

## Trouble Shooting – how to solve basic problems on the sewing machine

### Quick Problem Solvers

1. Switch the machine off at the power and on again
2. Completely rethread the top and bottom thread
3. Change the thread (some cheaper threads can be problematic in use)
4. Change the needle
5. Test the stitch on a piece of test fabric before sewing
6. Use the same colour and type of thread for the top and bottom threads

The problem	What's wrong?	How to fix it
Top thread is visible on the back of the fabric	The top thread tension is too loose	Tighten the top thread
Top thread sits tightly on fabric surface with visible bottom thread on right side	The top tension is too tight	Loosen the top thread
Seams are puckering	The stitch length is too small	Lengthen the stitch length
	The top thread tension is too tight	Loosen the top thread
	The needle is blunt	Change the needle
Missing / skipped stitches	The needle is inserted incorrectly	Make sure the needle is pushed all the way up to the clamp and that the flat bit at the top faces the back
	The needle is damaged	Change the needle
Needle keeps breaking	Pulling the fabric when sewing	Don't push or pull the fabric
	Incorrect needle for fabric	Use correct needle
	Check needle is inserted correctly	Insert needle correctly
Thread keeps breaking	The needle is blunt	Change the needle
	The thread is of a poor quality	Use a better quality thread
Fabric doesn't move	Machine set up to do free motion embroidery & feed dog is lowered	Raise feed dog
	Presser foot not down	Lower presser foot
Machine doesn't sew	Not switched on	Check machine switched on at wall and on at the switch on the machine itself
	Bobbin winder lever pushed across	Move bobbin winder to off position
	Foot peddle not connected to machine properly	Make sure cable is plugged into foot peddle and machine
Fabric puckers when doing embroidery or appliqué	Fabric too flimsy	Use interfacing under fabric