

# ESSEX



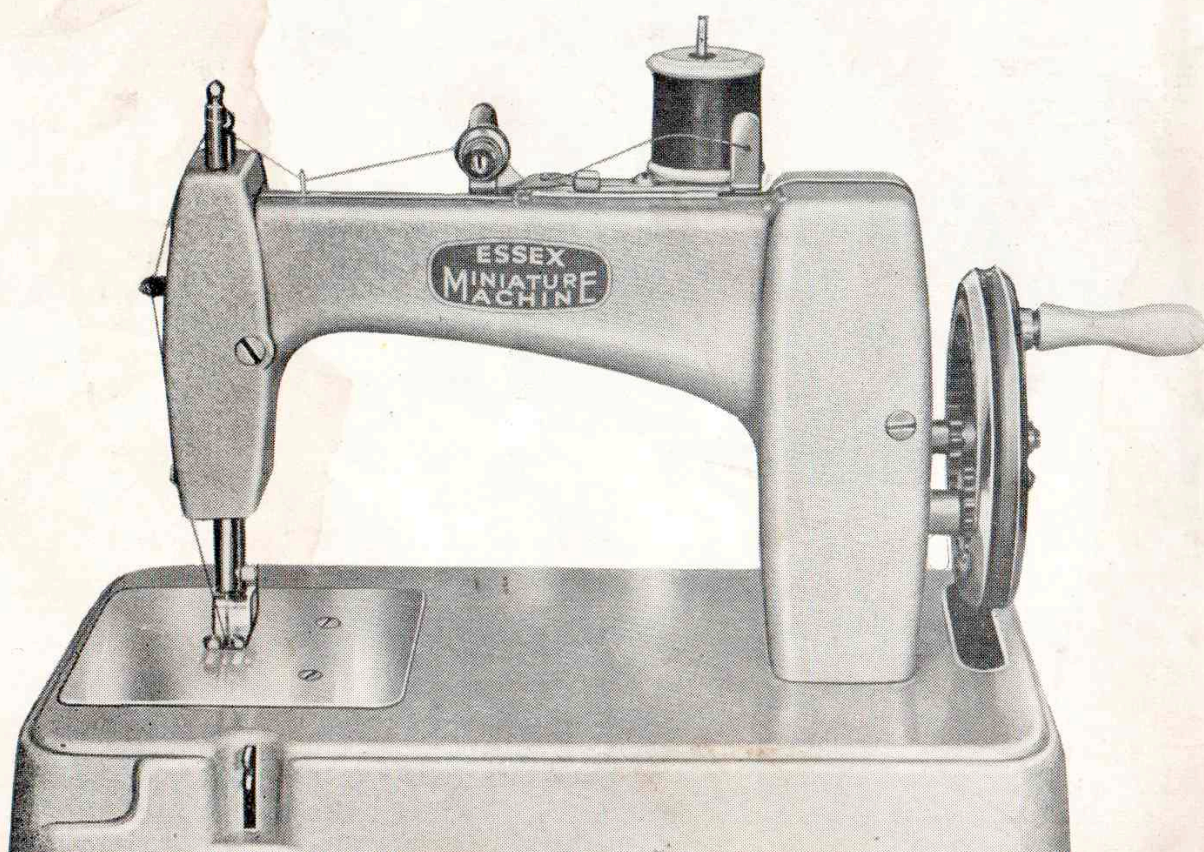
HAND AND ELECTRIC

**INSTRUCTION BOOK**



# ESSEX MINIATURE MACHINE

Your Essex has been thoroughly examined and tested before leaving the factory and, given the same care and attention you would any other appliances, will give you many hours of easy and useful sewing. To obtain the best results it is important that you follow the instructions given in this booklet.





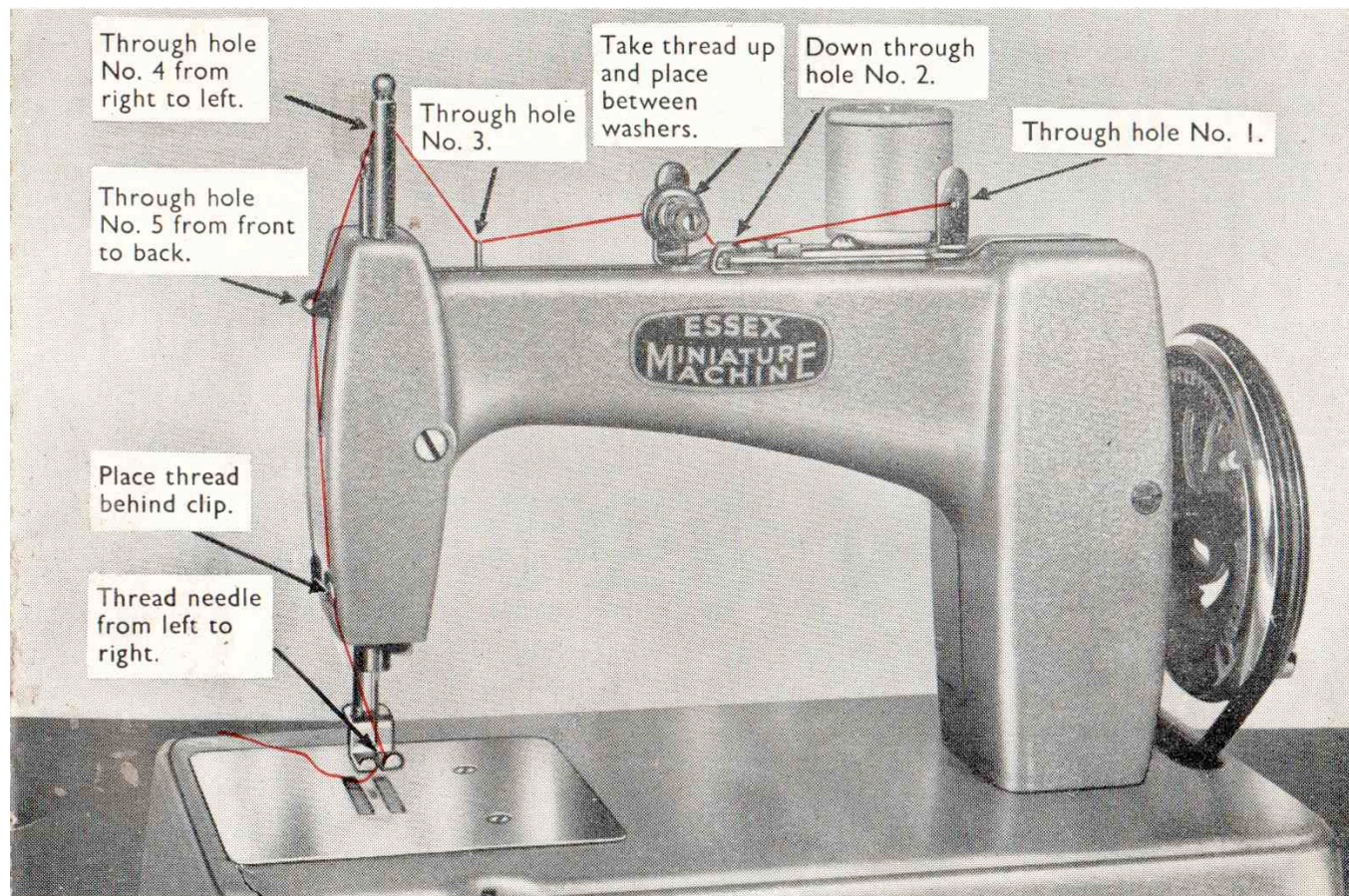


Figure 1.

## TO THREAD MACHINE

1. Push spool pin up and place thread on same.
2. Pass thread through hole 1.
3. Pass thread downwards through thread hole 2.
4. Bring thread up and set firmly between tension washers.
5. Pass thread through hole 3.
6. Pass thread through hole 4.
7. Bring thread down and pass through hole 5 from front to back.
8. Place thread under clip at side.
9. Pass thread through eye of needle from left to right.
10. Bring thread through prongs of presser foot and pull to the back.

**NEEDLES** for this machine are the ordinary sewing machine needles, class 15 x 1. Size 14 is the average size used, but 11 or 9 can be used for very fine materials such as chiffon, nylon, etc.

**THREAD.** No. 40 will be found to be satisfactory for most work, and No. 50 for very fine materials. The correct needle and thread size will make a seam as strong as the material itself and, after laundering, will be almost impossible to detect. The correct size will also help you to properly adjust the thread tension and length of stitch, which you can easily do on a spare piece of material similar to the type you intend to sew.

## HOW TO SEW

1. Connect foot control to wall plug and machine.
2. Raise foot lifting lever (M).
3. Raise needle to its highest position.
4. Place material under presser foot (O) and lower lever (M).
5. Press with the foot on button on foot control.
6. Allow material to feed through. Do not push or pull work, but guide through machine, keeping it taut to avoid puckering.



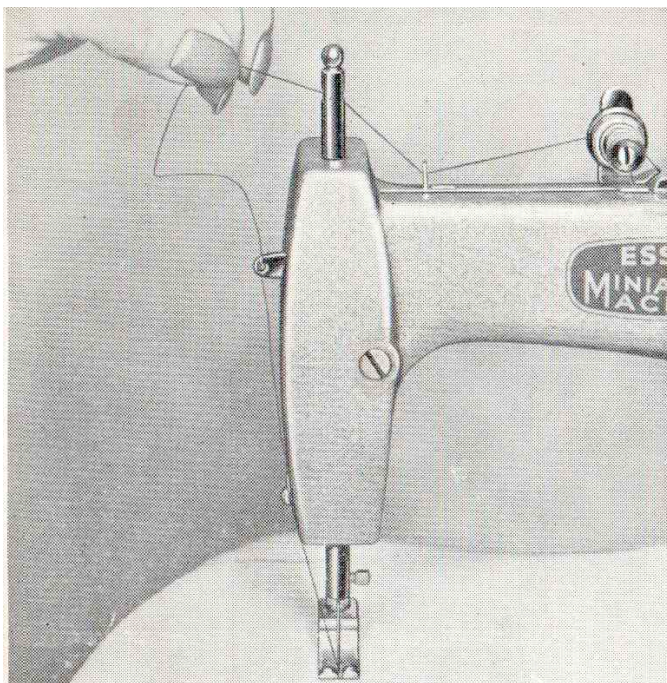


Figure 2.

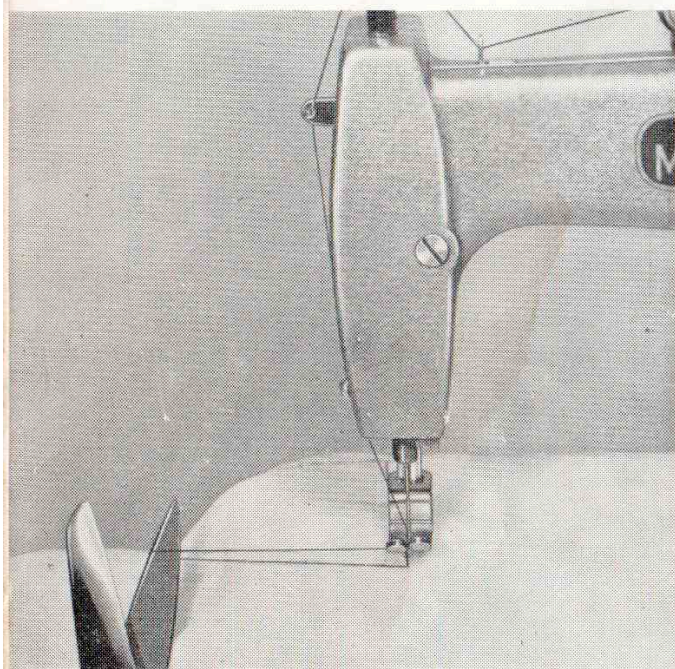
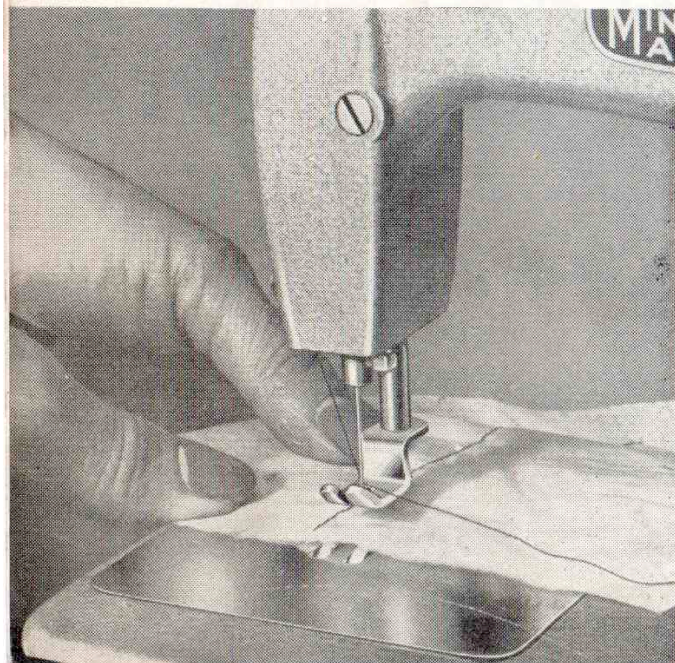


Figure 3.  
Figure 4.



## SECURING THE LAST STITCH AND REMOVING FABRIC

1. Stop the machine when the needle is at its highest point.
2. Pull out thread about two inches to the left from the hole at the head of the needle rod, as shown in Fig. 2.
3. Hold a pair of scissors in your right hand and, with the tip, pull the loose thread to the left (or right) from the eye of the needle, as shown in Fig. 3.
4. Cut the thread close at bottom of presser foot (Fig. 4), lift the presser foot and remove the material. Should the material not come away with ease, move the driving wheel to and fro, and the material will disengage itself.
5. Pull the loose thread taut, and stitching is thus secured.



## STITCH REGULATOR

This is a part which is fixed by the propeller beneath the sewing plate, and stitches can be made coarse or fine, according to how the regulator is adjusted. Best results will be obtained if stitch regulator (U) is adjusted to the position midway between its two extreme points of travel. To make longer stitch, move regulator up. To make shorter stitch, move regulator down, remembering that tension may have to be slackened off to allow stitch to be pulled tighter.



Figure 5.

## STITCH TENSION

### Importance of the Thread Regulator (Fig. 6).

Its delicate work on the underneath stitch depends mainly on the extent to which it is adjusted. Turning the screw clockwise will tighten the thread, and anti-clockwise will slacken the thread. If the tension is too tight the result will be that the material will wrinkle. If too slack, the underneath stitch becomes too loose, resulting in irregular sewing. The tension should be controlled, neither too loose nor too tight, according to the material being sewn, so that breakages will not occur when the material is pulled. See examples below. (Fig. 7.)

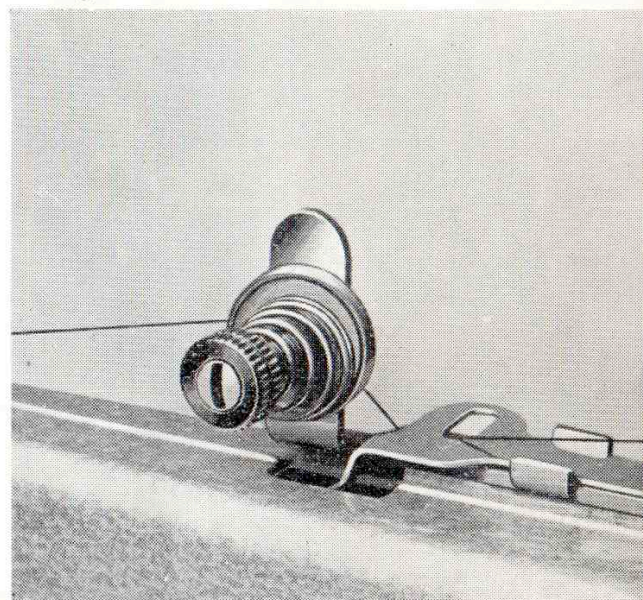


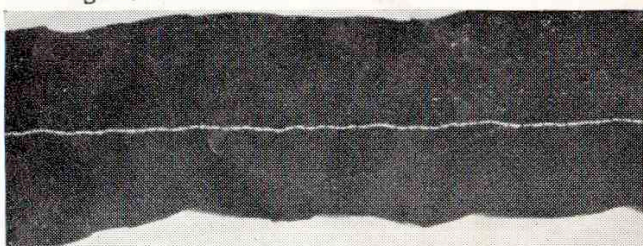
Figure 6.

**At no time should the thread be wound between, or placed beneath, the tension washers.**

Figure 7.

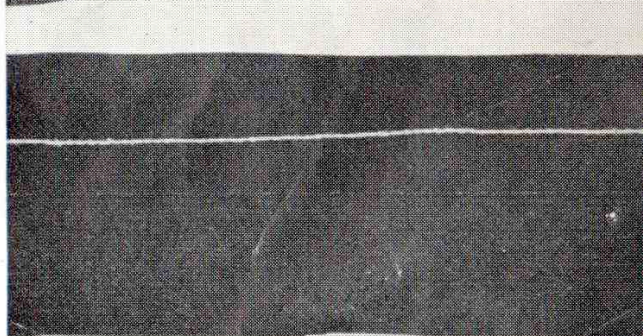
A. *Stitching when thread is too tight.*

A.



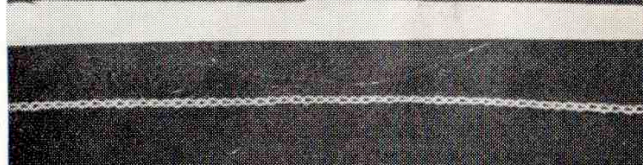
B. *Stitching when thread is correctly regulated.*

B.



C. *Stitching when thread is too loose.*

C.





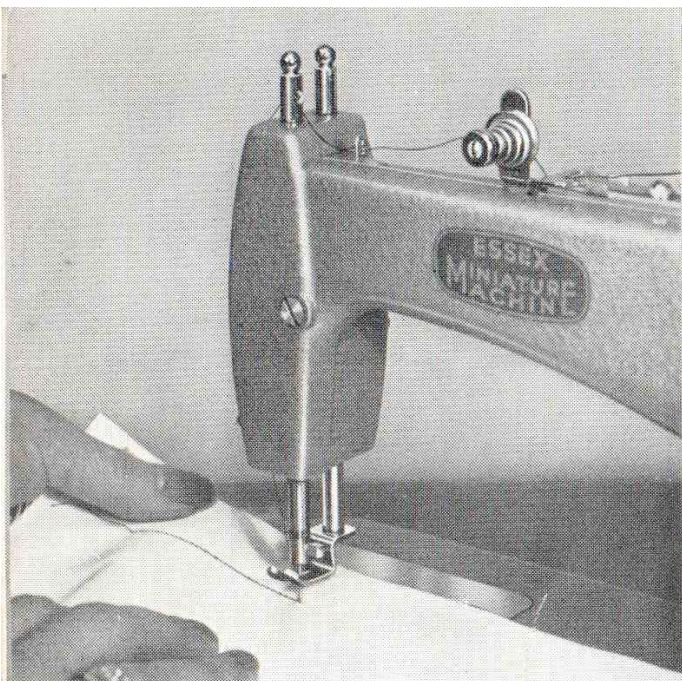


Figure 8.

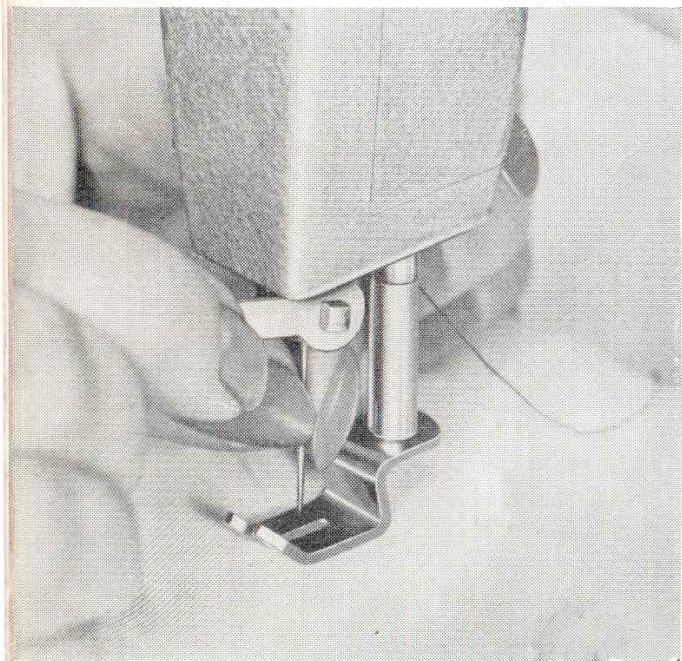


Figure 9.

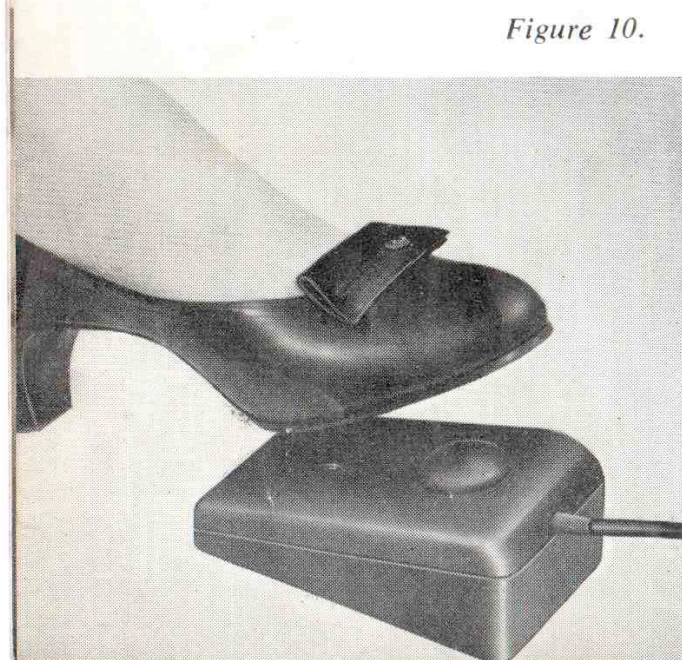


Figure 10.

## HOW TO TURN A CORNER (Fig. 8)

1. Stop with the needle at its lowest point.
2. Raise the foot lifting lever (M) and turn your work.
3. Lower foot lifting lever (M) and continue sewing.

## HOW TO CHANGE A NEEDLE (Fig. 9)

1. Turn wheel by hand towards you and raise needle to its highest point.
2. Loosen retaining screw (component part "N") and remove needle or broken piece.
3. Insert new needle, making sure it is as high as it will go in the needle rod, and that the flat side of needle goes to the screw. Tighten screw.

## CONNECTIONS

The GREEN (earth) lead must be connected to the 'EARTH' (large) terminal of a three-pin plug. This terminal is generally marked 'E' or coloured green.

**IMPORTANT:** Under no circumstances should the GREEN (earth) lead be connected to either of the other two terminals. Where terminals of the plug are marked with letters or coloured: Connect RED lead to terminal marked 'L' or coloured RED; connect BLACK lead to terminal marked 'N' or coloured BLACK; connect GREEN lead to terminal marked 'E' or coloured GREEN.

### MOTOR

Type A.B.I. H.P. 1/100 AC/DC. Volts 200/250. Cycles 50. Amps. 0-12.

## FOOT CONTROL

Sufficient cable is supplied for the control to be placed on the floor and for a connection to a convenient point in the electricity supply. To set the machine in motion, press with the foot on the button, as shown in Fig. 10. To stop machine, remove foot from button.



## HOW TO SEW A ZIPPER IN YOUR SKIRT OR DRESS

1. Allow 2-inch seam on right side of placket.
2. Allow  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seam on left side.
3. Always leave room at the top of placket opening to allow for seam finishing at waist and neck.
4. Make placket opening slightly longer than the lower metal edge of fastener so that the fabric can be eased to fastener.
5. Press seam open on inside of skirt.
6. Using closed zipper and working same way as you begin any sewing, sew folded left side of skirt to left side of zipper as close to metal teeth of zipper as presser foot permits.
7. Fold right side of seam allowance under about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, or just enough to meet left seam.
8. Sew, beginning at bottom of left seam, across width of zipper tape, turn square corner, and sew up the right side to top of zipper opening.
9. Raise foot lifting lever (M).
10. Bring needle rod (J) up to highest point. Release slack thread and pull material back away from you.

## TAKE GOOD CARE OF THE PROPELLER

The propeller makes the stitch. If it gets tangled with thread, remove thread from propeller before you continue sewing. Be careful not to nick, mar or bend the propeller, as this destroys the smooth action of the stitch. Do not move position of the propeller. This has been properly adjusted at the factory. Keep the needle tip about  $\frac{1}{16}$ th of an inch from the propeller, as shown in Fig. 13.

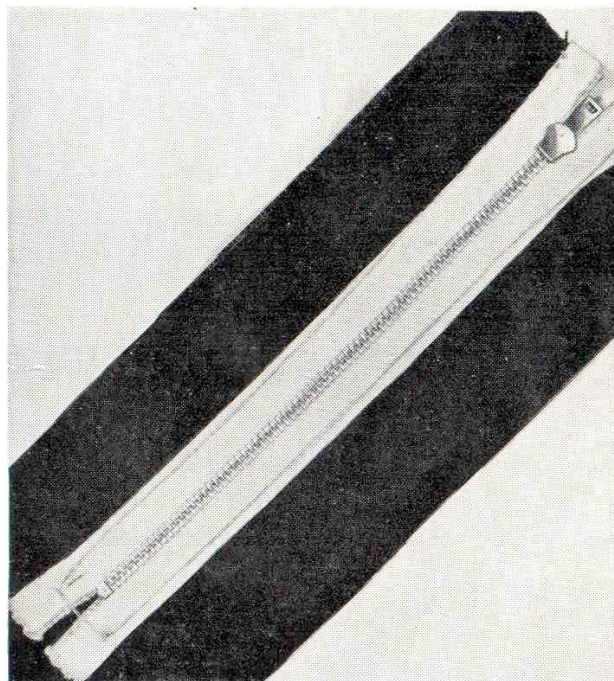


Figure 11.

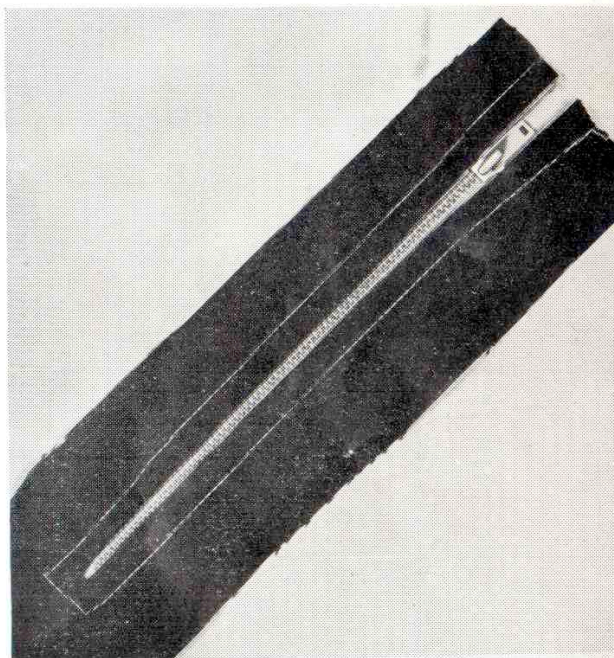


Figure 12.

Figure 13.







# TROUBLES AND REMEDIES

## WHEN THREAD SNAPS DURING SEWING

If the thread should snap during the process of sewing, it is not necessary to start again from the beginning. Proceed as follows:—

Drive the needle through the last loop, thus  and pull at the broken end, thus  which will tighten the stitch and leave about half an inch of loose thread. Then sew two or three stitches over the last stitches.

## CAUSES OF WRINKLES

1. When thread regulator screw (G) is too tight.
2. When the stitch is not fine enough for silk and other thin fabrics. The regulator should be adjusted for fine stitching.
3. When thread becomes entangled on parts of the machine, such as the spool pin (E).

## IRREGULARITIES IN FEEDING

1. Insufficient pressure of the presser foot on material being sewn.
2. Defaced feeder. (See "Useful Hints.")
3. When stitch regulator (U) is adjusted too finely.
4. Bent needle.
5. Needle round the wrong way. (See "Useful Hints.")
6. Feeder has dropped below level of plate.
7. Feeder retaining screw loose.

## HOW TO AVOID BREAKING NEEDLE

1. Do not use fine needles when sewing heavy fabrics.
2. Never remove fabric by pulling it towards you. Remember always to pull away from you. Failure to do this will also cause bent needles.
3. Make certain the machine needle is always at its highest point before removing the material.

## CAUSES OF BROKEN THREAD, JUMPING AND CATCHING

1. When the machine has been incorrectly threaded.
2. When the thread regulator is too tight.
3. When the needle is incorrectly set.
4. When the needle is bent.
5. When the thread is too thick for the needle.
6. When the thread is entangled with the propeller.
7. When the setting screw of the propeller is loose.



## WHEN THE MACHINE DOES NOT TURN FREELY

1. Thread may be entangled with the small gear.
2. Machine may need oiling. Sewing machine or "Three-in-One" oil is recommended.
3. Feeder screw may be too loose.
4. Plate screws loose.

**NEEDLE.** Unless the needle is straight and correctly inserted in the needle rod, sewing will be impossible.

**THREAD.** Do not use a thread which is too thick for the eye of the needle.

**PROPELLER.** See that the propeller is always kept perfectly clean. If it gets choked with bits of thread and dust, sewing may not be possible. Particular care should be paid to this.

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## USEFUL HINTS

Do not interfere with the fixed tension clip (F) on top of the machine; this is set prior to leaving the factory and should require no further adjustment.

Do not pull material through—let the machine do the work.

Always clear propeller of tangled thread before proceeding with work. This is important.

Do not use a bent or blunt needle.

Always use the correct size needle and be sure it is inserted the right way round, i.e., flat side towards retaining screw.

When sewing very thin fabric, the work is made easier by placing a newspaper, or paper of similar thickness, beneath the fabric and machining together, the paper being torn off after sewing.

Never turn the flywheel towards you when operating by hand, as this will cause the thread to break.

Do not file pin on propeller, or point of propeller, as this will cause the thread to fray and break.

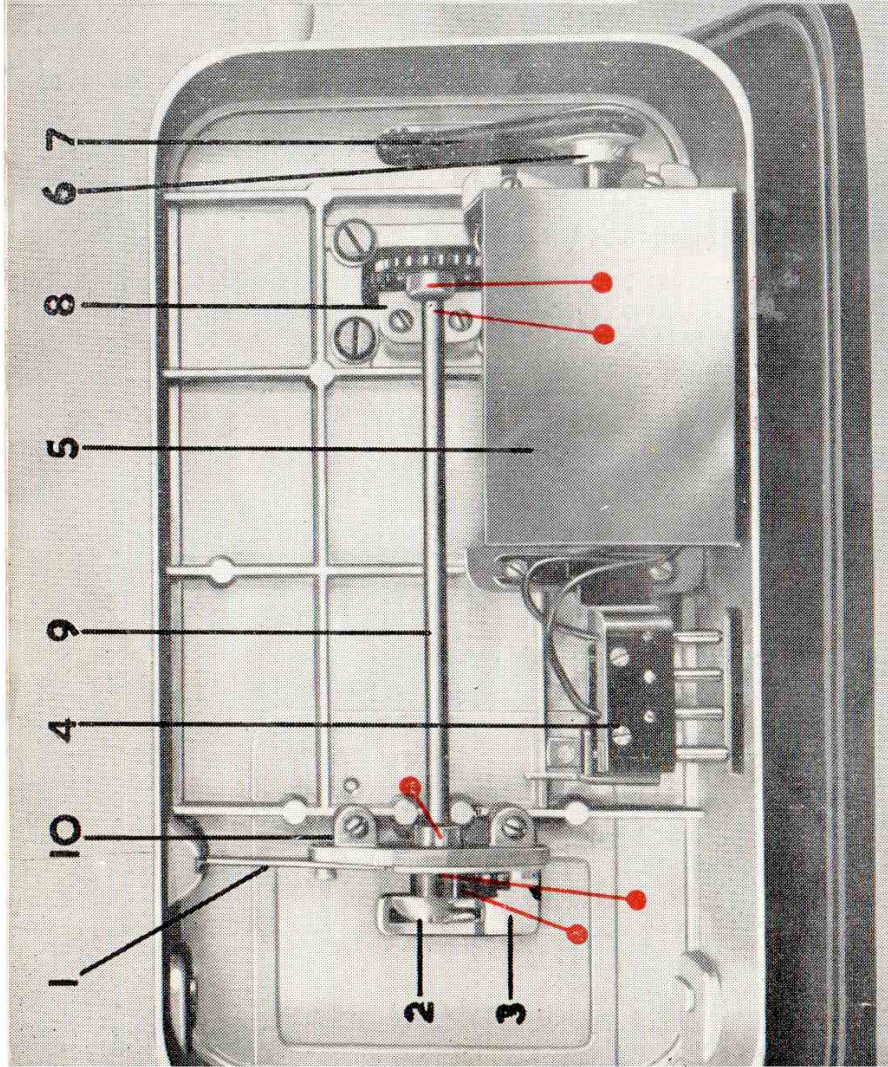
Irregularities in feeding can be caused by the bottom moving feeder holding screw coming loose, allowing the feeder to fall below the level of the metal plate. This should be tight, but must allow freedom of movement for the feeder.

Never run machine with presser foot down without material under.

The makers advise practice on various thicknesses of material before actual sewing so that the operator can become accustomed to the feel of the machine.

For extra strength when casting off.—When you reach the end of a line of machining, keep needle at its lowest point, raise presser foot, turn material round, lower presser foot and machine over last two or three stitches. Fasten off.



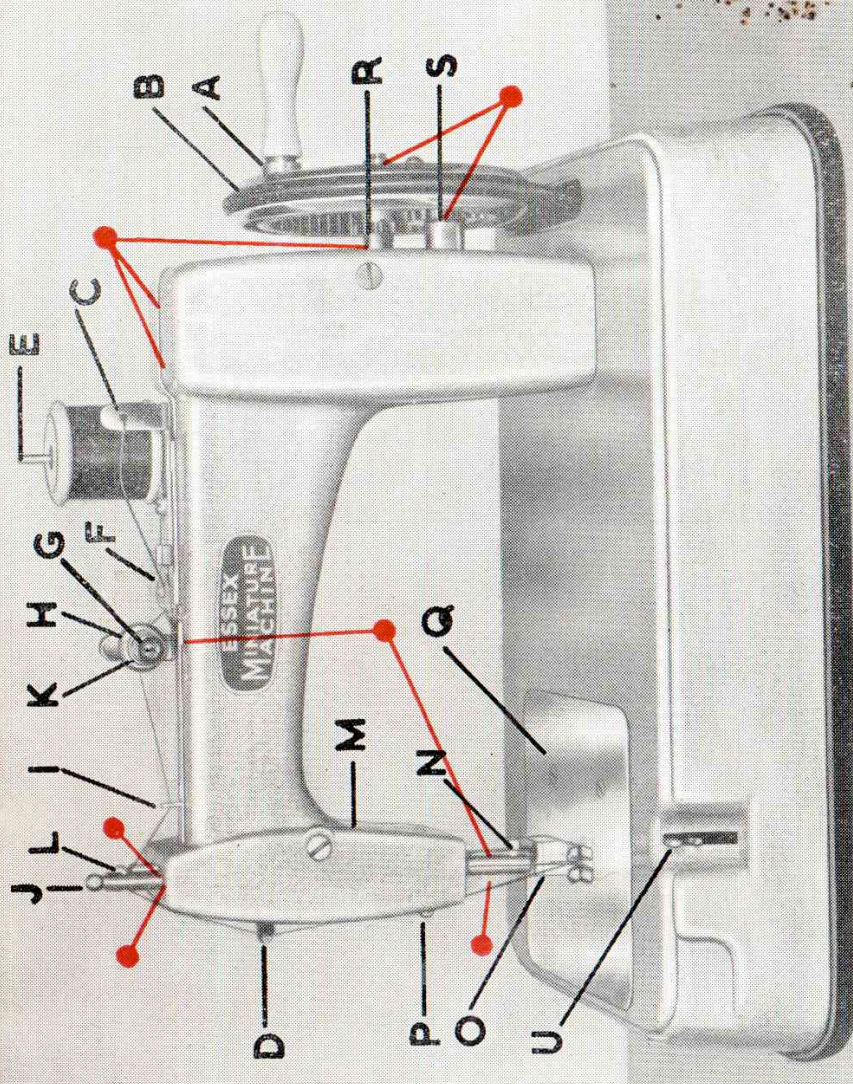


## OILING

The machine needs to be oiled occasionally, and a spot of oil should be applied to important parts, shown by red lines above. Oil should be applied cautiously. Remove any excess with a soft cloth to avoid the possibility of oil travelling over the machine and soiling work. Excess oil also tends to accumulate dust.

### BOTTOM VIEW

1. Stitch Regulator.
2. Bottom Thread Propeller.
3. Feeder.
4. Mains Connector Plug.
5. Electric Motor.
6. Electric Motor Pulley.
7. Driving Belt.
8. Rear Bracket.
9. Shaft and Gear.
10. Front Bracket.



## COMPONENT PARTS

### TOP VIEW

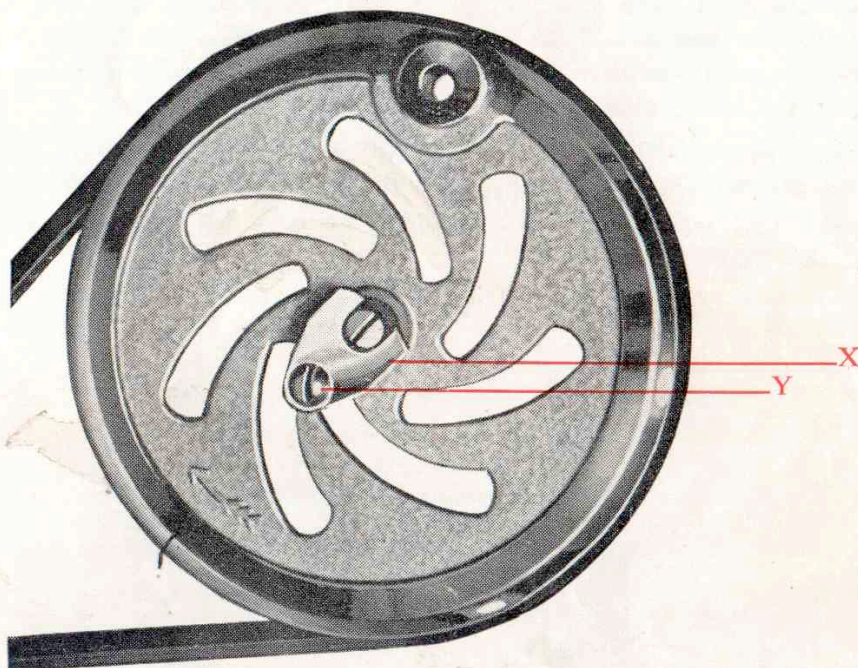
- A. Handle Attachment Hole.
- B. Driving Wheel.
- C. Tension Unit Plate.
- D. Thread Control Lever.
- E. Spool Pin (adjustable).
- F. Fixed Tension Clip.
- G. Tension Screw.
- H. Tension Washers.
- I. Thread Guide Clip.
- J. Needle Rod.

### TOP VIEW


- K. Tension Spring.
- L. Presser Foot Rod.
- M. Foot Lifting Lever.
- N. Needle Retaining Screw.
- O. Presser Foot.
- P. Cotton Clip.
- Q. Sewing Plate.
- R. Fly-wheel Pinion.
- S. Driving Gear.
- U. Stitch Regulator.

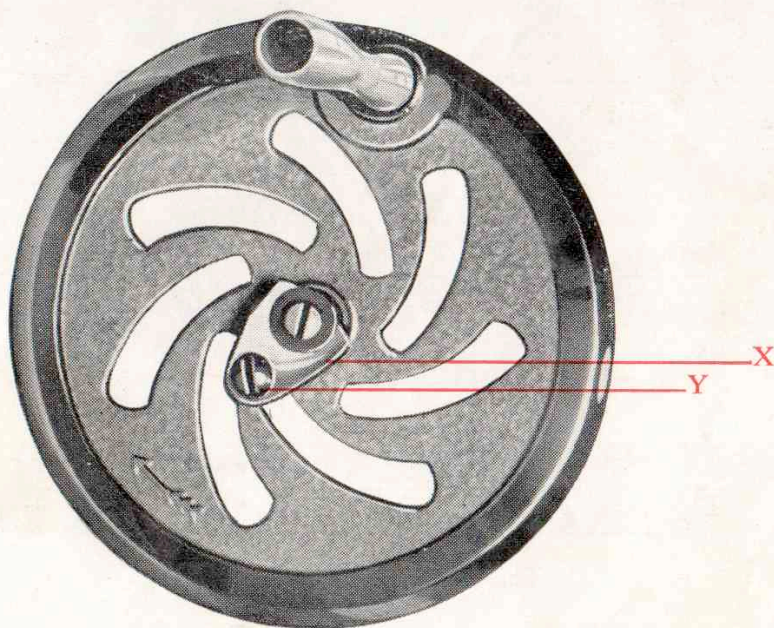


## CHANGING FROM ELECTRIC OPERATING TO HAND OPERATING



Showing locator (X) in position for electric power operating.

Remove screw (Y).  To undo, follow arrow. Locator will then come off. Now push wheel towards the machine until gear engages, then replace locator (X) and screw (Y). Lightly tighten. Remove belt off the wheel and fix handle. Machine is now ready for hand operating.



Showing locator (X) in position for hand operating.

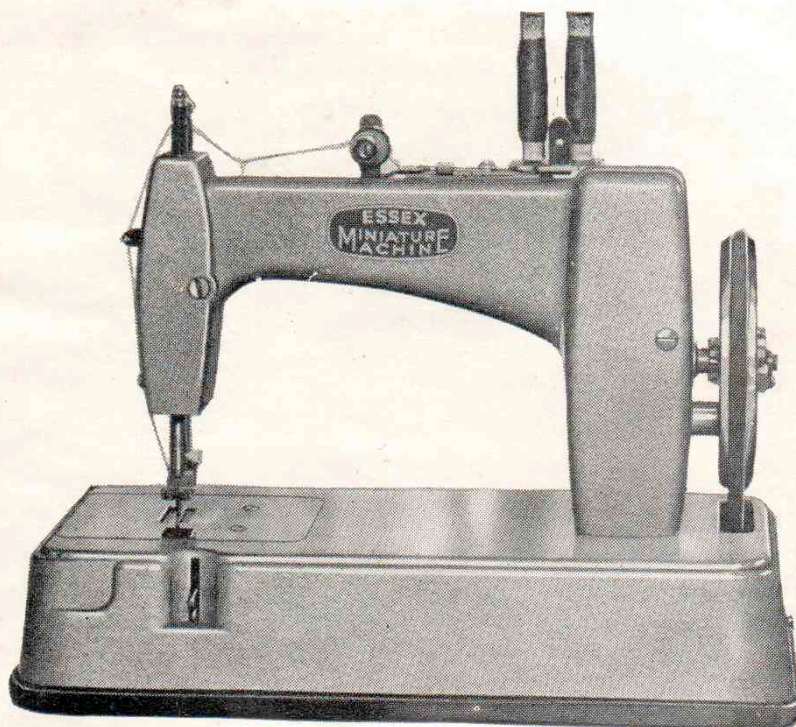


## **SPECIAL FEATURE**

With the aid of the attachment shown in the photograph below this machine will save you hours of hand sewing, by seaming up all your knitted garments. It is important to note that only PERIVALE SILK can be used for this type of work, as the use of the two reels of silk gives the same elasticity as hand sewing with wool.

For threading, follow instructions given for single thread.

This attachment is not supplied with the machine, but can be supplied at little extra cost, and is very simple to fix. Can be used with hand or electric machine.



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