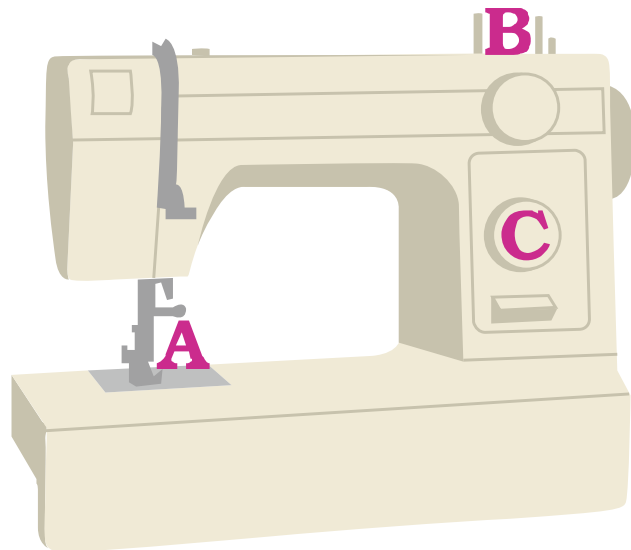


KWIK•SEW® Sewing Educator Guide

Glossary of Sewing Machine Parts & Terms



Bed: The flat surface of the sewing machine. A **flat bed machine** has one level to sew on. A **free-arm** has a removable U-shaped part of the bed to reveal an arm or tube used for sewing hard-to-reach areas such as a pant cuff or sleeve.

Bobbin: Disk to hold lower or 'bobbin' thread (this sits in the bobbin case).

Bobbin Case: Device which holds the bobbin and provides tension to the lower thread (this can be located on the bed of the machine directly under the presser foot, in the front of the machine directly under the presser foot, or on the left side of the machine directly under the presser foot).

Bobbin Winder: Mechanism used to wind bobbins.

Feed Dog: Teeth on the bed of the machine, under the presser foot, which controls the motion of the fabric.

Foot Pedal: Directs power to the machine and allows speed to be controlled.

Hand or Fly Wheel: The wheel located on the right side of the sewing machine. This wheel raises and lowers the thread take-up lever and the needle. This is driven by the motor, but it may be turned by hand to take one stitch at a time or to adjust the needle height.

Head: The complete sewing machine without cabinet or carry case.

Hook: Device which picks the thread off of the needle, located in the bobbin case.

Lower Tension: Controls the delivery of the bottom thread that is provided by the bobbin case (see Upper Tension).

Needle: Carries the thread through the fabric and joins it with the bobbin thread.

Pressure Foot: Foot that presses down on the fabric to stabilize its movement.

Pressure Foot Lever: Lever used to raise and lower the presser foot.

Power Switch: Turns the machine on and off.

Reverse Lever or Button: Button or lever used to reverse the stitch from forward motion to backward motion.

Spool Pin: Holds the spool of thread in place.

Stitch Length: Adjustment used to determine length from front to back of the stitch.

Stitch Width: Adjustment which allows a variety of widths from side to side.

Thread Guides: Devices or hooks, which carry the thread as it goes from the spool to the needle.

Thread Take-up: A lever that pulls up slack in the thread from the spool through the tension slot and helps maintain proper thread tension.

Throat Plate or Needle Plate: Metal plate on the bed of the machine, under the presser foot that covers the area around the feed dogs and the needle.

Upper Tension: Adjusts the amount of pressure on the thread as it goes through the machine (see Lower Tension).