

## needle know how

Needles are a key element to sewing. With so many choices in fabric, it is important to choose the correct needle to complete your project. It is also important to change your needle often, as a variety of fabrics contribute to the rapid dulling of the tip. Ideally, you should change your needle after every two garments. Here are more tips to guide you in the needle selection process.



### PARTS OF A NEEDLE

- point** The type of point is one of the main differences in needles. There are many different types to choose from including: ball-point, knife blade, sharp and universal.
- eye** The hole through which the thread passes.
- shank** The body of the needle that is inserted into the machine.
- scarf** The indentation at the back of the needle around the eye.

### SIZING



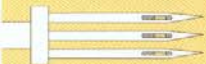







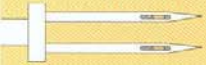
Needles are available in sizes ranging from 60 to 120 and should be used according to the type of fabric being sewn on.

Type of Fabric	Size
Lightweight Fabrics	60/7 - 65/9 - 70/10
Mediumweight Fabrics	70/10 - 80/12 - 90/14 - 100/16
Heavyweight Fabrics	100/16 - 110/18 - 120/20

### Other Needle Tips We Recommend...

- Change your needle frequently.
- Remove your pins as you sew. Sewing over pins can break your needle and stop your machine.
- Use the correct needle type and size for your fabric and technique for optimum results.

### TYPES OF NEEDLES:

Name	Use
 Universal	Used for general sewing and known for its slightly rounded point.
 Ball Point	A commonly used needle, the ballpoint has a very round point and actually wiggles through the threads of fabric rather than cutting the fibers.
 Drilling/Triple	Similar to twin needles and used for sewing multiple rows of decorative stitches.
 Embroidery	Has a round point to avoid damage to thread and fabric and a slightly larger eye.
 Jeans & Microtex	The needles with the sharpest points available. Used to pierce through tightly woven fabrics.
 Leather	Has a wedge point that cuts a hole as it's passing through leather.
 Quilting	Has a special tapered point and light ball point to allow it to penetrate layers of both fabric and batting.
 Self-Threading	Designed with a small slit at one side of the eye in order to make threading easy. Weaker than regular needles due to the slit.
 Stretch	Features a rounded point and a deep scarf. Perfect for sewing on fabrics such as Lycra as well as synthetic suede and leathers.
 Topstitching	Due to its large eye, topstitching needles are perfect for sewing with heavy threads.
 Twin/Double	Have both functional and decorative uses but can only be used on front threading zigzag machines.