

# Wheel feed overseaming machine

SOP for wheel feed overseaming machine



## Step 1 — General Saftey



- Don't get caught in the machine motor or feed wheels. Don't wear dangling clothes or jewelry. Tie up long hair.
- Needles are sharp- Keep your hands out of the way, dispose of any needles that are bent, broken, or break your skin in the sharps disposal container
- unplug the machine when it is not in use.

## Step 2 — What this machine can and cannot do



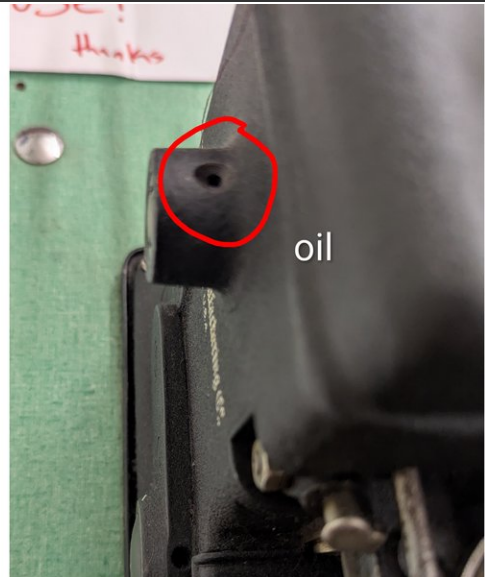
- This machine is called a "furring machine" and was built for sewing medium-weight furs, mainly mink. It sews with one thread in a chain stitch along the edge. This means your seams will open very flat, with very little seam allowance, and if the thread breaks the entire seam will come undone.
- It can also be used on canvas, soft leather, faux fur, felt, neoprene, and lightweight vinyl. Anything that is within the acceptable weight and is not going to fray a lot should be able to go through.
- It cannot sew thick leather, lightweight fabrics, or fabrics that need a lot of seam allowance to maintain their integrity. It cannot use heavy, thick thread.
- The overseam machine sews directly along the edge of your fabric in a single-thread chain stitch. The end result is functionally similar to a serged seam, but the overseam machine does not cut fabric and the stitches are not 'locked'. If a stitch breaks the entire seam will unravel.

### Step 3 — Parts of the machine



- Needle bar, feed disks, tension disks, looper arm, spool holder, hand wheel
- The power button turns the motor on and off. It must be turned on before sewing and turned off when you are done.
- The foot pedal on the left opens the feed wheels. The pedal on right runs the motor.
- The hand wheel should always be turned away from you.

### Step 4 — Before you start - Cleaning and oiling



- Put oil on the parts shown in the photos.
- Clean any parts that are dirty. Especially check for lint behind the needle bar and around the feed wheels.

## Step 5 — Needles

### TO SET THE NEEDLE

Turn the belt wheel until the looper swings out of the way and open the feed discs.

With tweezers, hold the needle with short groove up; place it into needle groove in the needle bar slot where clamp holds it and **push it back as far as it will go**. Tighten the clamp screw.

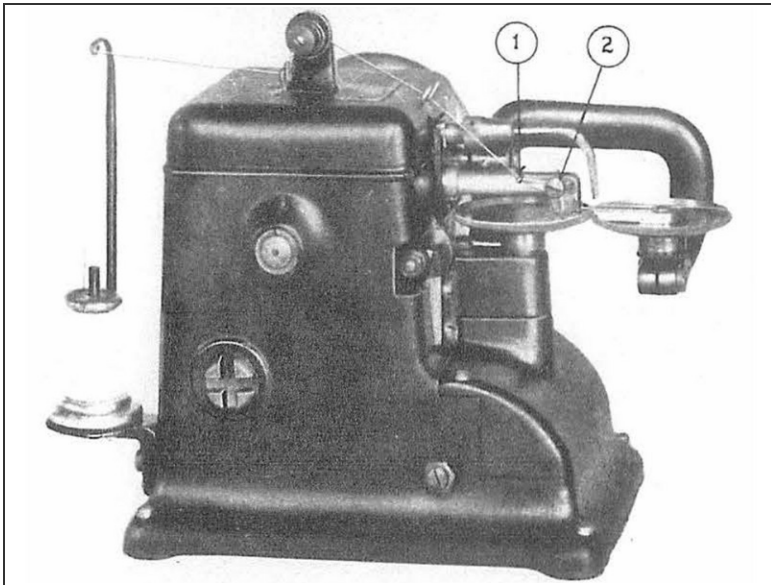
Never release the needle clamp more than is necessary to free the needle, and, before inserting the needle, make sure there is no piece of a broken needle left in the groove.

**CAUTION:** It is essential that short groove of needle faces upwards and long groove on the under side. If placed in the reverse manner, the machine will not sew properly; it will skip, so, before placing needle, check the position of needle grooves and then that needle is all the way into stopper of needle bar.



- The needles for this machine are Bonis type A . Size 12 is used for most applications. The manual calls for different needles, but the arm has been adjusted to use Bonis needles.
- Use only the specified needles for this machine. Do not use this machine's needles in other machines.
- To change the needle, turn the needle holding screw 1/4 turn and remove and safely discard the old needle. Insert the new needle with the shorter groove facing up, the longer groove facing down, and the eye going straight up and down. Retighten the screw and dispose of the old needle.

## Step 6 — Thread



### THREADING

The lower picture of machine on opposite page (Plate 1) shows the correct method of threading machine. Particular attention is directed to the necessity of having the thread pass over the Needle Bar Tension Plunger on needle bar, as marked by the arrows.

It is essential that the thread pass through hole in Needle Bar Tension Plate No. 115, as indicated by arrow No. 1. Then the thread must pass over the Needle Bar Tension Plunger No. 215 as shown by arrow No. 2. From here the thread must pass at right angle from bottom of the plate that holds the needle, and then through the needle eye. Thread the needle through the eye *from the bottom*.

- Thread made especially for this kind of machine is best but is hard to find. The thread should be smooth and fairly lightweight.
- Thread sold for fur comes in two kinds, machine and hand sewing. Hand sewing thread is waxed and cannot be used in this machine.
- Put the thread through pigtail 1, then between the tension disks, making sure it is pulled fully between them. Put thread through the second pigtail, and then down through the hole on the top of the needle bar.
- Next, pull the thread over the top of the screw, then behind the needle holder so it goes in to the small hole and comes out the right side. Then pull it into the slot, so it goes behind the plate directly behind the needle.
- Finally, thread the needle from the bottom towards the top.
- This video shows the threading process, for a slightly different machine: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXyN9QoM...>

## Step 7 — Preparing your fabric



- Overseaming goes on the very edge of the fabric, so cutting accurately is important. Make sure there are no jagged edges that could get caught.
- If you are sewing fur or faux fur, remove any loose bits and brush the pile away from the edges.

## Step 8 — Adjusting stitch length and tension



- There is a dial for adjusting stitch length. Turn it towards you for shorter stitches, and away from you for longer stitches.
- Tension is adjusted by turning the dial on the tension disks.
- For all other adjustments, please talk to the area manager.

## Step 9 — Sewing



- Use the left pedal to release the feed wheels and load in your fabric.
- The needle should be moved all the way back when starting and stopping.
- Release the feed wheels and pull the thread down against the feed wheel to break it off and lock your stitch.
- Keep the fabric lined up between the feed wheels and sew right on the edge. If you move the fabric too high, the stitches will skip.

## Step 10 — What to do if something goes wrong



- Adjust the tension. Unthread the machine and rethread it. Make sure you are using the correct kind of needle and it is sharp and installed correctly.
- Try a different kind of thread. Too thick, waxed, or fuzzy thread can struggle to pass through the needle, causing skipped loops.
- Check the mechanisms for tangled thread or debris.
- If you still have problems, post on the talk site with a description of the problem and what trouble shooting steps you have already taken.
- If the machine smells like burning, makes a weird sound, stops running, or has any other serious or dangerous issues, turn it off, unplug it, and notify the area manager.
- If you adjust any of the settings for needle bar position, looper position, or anything else that affects the operation of the machine, let the area manager know.

## Step 11 — Resources, parts, and useful information



- Needles can be purchased from <https://bonisparts.com/> or can sometimes be found on ebay.
- J&H Tek Tips on YouTube has very clear and thorough advice on how to use this machine. I highly recommend checking them out. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-2GkvT7...>