

Name: _____

Period: _____

Practicing Using the Serger

Listed below are various task required in using the serger. Demonstrate your ability to perform each task by completing each of the tasks.

Answer questions when appropriate & have teacher sign of when observing you with certain tasks.

Care of the serger

1. Brush away the lint that has collected around the knives of the serger.

Signature of Observer

Threading the serger

1. Thread the serger (4 spools), using the threading diagram provides on the inside of the machine.
2. Be sure to use the correct spool adapters.
3. Use the same type of thread throughout for easy tension control.
4. Use the serger tweezers when appropriate.

Signature of Observer

How sergers differ from conventional machines

1. Using previously learned knowledge of conventional machines and sergers, analyze how they are different.

What machine parts does the serger have that the conventional machine does not have?

Sewing with a Serger Sample # 1

□ Listed below are various tasks required in using the serger. Demonstrate your ability to perform each task by creating a sample. Please attach the samples to this paper.

(Use one 6"X6" square to sew samples.)

Machine Stitching

1. Begin without fabric under the presser foot. With the presser foot in a lowered position, hold the thread chain or tails lightly behind the presser foot. Step on the foot control (lightly) and form a few inches of thread chain. This is called chaining off.
2. Place fabric in front of the presser foot, aligning it with the stitching guidelines for the proper seam width. Usually, there is no need to lift the presser foot. The longer feed dogs will pull the fabric under the presser foot. For some slippery or heavy fabrics, you may have to lift the presser foot.
3. Step on the foot control (lightly) and guide the fabric under the presser foot, controlling the seam width as you serge. Be careful not to push or pull the fabric.
4. After serging the seam, chain off about 5 inches. Then use your shears to cut off the chain. Be sure to leave at least 2 inches of chain attached to the fabric.

Serger Seams Sample # 2

(Use one 6"X6" squares-cut in half)

Overlock Edge Finish on a Seam #2

1. Sew a 5/8 inch seam using your sewing machine. Press the seam open.
2. On the serger; align one raw edge of the 5/8 inch seam along the edge of the serger needle plate.
3. Serge, allowing the serger to trim off any loose threads (not fabric).
4. Repeat the above steps on the other side of the seam.
5. Press the seam open, so the seam and serging is displayed.

Adjusting Sergers Sample # 3

(Use one 6"X6" square to sew samples. Cut the square half.)

Adjusting the tension #3a

1. Use a third of the 6"X6" square that you cut.
2. Serge a long sample seam, stopping and making tension adjustments at various points along the seam.
3. Adjust one tension dial at a time. Turn the dial tighter. As you stitch you will be showing samples of various tension adjustments ending with a balanced tension.
4. Serge after each adjustment. Check to see how the adjustments affect the stitch.
5. Return the serger to a balanced tension. (4 all across)

Adjusting the stitch length #3b

1. Use a third of the 6"X6" square that you cut.
2. Serge a long sample, making stitch length adjustments at various points along the sample.
3. Return the serger to a regular stitch length.

Serging Curves Sample # 4

(Use two 6"X6" squares to sew samples.)

Serging Curves #4a

1. Cut two pieces of fabric, one an inside curves and the other an outside curve. (Use two 6"X6" squares)
2. Serge the samples on the 5/8 inch guideline.
3. Label the two samples (inside curve and outside curve).

Serging in a Circle #4b

1. Cut a **large** circle out of one 6"X6" square.
2. Pull unchained threads from the stitch finger on the serger. Be careful not to unthread the machine.
3. Hold the thread tails to the back of the serger, serge around the edge.
4. Overlap only a few stitches at the end. Then, lift the presser foot and needle and pull unchained threads from the serger.
5. Tie knots in the threads. Trim the threads and secure

Serging Outside Corners Sample # 5

(Use 6"X6" squares to sew sample.)

Turing Outside Corners #5

1. This method will be more attractive, but it requires experience. (Use one 6"X6" square)
2. Serge slowly to the corner. When the needle is one stitch off the fabric, stop. Lift the needle and raise the presser foot.
3. Pull a small amount of slack in the thread above the needle. Be careful, because too much slack will result in a loop in the stitching.
4. Gently pull the chain off the stitch finger. Turn the fabric so the next edge is touching the knife blade. Lower the presser foot and continue serging.
5. Continue these step until the entire square is serged. When finished, secure seam ends with a knot.

Serging Inside Corners Sample # 6

(Use one 6"X6" square to sew sample.)

Turing Inside Corners #6

1. Cut and inside right angle corner on a piece of fabric.
2. Mark stitching & cutting lines of 1 inch on each side of the corner. Clip the corner.
3. Serge the seam until the knife comes to the cutting line on the next edge. Lift the presser foot and straighten the corner. Fold the fabric away from the knives. A pleat will form to the left.
4. Serge the remaining edge. The fabric should lie flat after serging. Do not clip the stitching at the corner.

Securing Seam Ends Sample # 7

(Use two 6"X6" square to sew samples.)

Knot Method #7a

1. Serge a seam using half of a 6"X6" square. Leave a 2 inch chain at the beginning and end.
2. Undue the serging chains. Knot the threads chain to close the fabric edges.

When would you use this method?

Seam Sealant #7b

1. Serge a seam using half of a 6"X6" square. Leave a 2 inch chain at the beginning and end.
2. Use seam sealant on the thread chain near the fabric edge at the end of the seam.
3. After the sealant dries, cut off the excess chain.
4. If desired, the chain may be knotted before seam sealant is applied.

When would you use this method?

Secure the chain tails in the seam #7c

using half of a 6"X6" square

1. At the beginning of the seam, make one stitch on the fabric.
2. Lift the presser foot and swing the chain over to lie on the seam allowance, **lower** the presser foot, and serge over the chain.
3. At the end of the seam, stop serging when the needle is one stitch off the fabric.
4. Pull a little slack in the thread above the needle. Slip the chain off the stitch finger.
5. Flip the fabric over and to the front of the serger. Lower the presser foot and serge over the last few stitches and off the edge of the fabric. Be careful not to cut the stitches already sewn.

When would you use this method?

Large-Eyed Needle #7d

1. Serge a seam using half of a 6"X6" square. Leave a 2 inch chain at the beginning and end.
2. Thread the excess chain through a large eyed needle. Run the needle under six to eight stitches. Cut off the excess chain.

When would you use this method?

Securing Seam Ends Sample # 7

(Use eight 4"X4" square to sew samples.)

Knot Method #7a

1. Serge a seam using two 4"X4" squares. Leave a 2 inch chain at the beginning and end.
2. Undue the serging chains. Knot the threads chain to close the fabric edges.

When would you use this method? *When the serger was the only machine sewing a hem. You wouldn't want the seam to unravel.*

Seam Sealant #7b

1. Serge a seam using two 4"X4" squares. Leave a 2 inch chain at the beginning and end.
2. Use seam sealant on the thread chain near the fabric edge at the end of the seam.
3. After the sealant dries, cut off the excess chain.
4. If desired, the chain may be knotted before seam sealant is applied.

When would you use this method? *When you are doing a quick seam finish.*

Secure the chain tails in the seam #7c

(Use two 4"X4" squares).

1. At the beginning of the seam, make one stitch on the fabric.
2. Lift the presser foot and swing the chain over to lie on the seam allowance, **lower** the presser foot, and serge over the chain.
3. At the end of the seam, stop serging when the needle is one stitch off the fabric.
4. Pull a little slack in the thread above the needle. Slip the chain off the stitch finger.
5. Flip the fabric over and to the front of the serger. Lower the presser foot and serge over the last few stitches and off the edge of the fabric. Be careful not to cut the stitches already sewn.

When would you use this method? *When you want a quick seam and seam finish that is secure.*

Large-Eyed Needle #7d

1. Serge a seam using two 4"X4" squares. Leave a 2 inch chain at the beginning and end.
2. Thread the excess chain through a large eyed needle. Run the needle under six to eight stitches. Cut off the excess chain.

When would you use this method? *When you want a nice seam finish with a clean nice edge.*