



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT WILL THIS SEWING MACHINE DO?**

**Directions:** Make a sample of each of the following techniques, following the directions on each item and in your sewing machine instruction booklet. Write the number and name of the special presser foot/attachment and the machine setting needed. Use a 12-inch by 4-inch piece of fabric for most of the samples. Upon completion, neatly attach your samples to notebook paper and label each sample.

**1. Overlock Seam (for those without sergers)**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: Knit fabrics—gives stretch and strength to seams.  
Woven fabrics—used to bind edges that ravel.

Directions: Make one sample: either one with knit fabric or one with woven fabric.

1. Sew a regular 5/8-inch seam.
2. Trim the edges to 1/4 inch.
3. Sew along edge with the overlock stitch.

**2. Blind Hem**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width setting: \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: On flat hems, this technique does not work well where ease is necessary. It works best on stable fabrics that are not fine or sheer.

Directions: Measure and prepare a hem 1½ inches wide.  
Finish edge of hem appropriately for the fabric.  
Be sure hem is pressed well, and leave a few pins perpendicular to the edge for stability.  
Place the hem against machine table with the edge of the hem extending to the right.  
Fold the garment back so about 1/4 inch of the finished hem edge is exposed. Sew along that 1/4-inch edge of the hem, removing the pins as you sew. Adjust the machine zigzag width so that the needle just barely catches the fold of the garment.



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3. **Decorative Stitching**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Cut an 8-inch by 12-inch piece of medium weight woven fabric without nap, and fold in half.  
Make a sample with six (6) different decorative stitches or four (4) to six (6) variations of fewer stitches.

4. **Buttons With a Shank**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Follow the instructions in the owner's manual and sew three (3) four-hole buttons on the fabric, making a shank as you sew.  
Make sure you have a shank foot, or use a toothpick if you do not have a special foot.  
This method is great when sewing on three or more buttons.

5. **Rolled Hem: Binding Edges With A Special Foot**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Scarves, formals, fine and sheer fabrics, napkins, tablecloths, and wherever a narrow hem is needed.

Directions: To begin sewing, fold the fabric edge twice, about 1/4 inch each time. Place fabric under presser foot and sew a few stitches to stabilize.  
Leave the needle in the fabric and lift the presser foot.  
Tautly hold the first fold under the presser foot with the left hand and draw it through the spiral in the special foot.  
Lower the presser foot and guide the fabric, holding it taut and lifting it slightly.  
The edge of the fabric must be vertical and go through the special foot in a straight line.

6. **Buttonholes With Automatic Buttonhole Stitch**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Follow the directions in the owner's manual and make three (3) buttonholes.



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**7. Buttonholes Without Automatic Buttonhole Stitch**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Use two pieces of fabric with interfacing between them.  
Pretend your machine only has straight and zigzag stitches.  
Make a 1-inch buttonhole by:

- a. Stitching down one side with a very short narrow zigzag stitch; stop with the needle in the right position.
- b. Stitch down the other side, with stitches almost touching.
- c. Bar tack the ends with a very short, wide zigzag stitch.
- d. Stitch in place at the end of each bartack to keep stitches from pulling.
- e. Make two (2) more buttonholes using this method.

**8. Buttonholes With Cording**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Make three (3) machine buttonholes and add cording for strength and shape. Use a knit fabric.  
Upon completion, remember to bring the cording strings to the wrong side (or inside) and tie a square knot to finish. Clip ends.

**9. Gathering With a Gathering Foot**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Use a 3-inch by 36-inch piece of lightweight fabric for this sample. You will end with approximately 12 inches of gathered fabric.

Follow the manufacturer's directions. (See owner's manual.)

Optional: For extra credit, try adding a piece of ribbon or fabric for a waist band. This only works on light to medium weight fabrics.



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**10. Gathering With a Basting Stitch**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Sew two (2) rows of basting stitches (longest length) just above the 5/8-inch line. Make them about 1/8 inch apart.  
Do NOT backstitch at the beginning and the end of the stitching.  
Leave about 3 inches of thread at the beginning and end of each row.  
Pull the bobbin threads of both rows and gather the fabric.

**11. Gathering With a Cord (or Fishing Line)**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: For heavy fabric and net.

Directions: Set the machine on its widest zigzag stitch and longest stitch length.  
Place cord/fishing line between the toes of the presser foot and zigzag over it, being careful not to stitch on the cord.  
Leave enough cord/fishing line at the beginning and end to pull like a draw string.  
Some machines have a special foot you can thread the cord through.  
Sew two rows 1/4 inch apart, then pull cord ends.

**12. Pintucking With the Double Needle**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_  
Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: Decoration and design.

Directions: Use a single piece of light weight, solid color fabric for this sample.  
Cut the fabric about 12 inches square.  
Pintucking is always stitched on the right side of the fabric.  
Stitch six (6) rows of plain pintucking 1/2 inch apart, starting 1 inch from the edge of the fabric. Try different stitch lengths for different effects.  
Then stitch four (4) more rows 1/2 inch apart with the cording underneath.  
(See owner's manual for specific instructions.)  
Some machines will have a hole in the needle plate for the cording.



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**13. Double Needle Seam Topstitching**

Name of special foot: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

Stitch length setting: \_\_\_\_\_ Stitch width settings: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Uses: For top stitching, decorative stitches and pintucking.

Machine threading: Use two (2) top threads, running one thread through each side of the tension disk and then to each needle. The underside of the fabric will look like you zigzagged.

Directions: Sew a regular 5/8-inch seam. Press both edges to one side. Serge edges if needed.

From the top, stitch close to the seamline, stitching through all three layers.

DO NOT TRY TO BACKSTITCH WITH DOUBLE NEEDLES. Pull threads through and tie.

ALSO, NEVER TRY TO ZIGZAG WITH DOUBLE NEEDLES.