results.

After fastening the Automatic Decorator to the machine, set the selector handle at #1 for the zigzag stitch pattern and the stitch width adjusting knob at #4 for the widest setting. Insert a piece of light paper under the foot, and lower the presser bar. Turn handwheel slowly and observe height of needle point when foot first moves. Needle point should be approximately $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch above material or even with the top of the foot, when foot first starts to move. If needle is higher than this, attachment should be retimed. To do this, rotate handwheel until needle is at its highest position. Loosen timing screw (E), and turn handwheel again until pointer is slightly toward "L". Tighten screw (E), test, and readjust if necessary.

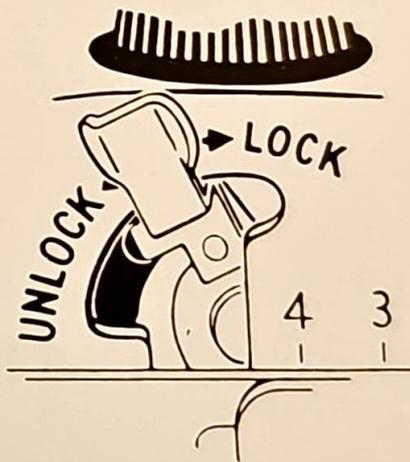
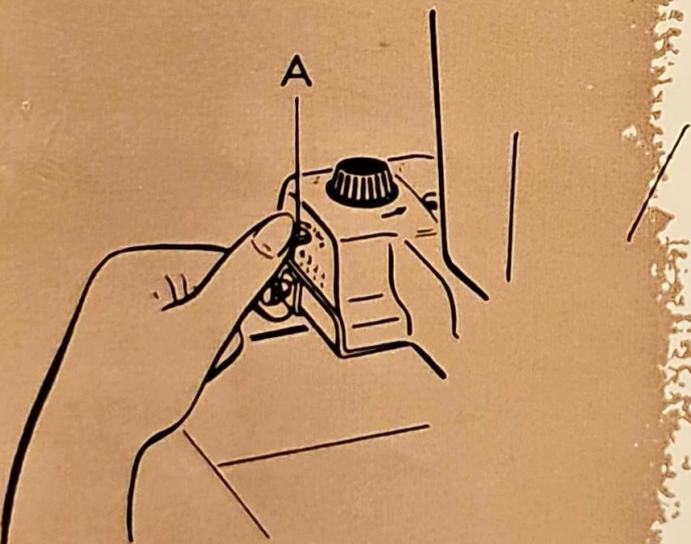
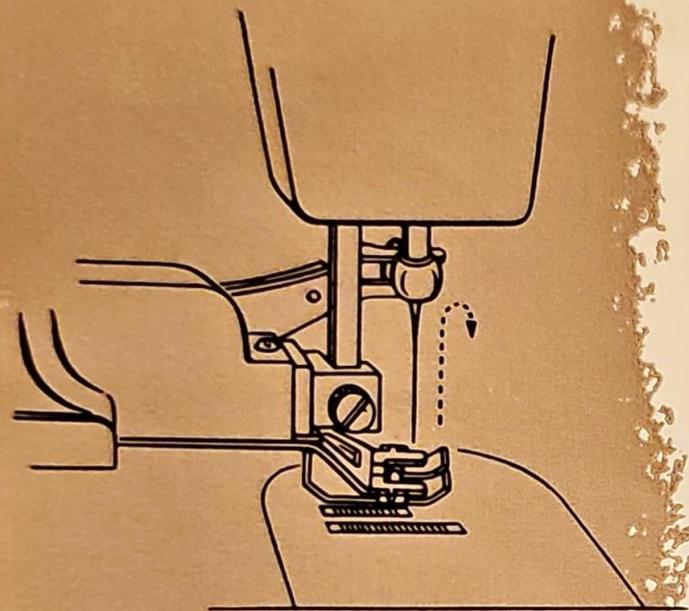


If needle is still inserted in test material when foot begins its movement, loosen timing screw (E) and raise needle to move pointer toward "H". Tighten screw (E), and readjust if necessary. Once this attachment is timed to YOUR machine it should never have to be reset.

Adjusting for Stitch Pattern

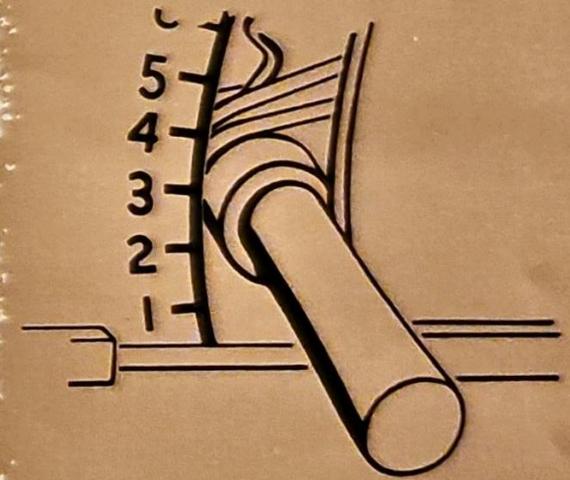
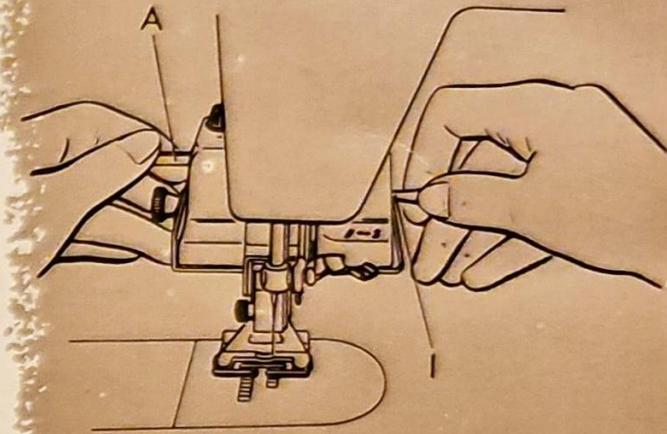
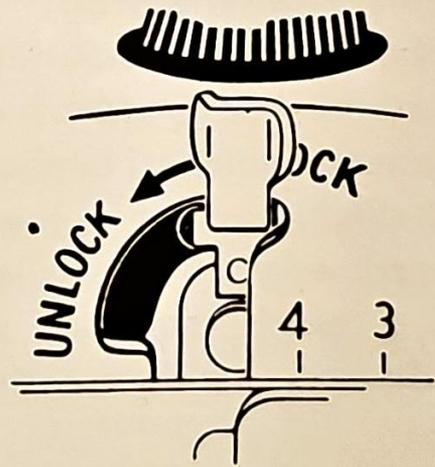
Adjustments for stitch patterns can be made before or after fastening the Decorator to the machine. If they are made while the attachment is on the machine, the presser bar and Decorator must be up. Then,

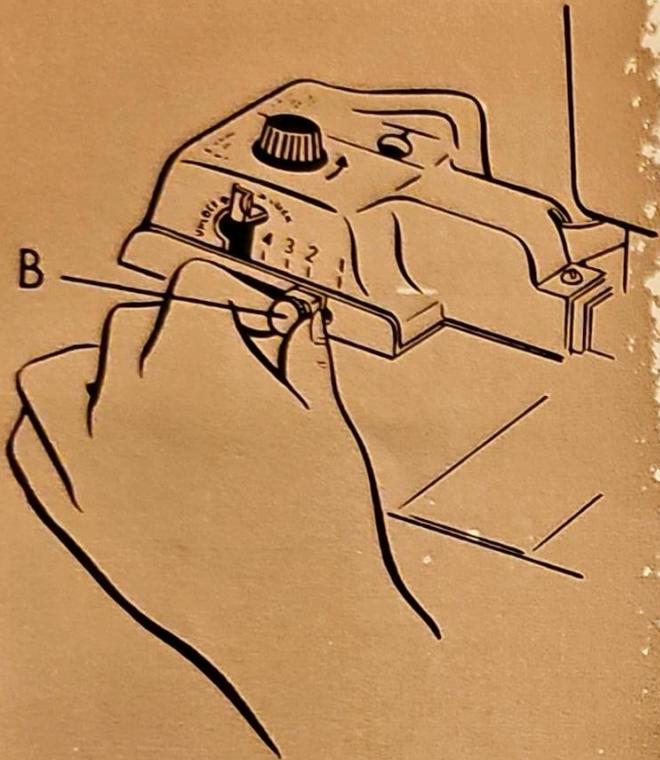
1. Stop the needle as it moves downward and keep it in this position.
2. Push back the locking handle (A) into the slot marked "unlock". Then pull it to the left until it stops.



3. Holding attachment securely from the back, pull selector handle (I) toward you so that it can be raised or lowered. Bring the handle in line with the number of the stitch pattern chosen. Release the selector handle.

4. Return locking handle (A) to its locked position by pushing it backward slightly, and then to the right toward the Decorator. As this is done, the handle will spring forward into the slot marked "lock".

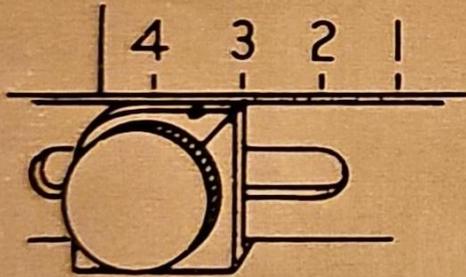




Adjusting for Width and Length of Stitch

Each of the stitch patterns may be varied by changing the width and length of the stitch. However, it should be remembered that the thickness of the fabric will also affect the appearance of the stitches.

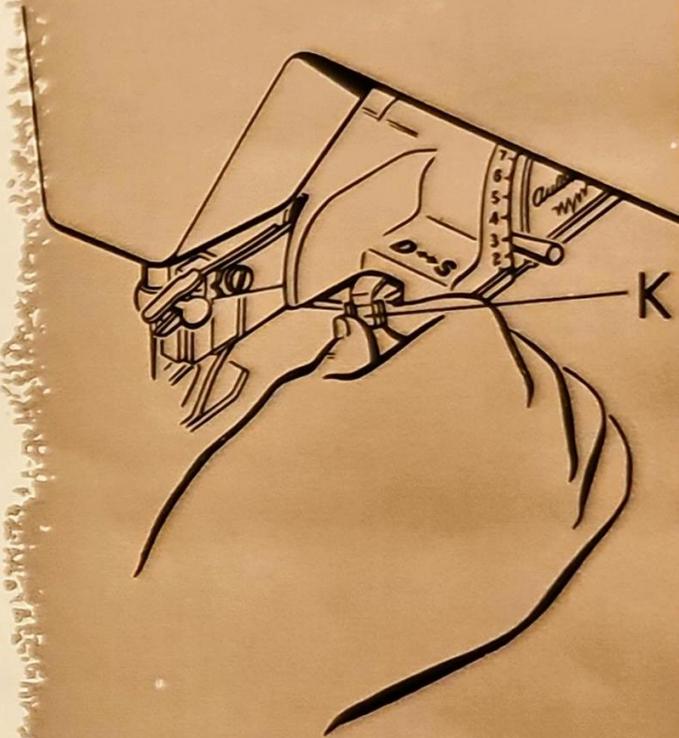
The width of the pattern is controlled by the adjusting knob (B). In order to make the necessary adjustments, raise the presser bar and the Decorator. Then loosen the adjusting knob and slide it forward or backward as desired. The numbers (1-4) act as guides. Number 1 indicates the narrowest stitch, number 4, the widest one. Put the forward edge of the slide, which is marked with a black diagonal line, directly under the desired number. Tighten knob securely.



The length of the stitch pattern is controlled by the stitch regulator on the sewing machine. For stitches close together, set the regulator for a short stitch; for stitches far apart, set the regulator for a long stitch.

Adjusting for Straight Stitching

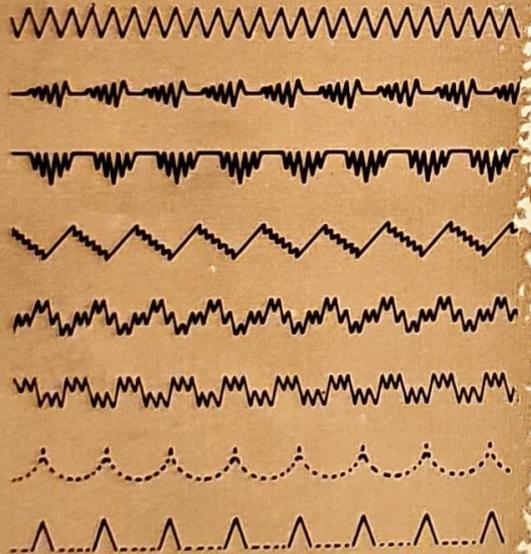
It is possible to adjust the attachment for straight stitching without removing it from the machine. On the front edge of the Decorator, there is a lever (K) and near it are the letters "D" and "S". For straight stitching, the lever is placed to the right or "S" position; for decorative stitching to the left or "D" position. This adjustment should be made when needle is in up position.



The Stitch Patterns

On the cover of the Decorator, the various stitch patterns are shown. Each design is numbered, and the numbers correspond to the numbers which are found on the right-hand side of the attachment.

For further identification, each stitch pattern has been given a name.

- 
1. Zigzag
 2. Arrowhead
 3. Icicle
 4. Lightning
 5. Sierra
 6. Domino
 7. Scallop
 8. Tack stitch

Starting the Stitch Pattern

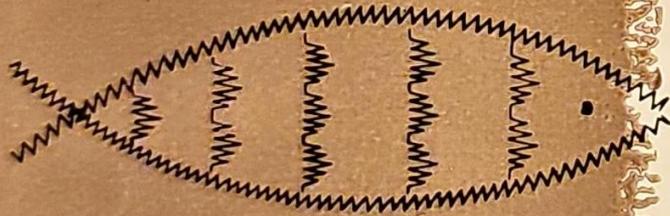
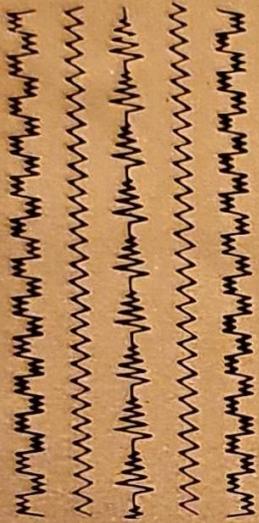
On the top of the Decorator is the Setting Knob (G) and the Sight Hole (H). To start at the beginning of the design of any of the eight stitch patterns, turn the knob in the direction indicated by the arrow on the cover until the white line (1) on the turning black part inside is in alignment with the black line (2) on the cover and with the line (3) on the metal plate visible in the sight hole. This indicates the beginning of the pattern. The Automatic Decorator must be up when making this adjustment.



Changing the Pattern

Interesting, varied, and original designs may be created by changing from one to another of the decorative stitches to form a decorative motif. To change from one stitch pattern to another the following steps are necessary:

1. Lift presser bar so that Automatic Decorator is up.
2. Stop the needle as it starts on the down stroke.
3. Place the locking handle in the "unlock" position.
4. Move selector handle to pattern number desired.
5. Return locking handle to "lock" position.
6. Turn setting knob counterclockwise so that the white line in the sight hole is in line with the black line on the cover and on the metal plate as described on page 15.



Helpful Suggestions

TESTING. After fastening the attachment to the machine and before starting to sew, place a small piece of the material from the finished article in sewing position under the attachment. Lower the attachment, turn the sewing machine hand wheel several times to make sure the attachment is positioned correctly and does not interfere with the needle.

TENSIONS. The Automatic Decorator will give best results when machine tensions are properly set for this attachment. Starting with your machine tensions set for normal stitching, loosen the top tension part way and test stitch. Keep experimenting until a pleasing stitch is achieved. Do not make your top tension too loose, since looping thread will result in the design.

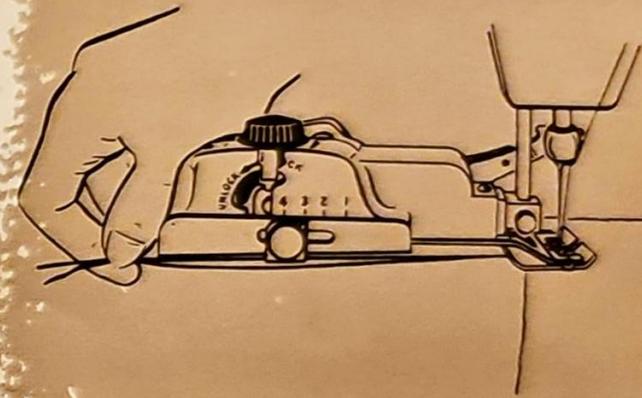
THREAD. No special type of thread is needed to create a lovely effect. Mercerized cotton thread, number 50, as well as the special machine embroidery thread works nicely.

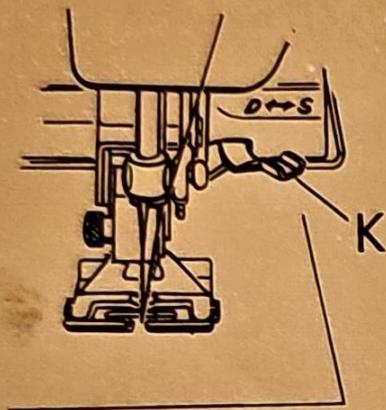
PRESSURE ON FOOT. For decorative stitching to be most effective it is necessary to have the pressure on the foot at the mid-way point. You may need to experiment with the pressure adjustment to determine which setting is the best for the stitch and fabric you are using. If the pressure is too heavy, the fabric may be scarred. If the pressure is too light the foot will glide over the fabric without moving it and a narrow stitch or no pattern will be the result.

PREPARATION OF FABRIC. Usually, it is advisable to baste or pin a strip of organdy, lawn, tarlatan, tissue paper, or interfacing material to the underside of the fabric when trimming a single thickness of cloth. This keeps the material from puckering. It can be removed by cut-

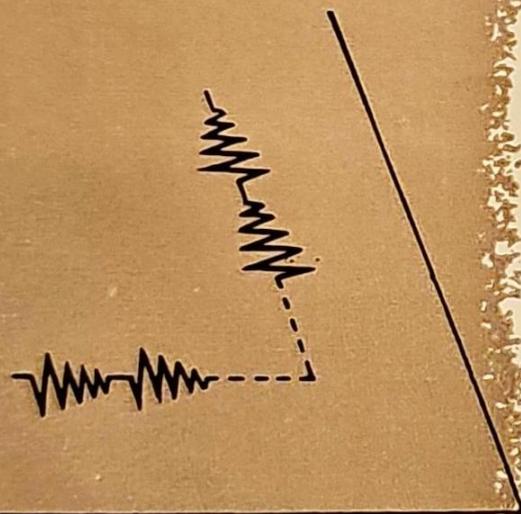
ting close to the stitches when the stitching is completed. Of course, for a firm fabric, such as felt, this will not be necessary.

STITCHING. Before beginning to stitch, be sure that both the upper and lower threads are under and in back of the Decorator. Keep the material smooth as it is placed under the foot. Hold the two threads until a few stitches have been made in order to prevent tangling of threads. **OPERATE MACHINE SLOWLY AND AT A UNIFORM SPEED.** Guide the fabric lightly so that it can be moved freely from side to side by the foot. When stitching a curve, carefully raise the presser bar, leaving the needle in the material, and turn the fabric the desired amount so that the design may be followed. The upper thread should be drawn to the wrong side of the article, and the threads tied when the stitching has been completed.





INSUFFICIENT THREAD. In case a thread breaks or the bobbin becomes empty, the work should be removed from the machine and the stitches of the incomplete stitch pattern ripped out. The setting knob should be adjusted, in order to start the stitch pattern at the beginning of the design. Then the work should be put under the Decorator and the needle lowered so that the stitch pattern can be picked up at the proper place. Now the presser bar can be lowered and stitching continued.

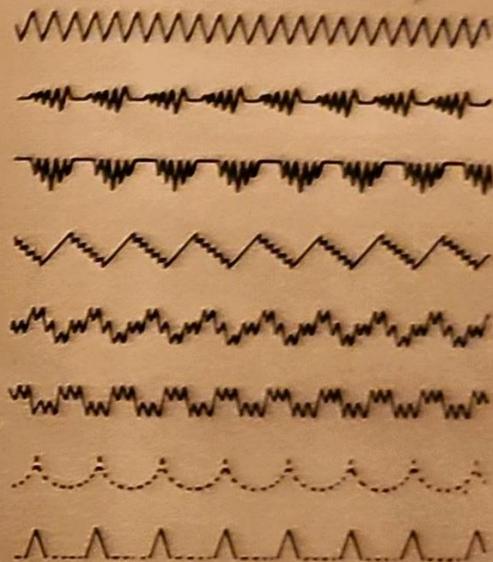


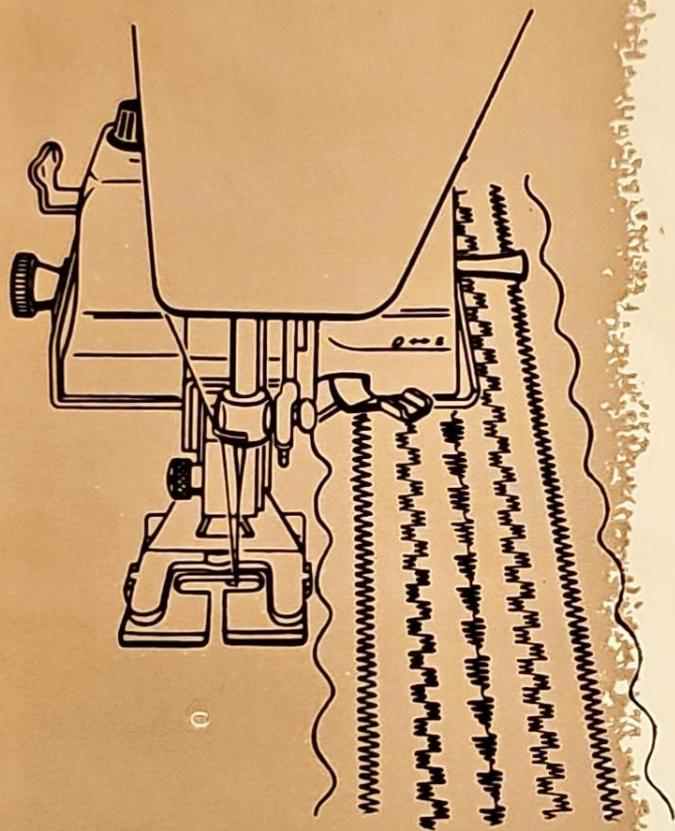
TURNING A CORNER. When approaching a corner, stop the machine at the end of the last complete stitch pattern that can be made before the corner is reached. The lever (K) should then be shifted to the "S" position, and the stitching continued to turning point. Be sure to count the number of straight stitches taken. With the needle in the fabric, raise the presser bar and turn the work. Lower the presser bar.

Begin to stitch, taking the same number of straight stitches in the new direction. Then return the lever to "D" position.

PRECAUTIONS. One important thing to remember is the fact that the Decorator should not be operated without a piece of fabric under the foot when the presser bar is down. In case the Decorator is being left on the machine when it is not being used, it is wise to leave the presser bar down and the foot resting on a piece of cloth.

In case the Decorator is being used on a foreign built machine, it is sometimes necessary to lower the feed dog in order to improve the appearance of the stitch pattern and to prevent any injury to the fabric. Some machines are provided with a knob or lever which allows the feed dog to be lowered.

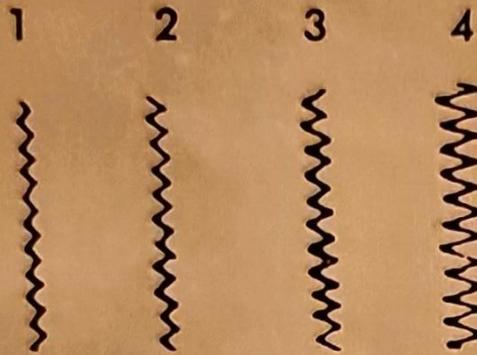




GUIDING. When making several rows of decorative stitches, the outside of the foot of your Automatic Decorator can act as a guide for you. By guiding the outside edge of the foot along a previously stitched row, you will be able to make straight rows of decorative stitching without using guide lines. Your stitches will be approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart.

Breaking of Thread

Thread breakage may be caused by a rough hole in the needle plate, by needle striking the edge of the hole in the plate, or foreign matter such as dust or lint in the bobbin case. See your Sewing Machine Instruction Book for cleaning instructions.



Change in width of stitch



(Short)



(Medium)



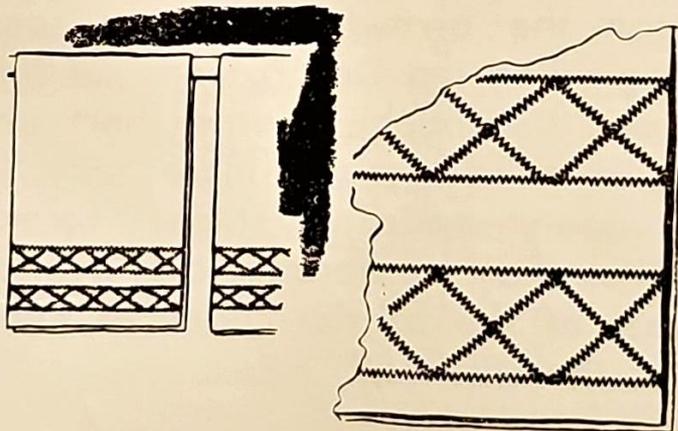
(Long)

Change in length of stitch

Ways to Use the Zigzag Stitch Pattern (1)

The versatility of the zigzag stitch is amazing. Not only can it be used for delicate embroidered designs, but it also can be employed for practical seam lines in knitted fabrics and lace. It offers an effective way to appliqué, to join lace, to top-stitch seams in order to reinforce and decorate them, to make tucks, and to decorate lace.

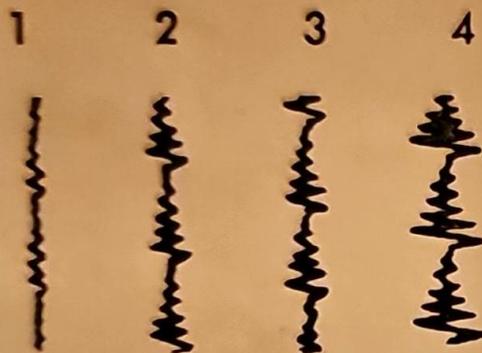
Different effects may be created by varying the length and width of the stitch and the tensions. The shape of the stitch pattern and the distance between the stitches is governed by the stitch regulator. The longest stitch will spread the stitches apart, forming a wide angle, whereas the shortest stitch will bring them close together, changing a swaying line into a smooth, satiny one.



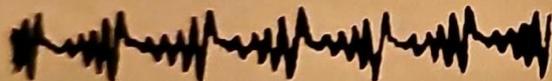
Ways to Use the Arrowhead Stitch Pattern (2)

This ornamental stitch can add a gay touch of embroidery to a wide variety of articles. It can create a dainty trim or a bold dashing one. Not only can the arrowheads be used just as they are made by the Decorator, but they also can be made singly to give a polka dot effect or separated by several straight stitches. Of course, when the straight stitches are used, the Decorator must be regulated for straight stitching and the stitches between the arrowheads carefully counted.

Although the arrowhead design seems most pleasing when the Decorator is set for a wide stitch and the machine for a short stitch, producing a solid design, there may be times when widely separated stitches formed by a long stitch may be appropriate. Remember the thickness of the fabric influences the appearance of the stitches.



Change in width of stitch



(Short)

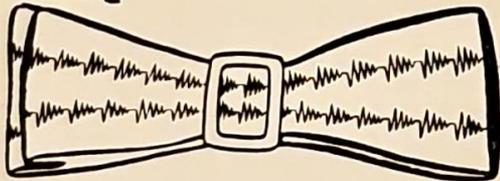


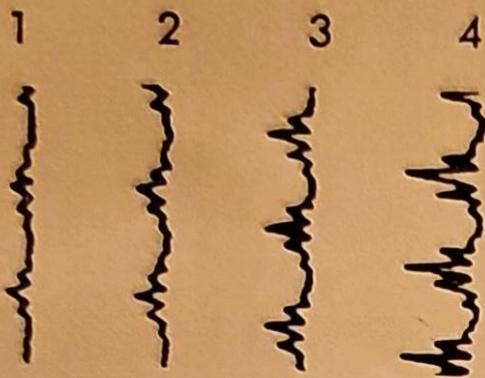
(Medium)



(Long)

Change in length of stitch





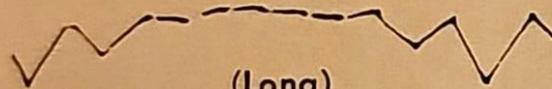
Change in width of stitch



(Short)



(Medium)



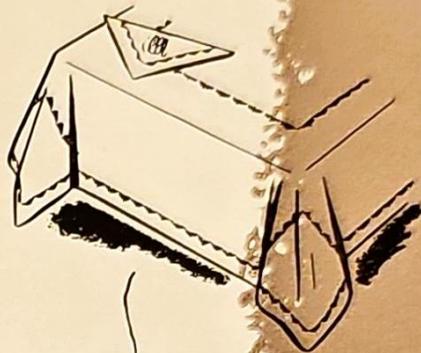
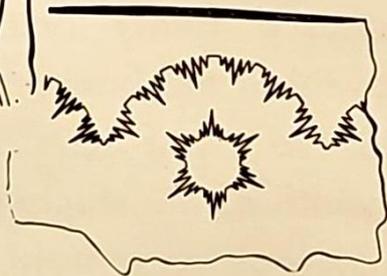
(Long)

Change in length of stitch

Ways to Use the Icicle Stitch Pattern (3)

Icicle seems to describe this stitch perfectly. The pretty tapering stitch gives a certain variation to the stitch pattern which permits it to be turned and twisted in many different ways. Scallops, stars, and diamonds take on new significance when made with the icicle stitch. And of course, rows of these stitches can be very effective. Two rows, turned in opposite directions, add an interesting touch to a checked gingham place mat.

Probably the designs formed by a short stitch and in a medium or wide width will be most useful.





Change in width of stitch



(Short)



(Medium)

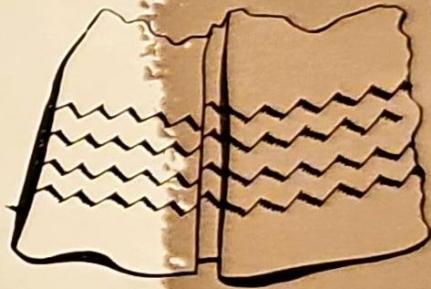
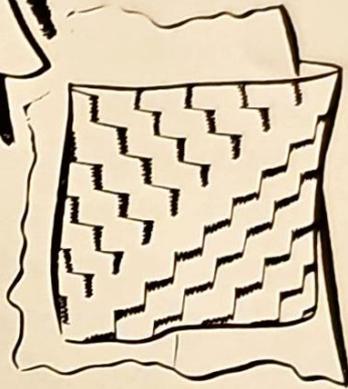
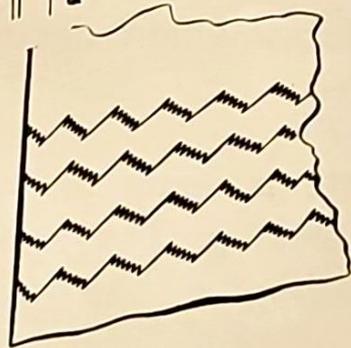
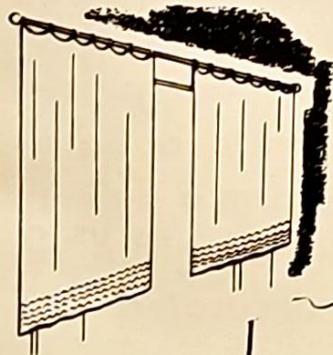


(Long)

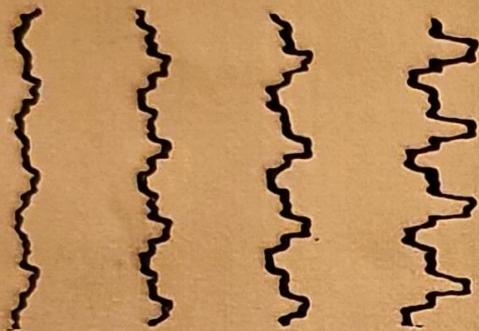
30 Change in length of stitch

Ways to Use the Lightning Stitch Pattern (4)

The lightning stitch pattern lends itself nicely to border designs. Repetition of several rows of these stitches in a variety of colors adds a gay, dashing note to simple curtains, aprons, and children's clothes. A flash of the design on a scarf creates a jaunty look. It can be used effectively to fill in the background of a design or to fill in the motif itself. By varying the length and width of the stitches, the design can give a dainty look or a bold one as desired.



1 2 3 4



Change in width of stitch



(Short)



(Medium)



(Long)

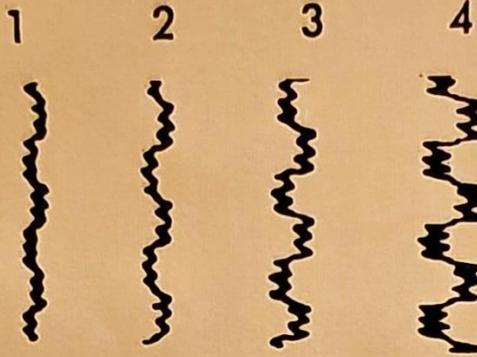
Change in length of stitch

Ways to Use the Sierra Stitch Pattern (5)

A wavering line of tiny peaks seems to describe the Sierra Stitch Pattern. As the stitching line fluctuates from side to side, it leaves a twosome of delicate stitches to mark its path. This tracery of lines gives a pleasing, ornamental touch when used in rows to decorate a child's dress or the edge of ruffled curtains. It provides a lovely imitation of handmade smocking placed over rows of shirring. It can create a hand-embroidered look when used to form a definite design. Tucks and binding can be given an added touch of interest when decorated with this stitch pattern.

The short stitch settings seem to provide the prettiest lines of stitching. They can vary in stitch widths, depending on the fabric that is being used and the effect wanted.





Change in width of stitch



(Short)



(Medium)



(Long)

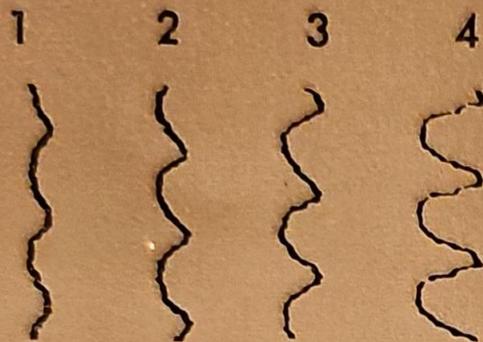
34 Change in length of stitch

Ways to Use the Domino Stitch Pattern (6)

When this stitch pattern is made with a short stitch, the design creates a checkered effect which gives a fresh, new look to an article. A single row adds a bright note to a place mat. Several rows of the tiny checks give a certain dash to a striped scarf. Tiny spots of the pattern produces a dainty, satin stitch on a baby's sacque. It may be used to decorate the seam line of a gored skirt, to form border designs on children's clothes and household linens, and to add an interesting motif to collars and cuffs.

Probably the most popular settings for this stitch pattern will be those featuring a short stitch, in order to obtain a solid satiny effect. The wider stitches will also be more pleasing.





Change in width of stitch



(Short)



(Medium)



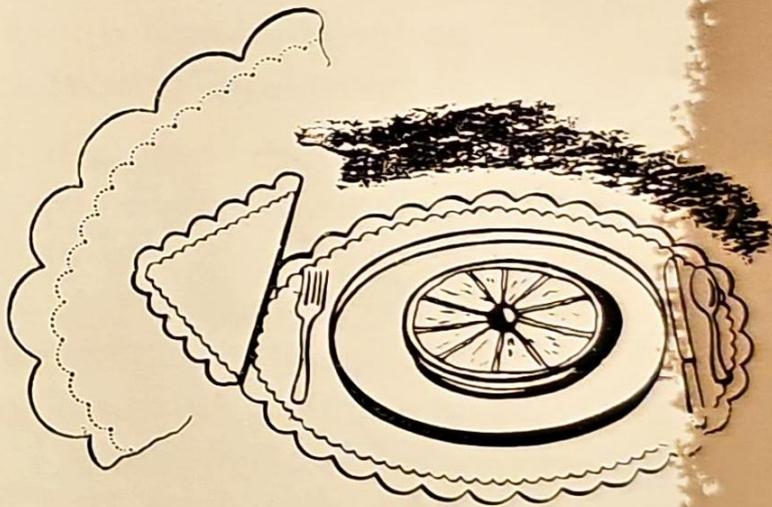
(Long)

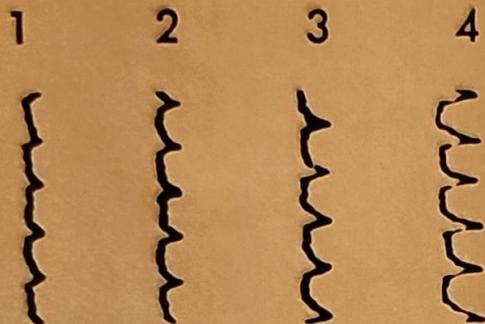
36 Change in length of stitch

Ways to Use the Scallop Stitch Pattern (7)

Scallops, with their delicate curves, always lend a festive note to a design. With this stitch pattern, it is possible to produce scallops of varying sizes with ease. They may be used for an embroidered trim or to form the dainty edge of a tuck or facing. A scalloped edge looks attractive on a round place mat or a cape. Tiny scalloped tucks create a lovely effect on a blouse or child's dress. The delicate curves form a pleasing border design which adds a decorative motif to collars and cuffs.

The dainty scallops will be made by setting the Decorator for a narrow stitch and the machine for a short stitch. Larger scallops can be produced when a medium or long stitch is used with a medium or wide stitch setting.





Change in width of stitch



(Short)



(Medium)



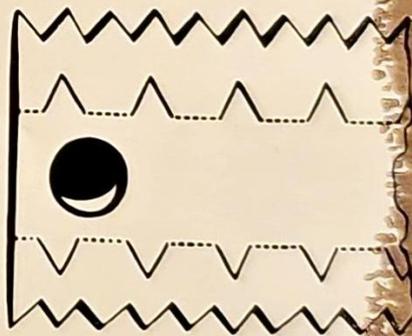
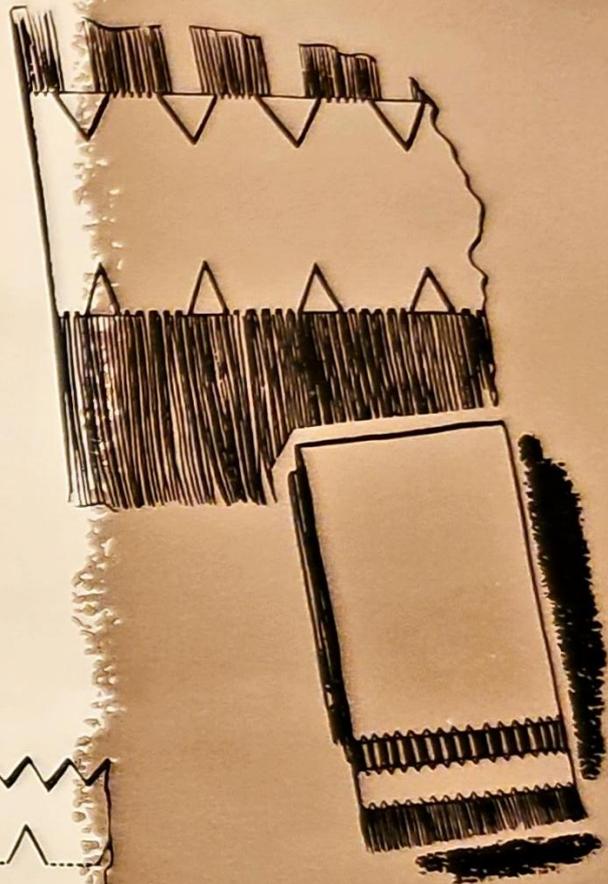
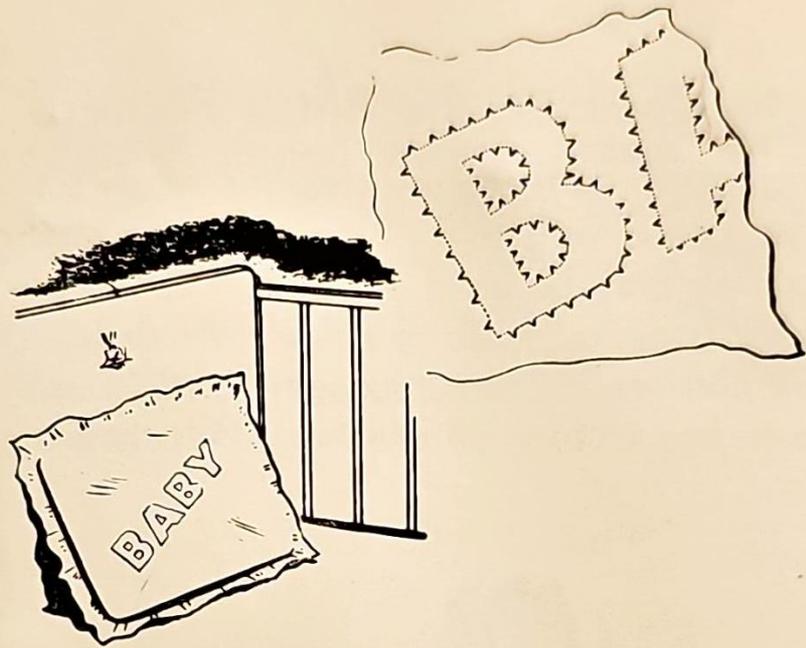
(Long)

Change in length of stitch

Ways to Use the Tack Stitch Pattern (8)

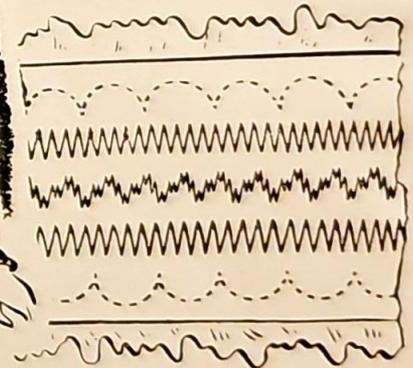
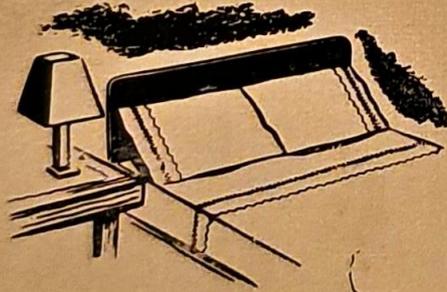
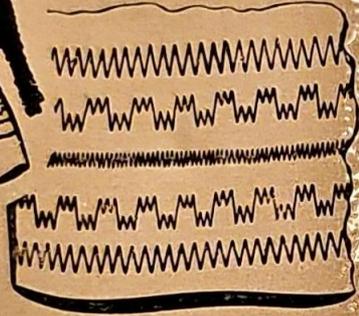
Although the tack stitch pattern was designed originally as an inconspicuous finish for hems, it was soon discovered that pretty decorative touches could also be produced by it. The scalloped effect which the stitches create adds a sprightly edge to an appliqué or a tuck. It provides a dainty way to stay fringed edges and drawn threads. Simple rows of tack stitching in contrasting colors can achieve a gay design. On felt articles, it may be used for a decorative seam. The simplicity of the stitch pattern makes it appropriate for a wide variety of household articles and wearing apparel.

The space between each sidewise stitch or tack is determined by the length of the machine stitch. The width of these small side stitches is regulated by the adjusting knob. Of course the specific setting will depend on where you are going to use the tack stitch. When it is used for finishing a hem, the width of the side stitch should be kept tiny.

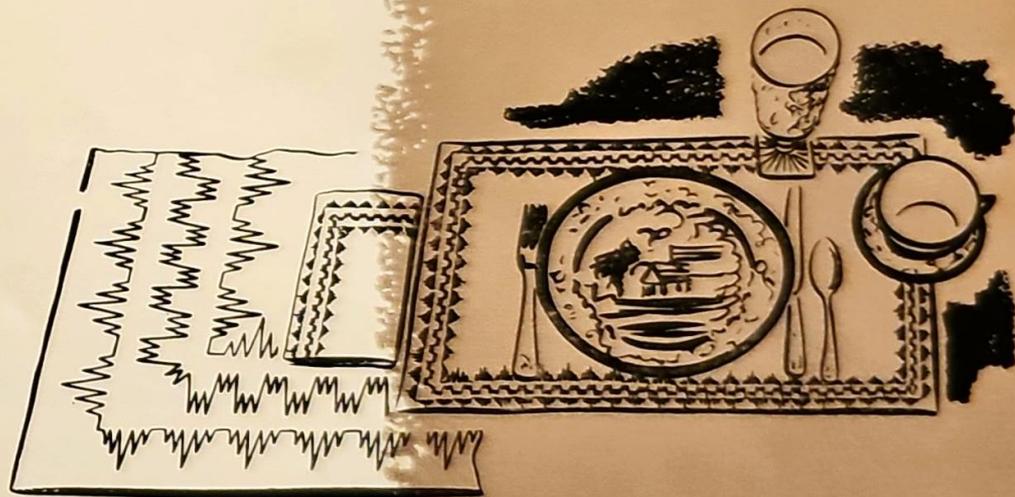
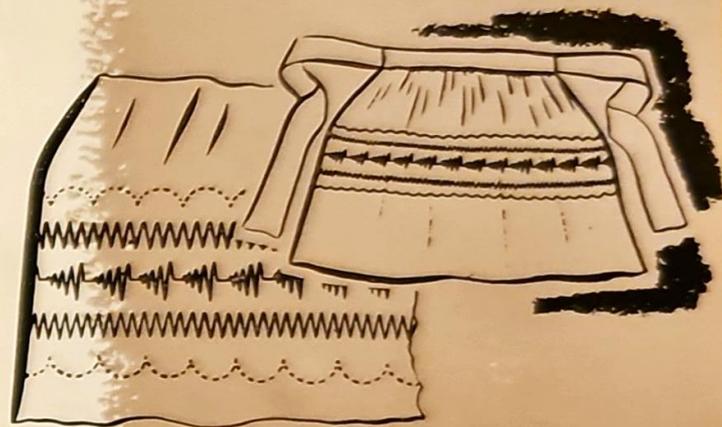


Ways to Combine the Stitch Patterns

Interesting and attractive designs may be created by combining two or more of the stitch patterns. They may be used effectively as border designs to trim a wide variety of articles. Children's clothes, aprons, scarves, and household linens are a few of the items which may



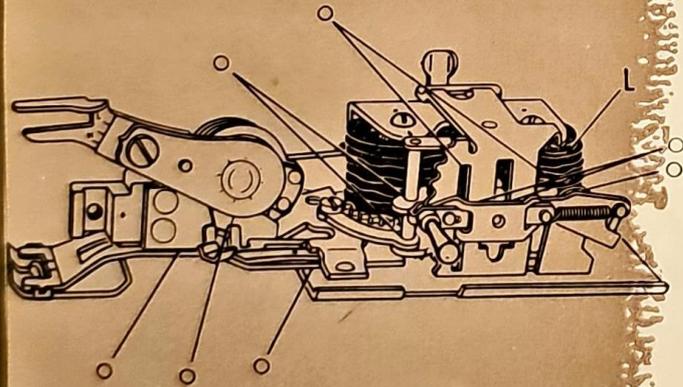
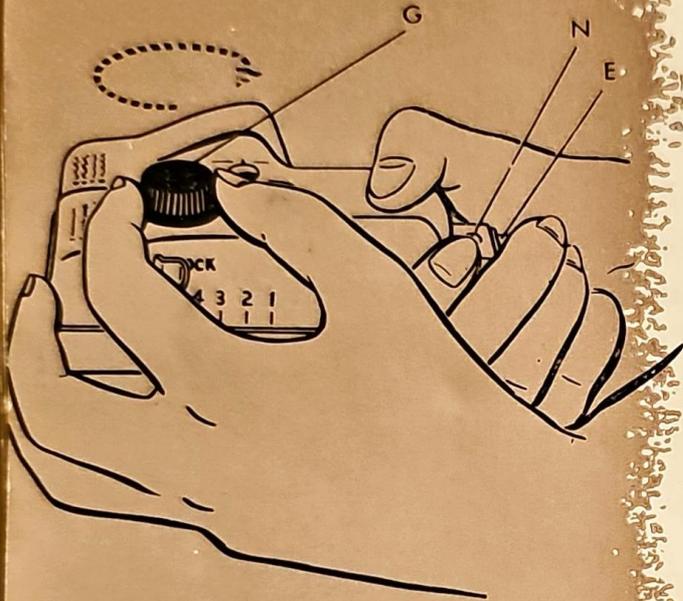
be given this type of embroidery. A pretty scalloped design may be made to decorate bed linens and the dainty edge of a baby's dress by combining the scalloped stitch pattern with the zigzag stitch. When a new combination of stitches has been worked out, be sure to record it for future reference.



Care of the Automatic Decorator

The Automatic Decorator is an intricate bit of mechanism. In order to keep it in good working condition, it must be given regular and thoughtful care. When using it frequently, the attachment should be lubricated after forty hours of operation. However, if it is only used occasionally, the oiling should be done every three months.

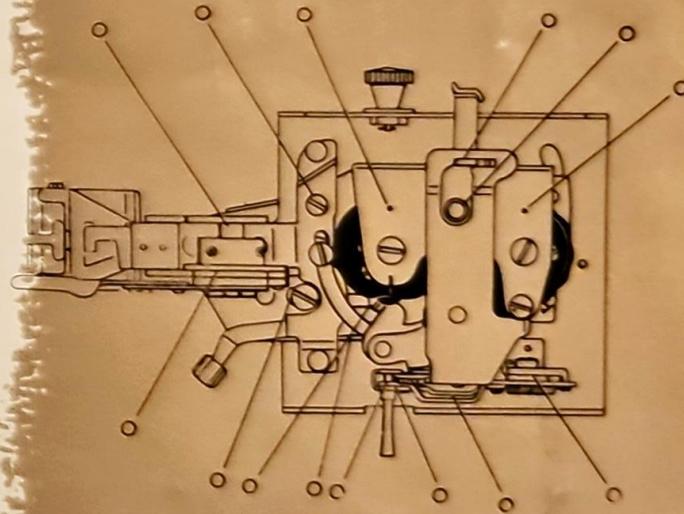
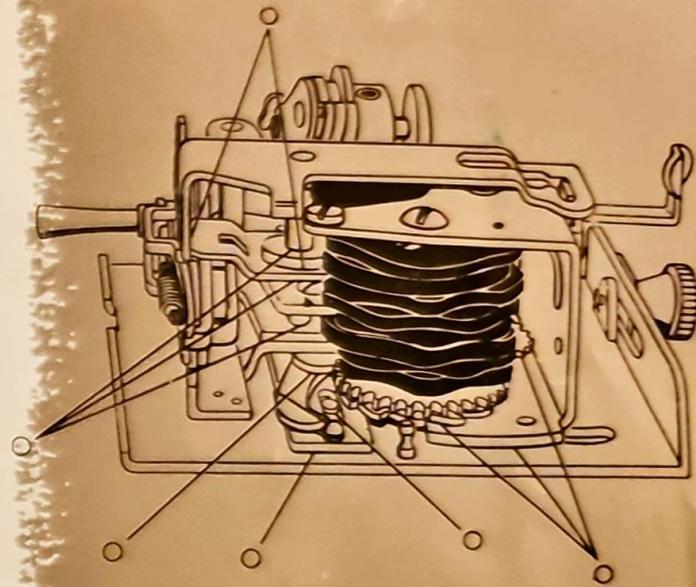
In order to lubricate the attachment, the cover must be removed. To do this, remove the small screw (N) that fastens the cover to the adaptor (E). Set the adjusting knob at number 4 which indicates the widest stitch. Grasp the attachment so that the fork arm, the foot, and the projecting front section of the cover are held together as in the accompanying drawing. Turn the setting knob (G) clockwise until it can be



removed. Notice that you are turning it in a direction which is opposite to the arrow on the cover. When the knob is removed, unlock the locking handle and lift the cover upwards, freeing it from the spring clip at the back of the cover.

In the accompanying drawings, you will notice that various points are marked "O". A drop of sewing machine oil should be applied at each of these points. You will also observe that the drawing indicates that the cams are to receive a light coat of petroleum jelly (L). Place a little bit on your finger and rub your finger lightly over one side of the set of cams. When the attachment is used, the grease will be distributed to all parts of the cams.

After lubricating the attachment, replace the cover. Return the locking handle, adjusting knob, and screw to their proper positions.



GREIST Manufacturing Co.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE WORLD'S FINEST
SEWING MACHINE ATTACHMENTS

GREIST Products

METAL STAMPING AND ASSEMBLY SPECIALISTS

SINCE 1870

