

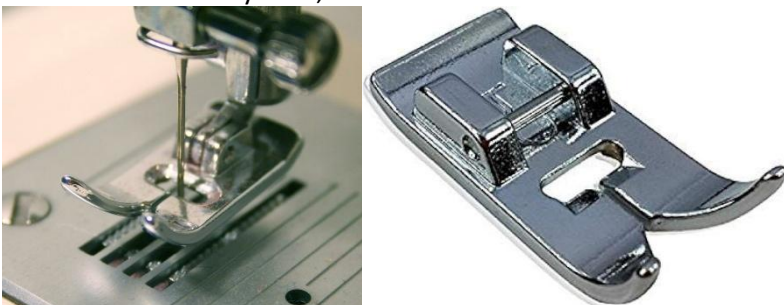
Presser Foot Basics



Please read our T & C's – www.rosamaycrafts.com

DISCLAIMER: Please note this is my very own guideline, there are so many guides and tips, use which one you feel works for you.

Please note that this is a basic guideline, before buying your presser foot check that it is compatible with your brand of sewing machine. Each foot also comes with various options – such a buttonhole foot – you have an adjustable foot, a standard foot and a one step foot. You will need to decide which suits you and your machine or you can choose to have various options available to you. Presser feet are made with metal or plastic and then they come in different sizes. Crazy stuff, but each has a wonderful and individual use that will help you with your sewing.



Your presser foot sits above your bobbin and feed dog, this is what holds the fabric in place as you are sewing/stitching.

There is a huge range of presser feet. This guide will go through a few of the basics, it will also depend on what you are planning to create – home décor or children's clothing and your preference.

Most sewing machine will come with 2 or 3 presser feet and each presser foot has a specific purpose/use. The all-purpose/zig-zag/standard; a buttonhole; rolled hem. Each brand will have its own variation of presser feet. Each type of presser foot comes in various styles and uses. With each foot you may need to use different stitches and different fabrics. There is a wealth of information on the internet if you need more detailed information.

Here are a few presser feet for you to read about and decide.

1. All purpose/zig-zag/standard



Every sewing machine I have purchased, regardless of brand and value has come with this presser foot. It is a basic foot that can be used for various projects and creations.

You can use for straight and zig-zag stitches, but ssshhh don't tell anyone, I have used it for other more decorative stitches and had no problems.

2. Zipper foot



This foot does not need much explanation. As you can see it is completely different to your Standard/All-purpose foot, it is much narrower and the needle stitches on the outside of the foot. This allows you to get close to the zip teeth on both sides of the zipper. I tried using the Standard/All-purpose foot to see if it was possible to use this type of foot. It was possible, but once I had finished sewing my zip into the fabric it looked terrible.

3. Buttonhole Foot



The standard adjustable buttonhole foot is flat with an adjustable opening in the middle. The wide opening in the centre is so that there is enough space to create a buttonhole. Using the standard buttonhole will take 4 steps to create the buttonhole. Clip your buttonhole foot in and then place your button in the opening and use the markings so that you get the right size buttonhole for the button.

4, Straight Stitch Foot



If you are working with sheer fabrics – tulle, chiffon, organza, then this is the right foot to use. The hole in the centre is much smaller and therefore there is more pressure and holds the fabric in place

Rolled hem



I do love this foot, it creates beautiful 'rolled' hems. It is best used with light to medium weight fabrics, if used with a heavy fabric, the fabric gets caught in the rolled part of the foot. Practice with a few scraps, before starting on your project, I know that I have tried using without practising and some sections were rolled and others weren't.

Edging/Over edging



This foot looks like something is missing. This foot is another wonderful creation, it helps to finish any raw edges without having to use an overlocker/serger.

There is a specific overcasting stitch you will need to use when using this foot.

Blind hem



You don't want your hem to show or be barely visible from the front, then this is the foot to use. Again there is a specific stitch to use, this will depend on the fabric you are using.

Seam marker



This is a very useful foot, it is perfect for creating even seams for your projects and clothing, especially when navigating corners.

Gathering or ruffler



I do love, love this foot as I do a lot of gathering and create ruffles. It creates tidy even gathers. The amount of gathers can be adjusted by changing your stitch length and width. The main difference between the gathering foot and ruffler is that the gathering foot is for small gentle gathers and the ruffler is for large gathers, pleats and ruffles.

Free motion



Another of my favorites, it won't be long before you will be saying the same thing. Using this foot is such fun and nothing has to be perfect, as you are sewing in all directions. You are painting and drawing with your sewing machine. Love it. It is sometimes called a darning or stippling foot. Love to applique, this foot is perfect for this sewing technique, using various types of threads and colours.

Applique



You will notice that this foot is open in the front, so that you have a better view of your project as you sew. The back of the foot is higher than most other feet, this helps the fabric to go through easily whilst stitching.

Ribbon/Sequin



Another amazing invention to make sewing and creating so much more fun and manageable. It is the perfect foot for sewing ribbons, sequins or trimmings. Remember to use the correct stitching for the type of haberdashery/notion you are using.

Please check, chat and read up on which presser feet suit you. There are so many out there that can boggle the brain. Remember before you buy to make sure it is compatible with your sewing machine.

Changing your presser foot

This is a simple task and your manual will instruct you. Depending on your machine, it either clicks off/on or you have to screw off/on. Always raise your presser foot before removing it.

Adjusting the pressure of the presser foot

When using different fabrics, you will need to adjust the pressure. If you do not have the correct pressure, you can damage your fabric, create missing stitches and other problems.

Rule of thumb – heavy weight = heavy pressure; lightweight fabrics = lighter pressure.

Build your foot collection as you need and dependent on which type of sewing direction you are going – is home décor, crafts or fashion.



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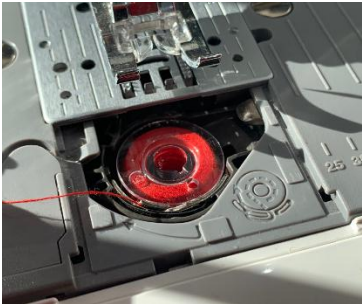
BOBBINS



As there is not much to say about bobbins, I thought I would add the information here. All sewing machines need bobbins no matter the make /brand or use or whether it is mechanical or electronic.

What Is A Bobbin?

A bobbin is a metal or plastic cylinder that thread is wound around it tightly. It holds the thread that forms the stitches on the underside of the fabric. The bobbin is then placed in the bottom section of the sewing machine and it can either be fitted from the top or side.



What is the use of a bobbin.

The thread from the bobbin is fed through an opening and this forms the stitches for the underside of your project and the thread at the top of your machine will create the stitches at the top of the project. The needle pick ups the bobbin thread to create a loop which is your stitch.



Plastic or metal bobbins

Which bobbin do I buy – metal or plastic. The first thing you look at, is which type did your sewing machine come with, if it came with plastic, then only buy plastic, if it came with metal then only buy metal.



How many bobbins should I have

As I do a lot of sewing, I have approximately 100 plastic bobbins. I wind 3 at time with the same colour and then do shades of that colour. You can add as you go along and they are not expensive.

Buy yourself a bobbin storage container, they keep your bobbins intact and threads do not knot together easily. I have a separate container where I keep my bobbins that are running low on thread and I use these to sew buttons on, or for basting/tacking or for any other hand stitching that you may need to do.

VERY IMPORTANT: Buy the correct bobbin for your sewing machine brand, if you have the incorrect size, your machine will not stitch well. I have done this before and wondered what the problem was.



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