

Sewing machine needles

Choosing the right needle is important and can make a difference to the overall look finish and quality of your stitch work.

Damaged, worn and broken needles can be the cause of broken or shredded threads, missed stitches, puckering and may permanently damage your fabric.

Choosing the right **needle type** depends on the fabric to be sewn

Choosing the right **needle size** depends on thread thickness being used

Needle Type: Schmetz brand

There are several different types of needles that can be used depending on the fabrics that you are using to stitch, most commonly used in the department are:

Universal:

Colour code - none

Fabric - numerous, woven, knit

A good general purpose needle

Embroidery:

Colour code - red

Thread - rayon, polyester and other speciality threads

Protects fragile threads for trouble free embroidery and decorative stitching

Jersey (ball point):

Colour code – orange

Fabric – knits and some jersey

Will not damage or break knit fibres

Stretch:

Colour code - yellow

Fabric – elastic materials

Special eye and scarf prevent skipped stitches

Denim:

Colour code - blue

Fabric – denim, jeans and similar denim weights

Good for penetrating extra thick and woven fabrics

Metallic:

Colour code - pink

Thread - used with metallic thread

Prevents shredding and breakage of metallic threads

Leather:

Colour code - brown

Fabric - leather, artificial leather and some non-woven synthetics
Good for use on non-wovens

Topstitch:

Colour code - light green

Thread – topstitch, heavy, multiple or poor quality thread

Other types of needle include:

Microtex

Quilting

Gold embroidery

Hemstitch

Double eye

Quick threading

You can also get multiple needles called doubles, twins or triples some of these are available within the different range of needle types listed above. They can be used to create two rows of stitch, using two spools of colour with only one bobbin

Needle Size

The needle system used by home sewing machines **130/705 H**

There are two needle sizing systems: American, size 8-19

European, size 60-120

The larger the number the larger the blade of the needle

You will usually see both sizing systems on the needle package



Brand name

Needle type

Machine system compatibility

European/ American needle size