

# BEGINNERS GUIDE TO SERGERS workbook

upreme Sewing School

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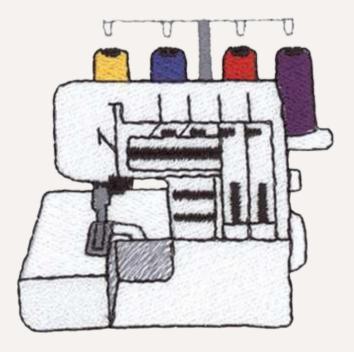
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Welcome

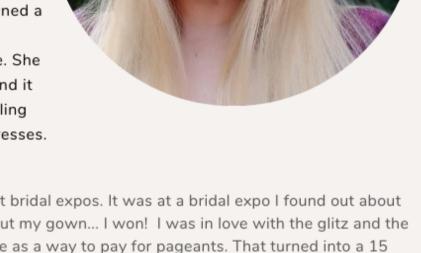
I am so excited you joined this course!

Let's get to know each other...

I started out sewing as soon as my little feet could reach the foot pedal of a sewing machine at about 5 years old. I would design clothes for my Barbies. I grew up watching my Nana sewing. She owned a custom bridal salon in the 80's and 90's...

Everything was over the top and I was in love. She hated to hand sew on beading and trim. I found it therapeutic. By the age of about 12 I was feeling quite accomplished helping make wedding dresses.

I wanted to be a fashion designer.



I modeled in fashion shows a few times a year at bridal expos. It was at a bridal expo I found out about an upcoming pageant. I designed and stitched out my gown... I won! I was in love with the glitz and the glamour. I began making clothes for other people as a way to pay for pageants. That turned into a 15 year career as a national winning pageant designer. My pageant designs can be seen on numerous episodes of Toddlers & Tiaras.

After high school, I landed a job with Curtain Call Dance Costumes, where I had the thrilling opportunity to help launch their ice-skating collection. This experience allowed me to merge my passion for design with the world of performance, creating costumes that brought joy to young skaters. At 21, I transitioned back into the bridal industry, working for Jessica McClintock in the Bridal department. It was a dream come true, and I proudly named two dresses after my children, which were featured in the collection for many years.

Now it's my turn to teach you. I am ready to share my tips and tricks to help you become your own designer.

Christie Mauri
SupremeSewingSchool.com

Christie@SupremeSewingSchool.com



LESSON 2

# Tools For The Job

# Tools For the Job

Welcome to Beginners Guide to Sergers! Are you excited to dive into the wonderful world of sewing? Before we begin, it's important to gather all the necessary tools to ensure a smooth and successful learning experience.

In this course, we have created a lesson called "Tools For The Job" that provides a comprehensive list of the tools you will need to have at your disposal. To access this detailed list, please navigate to the lesson titled "Tools For The Job".

To make your shopping experience convenient, we have included Amazon links for each tool on the list. These links will direct you to the respective product pages, allowing you to easily add them to your shopping cart.

By having the right tools, you can enhance your learning journey and make the most of this course. So, let's get started and remember to check out the lesson "Tools For The Job" for the complete list of tools and their corresponding Amazon links.



Happy learning and happy sewing!

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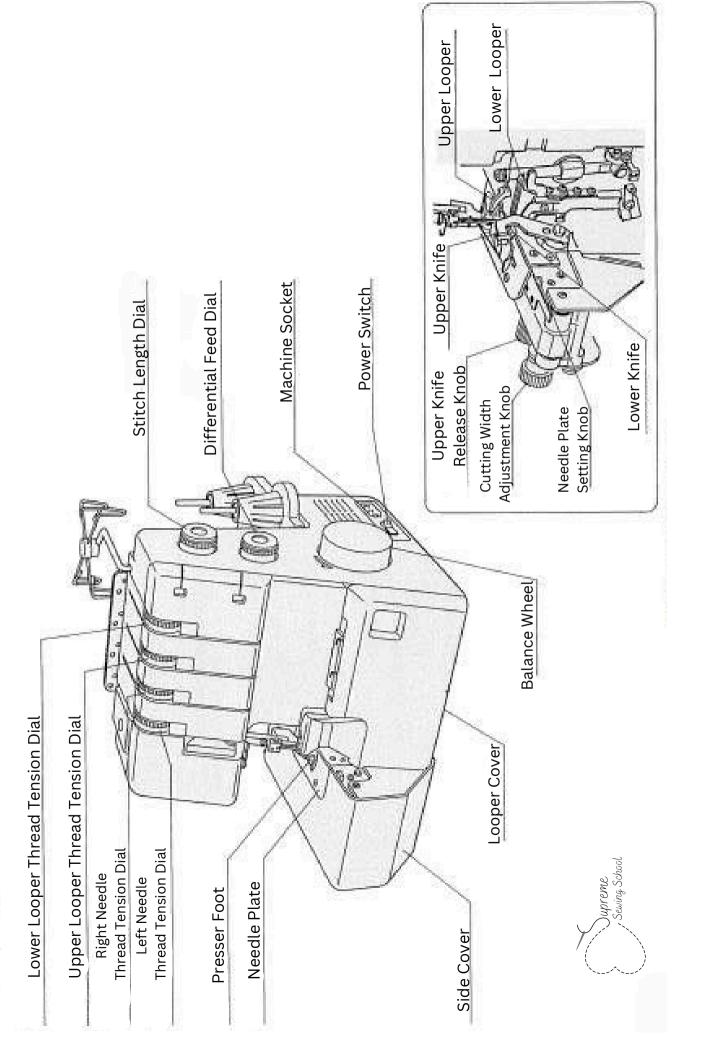




LESSON 3

# Anatomy Of A Serger

# Anatomy Of a Serger



# Anatomy Of A Serger

- Thread Spool Pins: These are vertical pins located at the top of the serger, used to hold the spools of thread. Typically, sergers have multiple spool pins to accommodate different thread colors or types.
  - 2. Thread Guides: These are small hooks or loops that guide the thread from the spools to the tension discs or tension dials. The thread guides ensure the thread is properly positioned and tensioned for stitching.
- 3. Tension Discs or Tension Dials: These are adjustable parts that control the tension of the threads. Each thread passes through its respective tension disc or dial, allowing you to fine-tune the tension settings for balanced stitches.
  - 4. Upper Looper: The upper looper is responsible for forming the upper portion of the stitch. It carries the upper thread and creates the loop that interlocks with the lower thread.
- 5. Lower Looper: The lower looper works in conjunction with the upper looper to create a secure stitch. It carries the lower thread and joins it with the upper thread to create a strong seam.
  - 6. Needle(s): Sergers can have one or more needles, depending on the stitch configuration. Needles are responsible for forming the straight stitch portion of the serger stitch. They puncture the fabric and interlock with the loopers' threads to create a secure seam.
    - 7. Needle Plate: The needle plate is a metal plate with small holes that allow the needles to pass through the fabric. It helps to guide the fabric smoothly and supports the formation of the stitch by providing a stable surface.

# Anatomy Of A Serger Continued

- 8. Differential Feed Dial: The differential feed dial controls the movement of the feed dogs, which are toothed metal plates that grip and transport the fabric during stitching. The differential feed dial allows you to adjust the speed at which the front and back feed dogs move, helping to prevent puckering or stretching of the fabric.
- 9. Stitch Length Dial: The stitch length dial controls the length of the stitches produced by the serger. Turning the dial adjusts the distance the needles or loopers move forward or backward, determining the length of the stitch.
- 10. Stitch Width Dial: The stitch width dial controls the width of the serger stitch. It determines how far the loopers or needles move away from the fabric's edge, allowing you to customize the width of the stitch depending on your project's requirements.
- 11. Presser Foot: The presser foot is a removable part that presses the fabric against the needle plate to ensure even and smooth feeding of the fabric during stitching. It helps to maintain stitch quality and prevents fabric.
- 12. Cutting Blade(s): Many sergers have cutting blades that trim the fabric edges as they are being stitched. These blades are positioned close to the needles and loopers and trim the excess fabric, ensuring clean and professional finished edges.
- 13. Stitch Selector: The stitch selector enables you to choose the desired stitch configuration based on your project's requirements. It may include options for various types of overlock stitches, rolled hems, flatlock stitches, and more.
  - 14. Handwheel: The handwheel is a large wheel on the side of the serger that controls the manual movement of the needle(s). Turning the handwheel by hand allows you to position the needles precisely for threading or troubleshooting purposes.

# Anatomy Of A Serger Continued

- 15. Foot Pedal: The foot pedal is a control device that allows you to start and stop the serger's sewing action by using foot pressure. Pressing the foot pedal activates the machine, and releasing it stops the sewing process
- 16. Stitch Finger: The stitch finger is a small metal plate located near the needles. It helps to create a consistent stitch formation and prevents the fabric from being pulled into the needle plate area.
- 17. Thread Cutter: The thread cutter is a built-in tool on some sergers that allows you to easily trim the threads after sewing without the need for scissors. It is usually located near the presser foot and can be activated by pushing or pulling a lever or button.
- 18. Thread Traps: Thread traps are small hooks or guides located near the tension discs or looper area. They help to hold the threads securely in place and prevent them from tangling or interfering with the stitching process.
- 19. Stitch Width Dial: The stitch width dial controls the width of the stitch that is formed by the loopers. It determines how far the loopers move away from each other to create a wider or narrower stitch.
- 20. Feed Dog Adjustment: Some sergers have a feed dog adjustment feature that allows you to modify the height or position of the feed dogs to accommodate different fabric types. This feature helps to ensure smooth and even feeding of the fabric.

# Anatomy Of A Serger Continued

- 21. Retractable or Removable Tray: Many sergers come with a retractable or removable tray located under the presser foot area. This tray provides additional support and stability for the fabric during stitching and can be adjusted or removed depending on the specific sewing requirements.
- 22. Stitch Reference Guide: Some sergers have a stitch reference guide or stitch chart printed on the machine itself, providing information about the various stitch options available and the recommended settings for different fabrics and techniques. This guide can be a helpful reference when selecting stitches and making adjustments.
- 23. Needle Threader: Depending on the serger model, there may be a built-in needle threader feature. This mechanism assists in threading the needles quickly and accurately, saving time and effort.
- 24. Stitch Balance: The stitch balance refers to the overall appearance and tension of the stitch. Some sergers have a stitch balance adjustment feature that allows you to fine-tune the tension between the upper and lower loopers, ensuring a balanced stitch formation
- 25. Presser Foot Pressure Adjustment: This feature allows you to adjust the amount of pressure exerted by the presser foot on the fabric. It is useful when dealing with different fabric thicknesses or when working on delicate fabrics to prevent excessive pressure that can cause puckering or distortion.
- Remember, the specific features and components of a serger may vary depending on the brand and model. Always consult your serger's user manual for detailed information and instructions specific to your machine.

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LESSON 4

# Threading Your Machine

# Threading Your Serger

Welcome to the Threading Your Serger lesson in our comprehensive serger course! In this lesson, we will guide you through the process of threading a Janome 636D serger. If you have a different machine, please refer to your machine's user manual or conduct a Google search using your machine's make and model along with the term "user manual".

Threading your serger properly is crucial to ensure that it functions smoothly and produces high-quality stitches. With our step-by-step instructions and the accompanying video demonstration, you'll soon become a pro at threading your Janome 636D serger.

Below, we have outlined the key steps involved in threading your serger:

#### Step 1: Prepare Your Machine

- Begin by turning off your serger and raising the presser foot.
- Take a close look at the threading path indicated on your machine to familiarize yourself with the various threading points.

#### Step 2: Upper Looper

- Start by threading the upper looper. Follow the detailed instructions in the video demonstration, ensuring that you pass the thread through all the correct tension discs, guides, and threading points.

#### Step 3: Lower Looper

 Next, thread the lower looper using the instructions provided in the video demonstration. Again, ensure that you follow the correct threading path, passing the thread through all the necessary points.
 it through the appropriate needle path.

# Threading Your Serger Continued

#### Step 4: Right Needle

- Thread the right needle by following the steps outlined in the video demonstration, carefully guiding the thread through the designated needle path.

#### Step 5: Left Needle

- Finally, thread the left needle using the instructions provided in the video demonstration, making sure to thread

#### Step 6: Finishing Touches

- After threading all the required threads, ensure they are positioned correctly and securely. Be sure to lower the presser foot before proceeding.

Remember, threading a serger requires patience and attention to detail, so take your time and refer to the video demonstration as needed. By following these steps, you'll be ready to move on to the exciting world of serging and take full advantage of your serger's capabilities.

Please note that the threading process may vary across different serger models. If you encounter any difficulties or have issues specific to your machine, don't hesitate to seek assistance and refer to your manufacturer's user manual for further guidance.

Now, let's get started with the video demonstration to thread your Janome 636D serger and unleash your serging skills!

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LESSON 5

# Let's Get To The Point

# Let's Get To The Point

Welcome to the "Let's Get to the Point" lesson in our comprehensive serger course! In this lesson, we will guide you through the process of changing the needles in your serger. Ensuring that your serger has sharp and properly aligned needles is essential for achieving professional and precise stitches.

Follow along with the step-by-step instructions below to successfully change the needles in your serger:

#### Step 1: Gather the Necessary Tools

- Before beginning the needle changing process, gather the tools required: a small screwdriver, a pair of needle-nose pliers, and replacement needles specifically designed for your serger model. It's essential to use the correct needles to ensure compatibility and optimal performance.

#### Step 2: Prepare Your Machine

- Start by turning off your serger and raising the presser foot. This will make it easier to access and remove the old needles. Refer to your serger's user manual for specific instructions regarding needle replacement.

#### Step 3: Remove the Old Needles

- Locate the needle clamps that hold the old needles in place. Use the small screwdriver to loosen the screws on the needle clamps. Once loose, you can remove the old needles from the machine using the needle-nose pliers. Carefully and gently pull out the old needles one at a time, taking note of their position and orientation.

#### Step 4: Insert the New Needles

- Now, take your new needles and identify the flat side of each needle. Align the flat side with the needle slot or grooves in the needle clamp and carefully slide the needle into position. Ensure that the needle is inserted as far as it will go, but be cautious not to over-tighten or force it.

# Let's Get To The Point Continued

#### Step 5: Secure the Needles

- Once the new needles are properly inserted, use the small screwdriver to tighten the screws on the needle clamps. Make sure that the needles are securely held in place, but avoid overtightening the screws, as this could cause damage.

#### Step 6: Needle Alignment

- After securing the needles, check their alignment by gently lowering the presser foot and manually rotating the handwheel towards you. Observe the movement of both needles to ensure they pass through the stitch finger and loopers correctly.

Adjust the needle position if necessary.

#### Step 7: Conduct a Test

- To ensure successful needle replacement, conduct a test stitch on a scrap fabric. Observe the stitch quality, tension, and overall performance. Make any necessary adjustments to the serger settings, if required.

Congratulations! You have now successfully changed the needles in your serger. By following these steps and maintaining a regular needle replacement routine, you can ensure optimal stitch quality and a longer lifespan for your machine.

Remember, the needle changing process may vary slightly across different serger models, so always consult your serger's user manual for specific instructions tailored to your machine.

Now, it's time to continue your serger journey with confidence, knowing that you possess the know-how to change the needles like a pro. Happy serging!

Note: It is recommended to turn off and unplug your serger before performing any maintenance tasks for your safety.

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LESSON 6

# Overlocking

# Overlocking

#### Instructions:

- 1. Watch the video lesson on overlocking provided by your instructor. Pay close attention to the demonstrations and explanations of 4-thread and 3-thread overlocking techniques using the Janome MyLock 636D. Note that if you are using a different serger machine, consult your user manual for specific instructions on setting up your machine.
- 2. Take out your serger machine, four different color spools of thread, scrap fabric pieces, and a pen or pencil. Ensure that you have a clear workspace to work on.
- 3. After watching the video, gather your materials and set up your serger machine according to the instructions provided. If you have a Janome MyLock 636D, follow the settings demonstrated in the video. If you have a different serger machine, refer to your user manual for specific instructions on setting it up for overlocking.
- 4. Practice threading your serger machine for 4-thread overlocking. Thread each spool of thread through its corresponding thread guide, following the threading diagram provided in your serger's manual. Make sure to thread the loops and needles correctly.
  - 5. Once threaded, adjust the tension settings as recommended by the instructor in the video or as described in your user manual. Tension adjustment may differ based on the type of fabric you are using and the desired results.

# Overlocking Continued

- 6. Practice stitching a 4-thread overlock stitch on a scrap fabric piece. Align the fabric edge with the needles and start sewing, guiding the fabric through the machine smoothly. Observe the stitch formation and appearance.
- 7. Repeat Step 6 using different types of fabric, such as woven and knit fabrics. Take note of any variations in stitch quality, tension, and overall performance.
- 8. Now, let's learn about 3-thread overlocking. Adjust your serger settings accordingly for this technique. Remove one of the threads from the machine, based on the instructor's demonstration or the instructions in your user manual.
- 9. Thread the remaining three threads through your serger machine, following the threading diagram for 3-thread overlocking. Make any necessary tension adjustments to achieve the desired stitch quality.
  - 10. Practice stitching a 3-thread overlock stitch on another scrap fabric piece.

    Observe the differences in stitch formation and appearance compared to the 4
    thread overlock stitch.
  - 11. Experiment with 3-thread overlock stitching on different fabric types. Adjust stitch length, differential feed, and tension settings to achieve different results.
  - 12. Reflect on your experience with both 4-thread and 3-thread overlocking techniques. On your note page you can write down three differences you observed between the two types of stitches in terms of stitch formation, appearance, and functionality.

Remember to take your time, follow instructions, and practice regularly to improve your skills with overlocking. Enjoy exploring the different thread combinations and fabric types to create professional-quality seams with your serger machine!



# Serger Techniques

### **4 Thread Overlock**

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

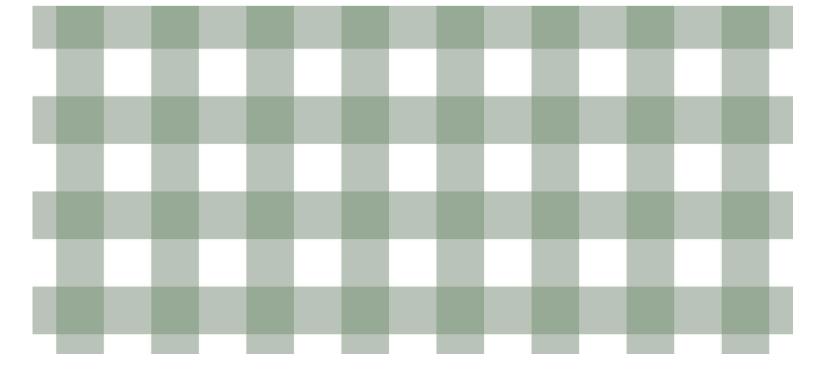
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_

Knife Engaged\_\_\_\_\_





# Serger Techniques

### 3 Thread Overlock

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

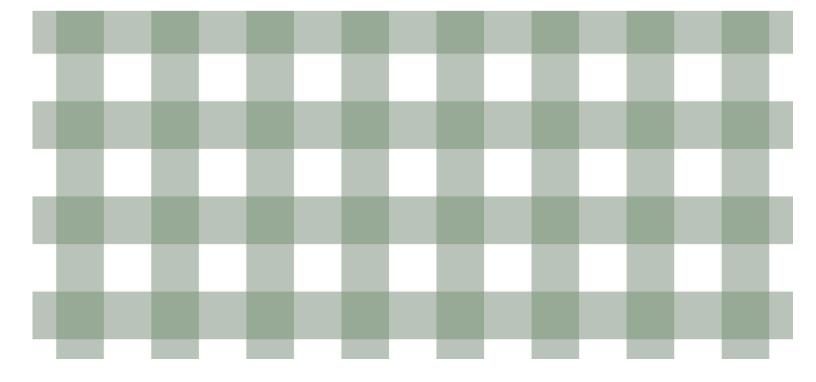
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_Remove\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_

Knife Engaged\_\_\_\_\_



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LESSON 7

# Stretch Fabrics



# Serger Techniques

## Stretch Fabric Double Layer

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

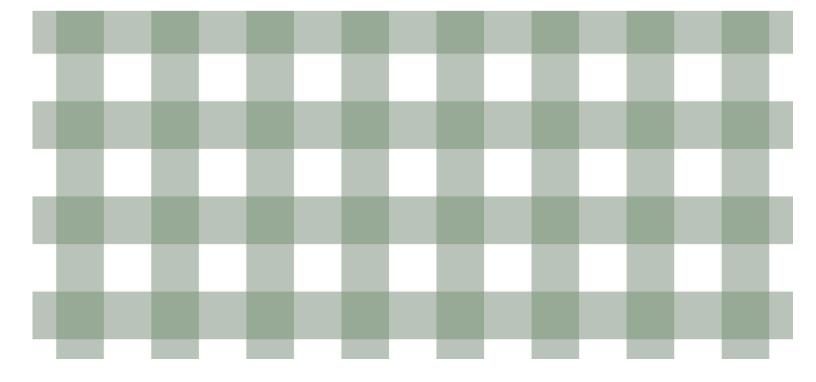
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_

Knife Engaged\_\_\_\_\_





# Serger Techniques

## Stretch Fabric Single Layer

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

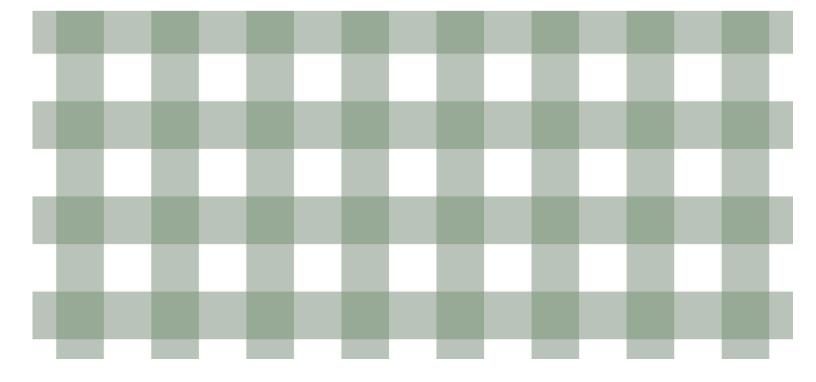
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_

Knife Engaged\_\_\_\_\_



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LESSON 8

# Rolled Hem

# Mastering the Rolled Hem Stitch on Your Serger

Are you ready to add a touch of elegance and finesse to your sewing projects? In this comprehensive video tutorial, we'll guide you through the art of creating a flawless rolled hem using your serger.

#### What is a Rolled Hem?

A rolled hem is a delicate and neatly finished edge, perfect for adding a professional touch to lightweight fabrics like chiffon, organza, silk, or even spandex. It's an essential skill every sewing enthusiast should have in their toolkit.

#### Step-by-Step Demonstration

Follow along as we break down the process into simple steps. From adjusting your serger settings to guiding the fabric through, you'll learn the exact techniques needed to achieve a beautifully rolled hem.

#### Choosing the Right Thread and Fabric

Discover the best threads and fabrics to use for a rolled hem, ensuring your finished edge is not only stylish but also durable.

#### **Troubleshooting Tips**

Encountering challenges along the way? Our troubleshooting tips will help you overcome common issues and achieve that picture-perfect rolled hem every time.

# Mastering the Rolled Hem Stitch on Your Serger Continued

#### Creative Applications:

Explore the endless possibilities of the rolled hem stitch. From adding a touch of flair to clothing to embellishing home decor items, you'll be amazed at how versatile this technique can be.

#### Practice and Perfection

Like any skill, practice makes perfect. With patience and dedication, you'll soon be rolling hems effortlessly, elevating the look of your sewing projects.

Join us in mastering the art of the rolled hem stitch on your serger. Watch the full video lesson and take your sewing creations to the next level of sophistication and style.



# Serger Techniques

#### **Rolled Hem**

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

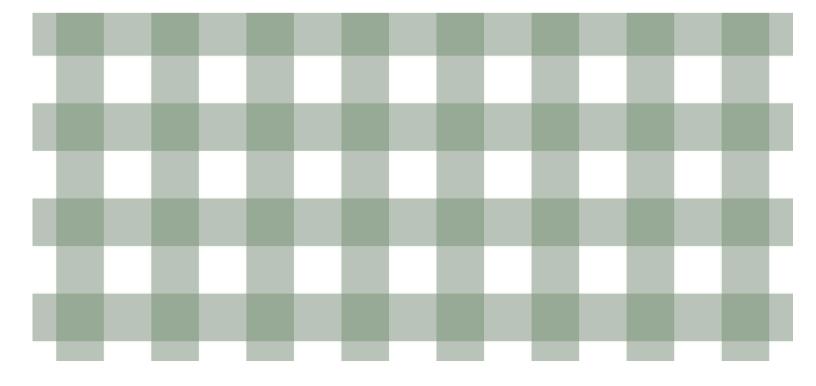
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_

Knife Engaged\_\_\_\_\_





# Serger Techniques

## Lettuce Edge Hem

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

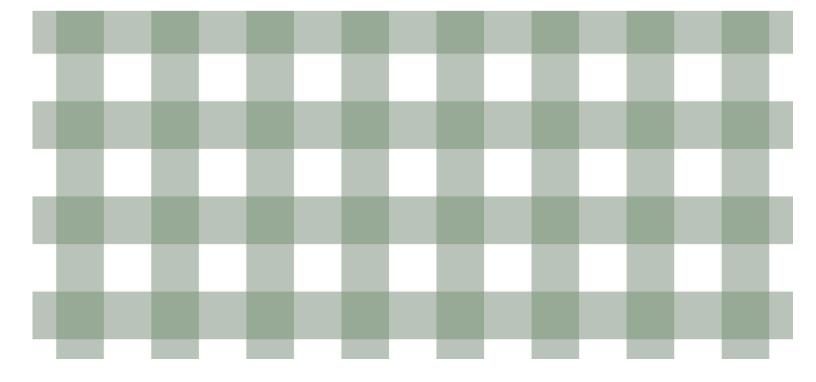
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_

Knife Engaged\_\_\_\_\_







LESSON 9

# Fishing Line Hem

# **Fishing Line Hem**

#### **Materials Needed:**

- o organza
- light weight cotton
- o 50-pound test fishing line
- Serger machine
- Cording foot
- o 3 cones of serger thread

## **Prepare Your Fabric:**

Cut out your fabric pieces according to your project.

## **Attach the Cording Foot to Your Serger:**

o Install the cording foot on your serger.

#### Serging the Curly Hem:

- Slip the coiled fishing line into the cording foot along fabric edge.
   Set your serger to a rolled hem stitch
- Serge along the fabric edge, allowing the serger to envelop the fishing line.
- Trim off excess fabric close to the stitches with embroidery scissors.

## **Enjoy Your Curly Hem:**

- The fishing line will create a bouncy, curly effect along the hemline.
- The more fabric in your gather the more dramatic the effect

Remember to fill in the blank areas with your specific serger settings.





# **Fishing Line Hem Cotton**

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

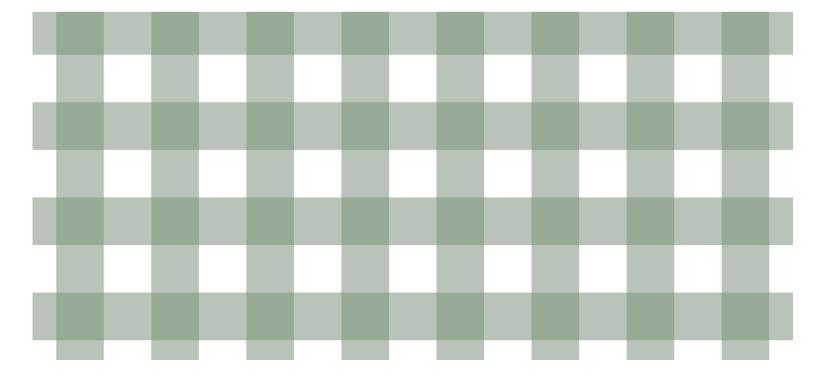
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_





# Fishing Line Hem Organza

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

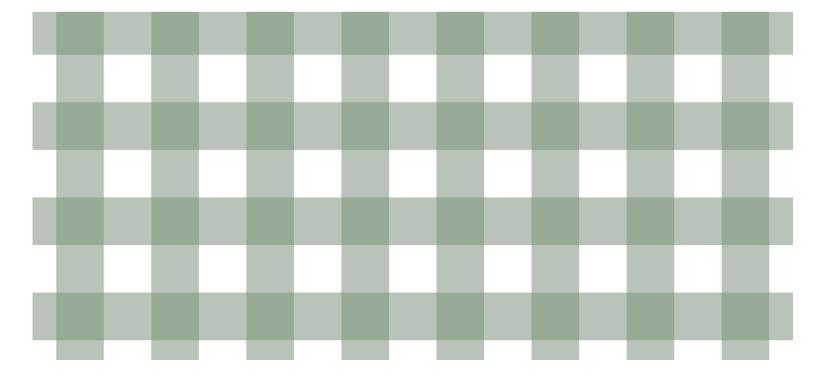
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_







LESSON 10

# Corners & Curves

# Serging Corners and Curves

## **Serging Outer Curves:**

- Align the fabric edge with the side of your serger plate (where the blade is).
- Gently rotate the fabric while keeping it aligned with the plate's edge.
- o Maintain a steady pace to avoid puckering.

## **Serging Inner Curves:**

- Similar to outer curves, but rotate the fabric to the left instead of the right.
- o Take care to maintain a smooth curve without bunching.

## **Serging Outer Corners:**

- Stitch past the corner's edge.
- Lift the presser foot, pull the fabric back, and pivot.
- Align the fabric with the serger plate and cutting edge.

## **Serging Inner Corners:**

- o Clip into the corner or create a small pleat to prevent puckering.
- o Distribute the fold smoothly while serging.

Remember, practice makes perfect!





# **Curves**

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

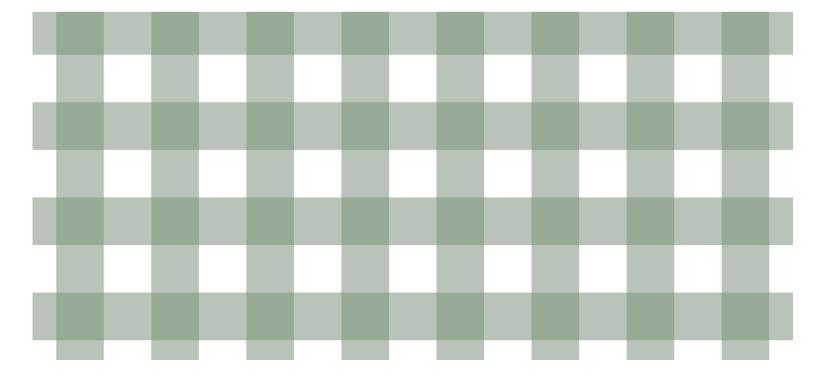
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

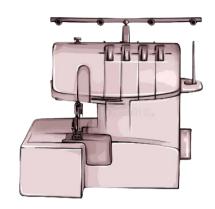
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_





# Corners

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

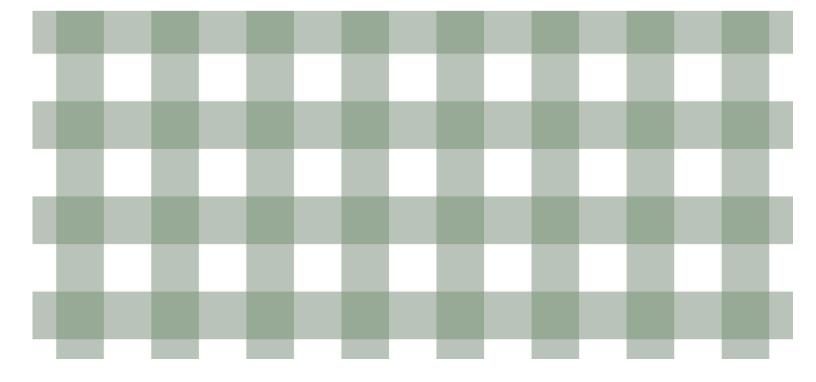
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

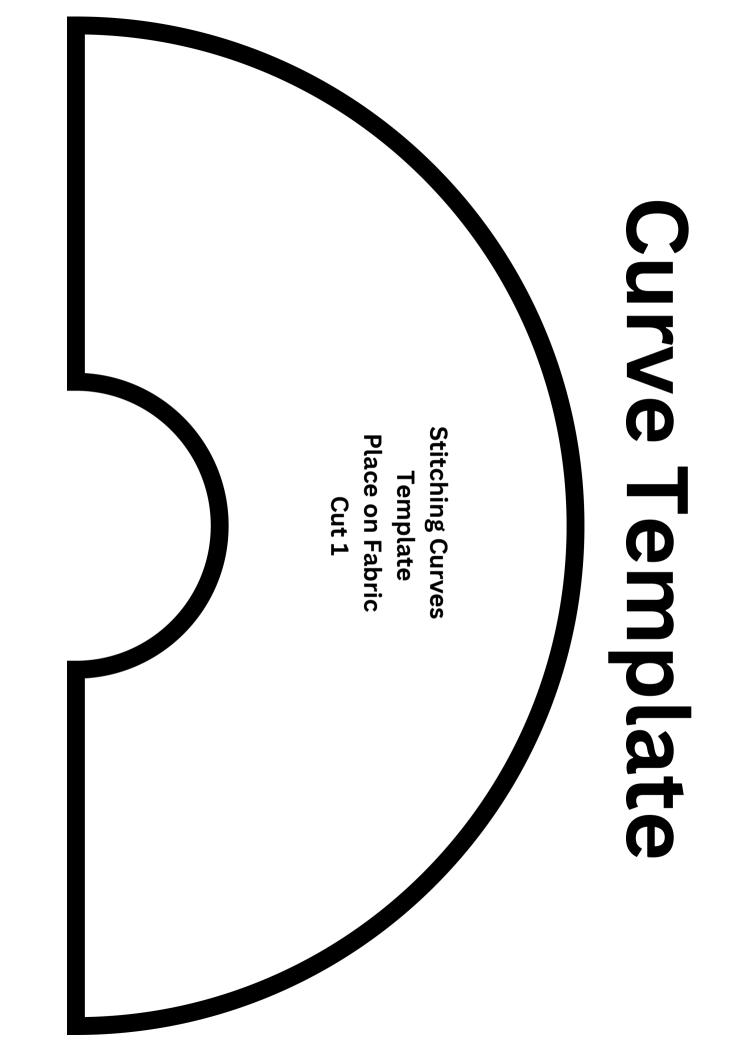
Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

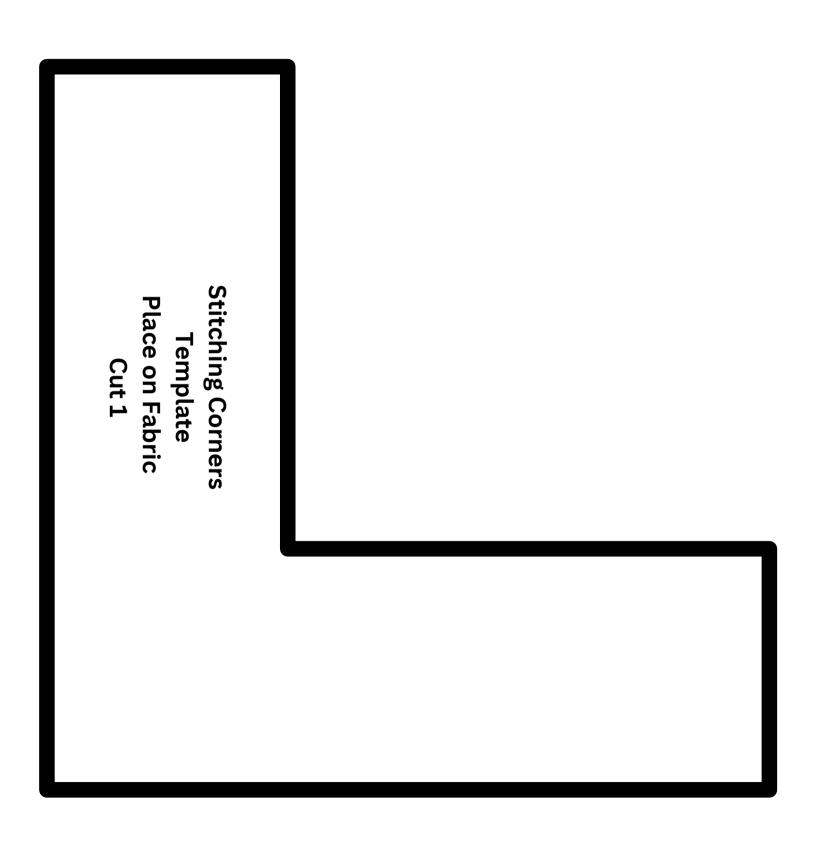
Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_





# Corner Template







LESSON 11

# Seams Like We Need Some Stability

# Seams Like We Need Some Stability

#### **Fabric Choice Matters:**

- Select the appropriate fabric for your project. Lightweight fabrics may need extra stabilization.
- Consider using Clear elastic, embroidery stabilizer, or stay tape to reinforce high-stress areas.

#### Steps for Clear Elastic:

- 1. Cut a strip of clear elastic slightly longer than the seam.
- 2. Place it on the wrong side of the fabric, aligning it with the edge.
- 3. Serge, guiding the fabric and elastic together under the presser foot.

## Steps for embroidery stabilizer:

- 1. Cut a piece of seam tape to match the length of your seam.
- 2. Position it on the wrong side of the fabric along the seam line.
- 3. Serge, guiding the fabric and stabilizer together under the presser foot.

#### Tips:

- Stabilize seams on stretchy or delicate fabrics to prevent distortion.
- Practice on scrap fabric to perfect the technique.

Do not forget to affix your work samples to your technique worksheets, allowing for future reference and inspiration.





# **Elastic**

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

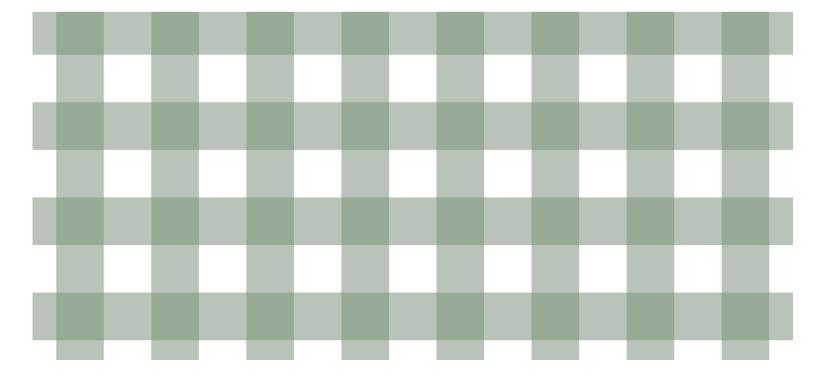
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_





# Stabilizer

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

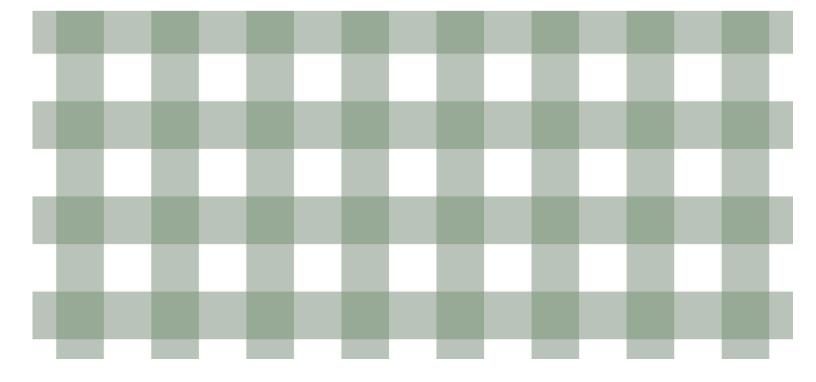
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_







LESSON 12

# Elasticator

# Elasticator

## **Understanding Elasticators:**

- An elasticator is a tool that aids in attaching elastic to fabric seamlessly.
- o It simplifies the process by evenly feeding elastic while you sew.

#### **Types of Elasticators:**

<u>Foot Elasticator:</u> Some sergers have a specialized foot for elastic application.

- Attach the foot to your serger.
- Adjust the settings for stitch length and tension.
- Guide the fabric and elastic through the foot.

Attachment Elasticator: Other sergers use an attachment.

- Attach the elasticator to your serger according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Thread the elastic through the attachment.
- Serge along the fabric edge, and the elastic will be secured.

#### **Tips for Success:**

- Choose the Right Elastic: Consider the type of project and fabric.
   Use wide elastic for heavy fabrics and narrow elastic for lightweight fabrics.
- Test Stitch on Scrap Fabric: Before applying elastic to your project, test the stitch settings on scrap fabric.
- Secure the Ends: Overlap the elastic ends and secure them with a few stitches.

Remember, practice and experimentation will help you become comfortable with your specific serger's elasticator



# **Elasticator**

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

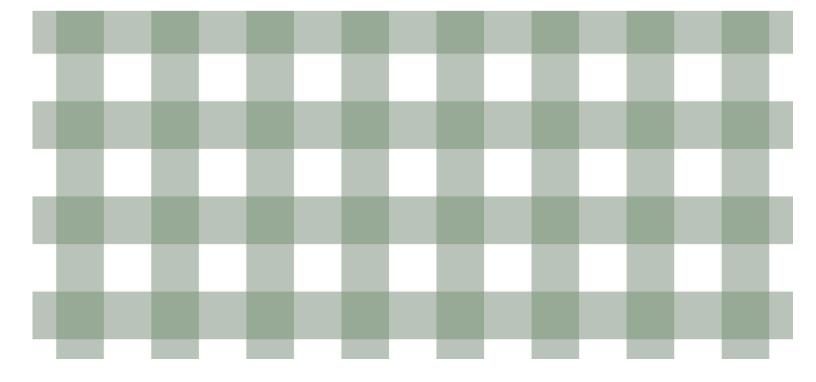
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_



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LESSON 13

# Gather Round

# **Gather Round**

#### **Select the Appropriate Stitch:**

Differential feed: Highest setting

Stitch length: Longest setting

Needle tension: Increase

Looper tension: Decrease

#### Steps:

- 1. Adjust the differential feed, stitch length, and tension settings.
- 2. Place the fabric under the presser foot and begin serging.
- 3. Control the amount of gathering by adjusting the differential feed and tension settings as needed.

#### **Choose the Right Fabric:**

This method works well with lightweight to medium-weight fabrics. Avoid heavy fabrics, as they may not gather as effectively.

#### **Practice on Scrap Fabric:**

Before gathering your actual project, practice on a scrap piece of fabric. This allows you to fine-tune your machine settings and understand how your serger handles the gathering process.

#### **Serge with Even Tension:**

Maintain even tension on the fabric as you serge to ensure consistent and uniform gathering. Avoid pulling or pushing the fabric, as the serger's settings will do the work for you.

#### **Gathering for Ruffles:**

For creating ruffles, adjust the differential feed to a higher setting. Experiment with different settings until you achieve the desired fullness.



# Gather Round Cont.

## **Adjust Gathering Density:**

Fine-tune the gathering density by experimenting with the differential feed and stitch length settings. A higher differential feed and shorter stitch length will result in denser gathers, while the opposite will produce softer gathers.

#### **Consider Differential Feed Ratio:**

If your serger allows for differential feed ratio adjustment, you can experiment with this setting to control how much the front and back feed dogs move in relation to each other. This can have an impact on the gathering effect.

#### **Test on a Fabric Scrap:**

Always test your chosen settings on a small fabric scrap before applying them to your main project. This allows you to make any necessary adjustments without affecting the final outcome.

## **Use the No-Hand Gather Method Wisely:**

While the no-hand gather method is efficient, it may not be suitable for every project. Assess your specific project needs and fabric type before deciding to use this technique.

#### **Document Your Settings:**

Keep a record of the settings that work best for different fabrics and gathering effects. This will serve as a handy reference for future projects and save time during setup.





# Gathering

Serger Settings:

Lower Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

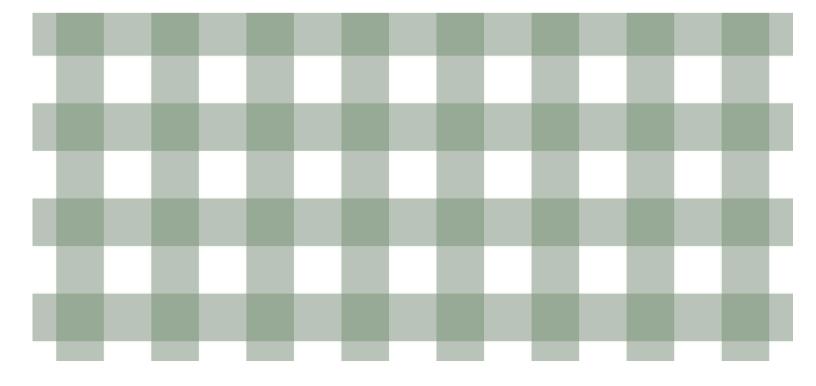
Upper Looper Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Right Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Left Needle Tension\_\_\_\_\_

Stitch Length\_\_\_\_\_

Differential Feed\_\_\_\_\_



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I'm so excited to continue working with you, please reach out to learn more.

I hope this course has inspired you to master your serger. Now, you're ready to explore your creativity. Let's begin your journey to becoming your own designer!



# Contact:

Christie@SupremeSewingSchool.com



