

Lesson 2.3: How to thread a Lockstitch Machine

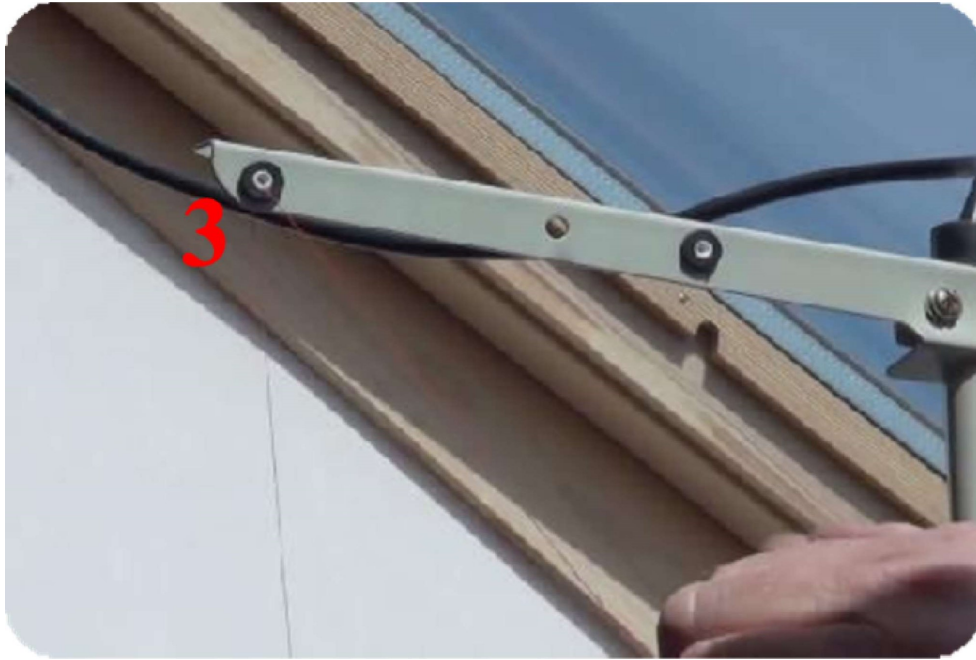
The threading of a lockstitch machine is relatively easy, however if the threading of the top or bottom thread is incorrect the machine will produce either a substandard stitch or no stitch at all. A step-by-step guide to threading a lockstitch machine can be found below:

Top Thread

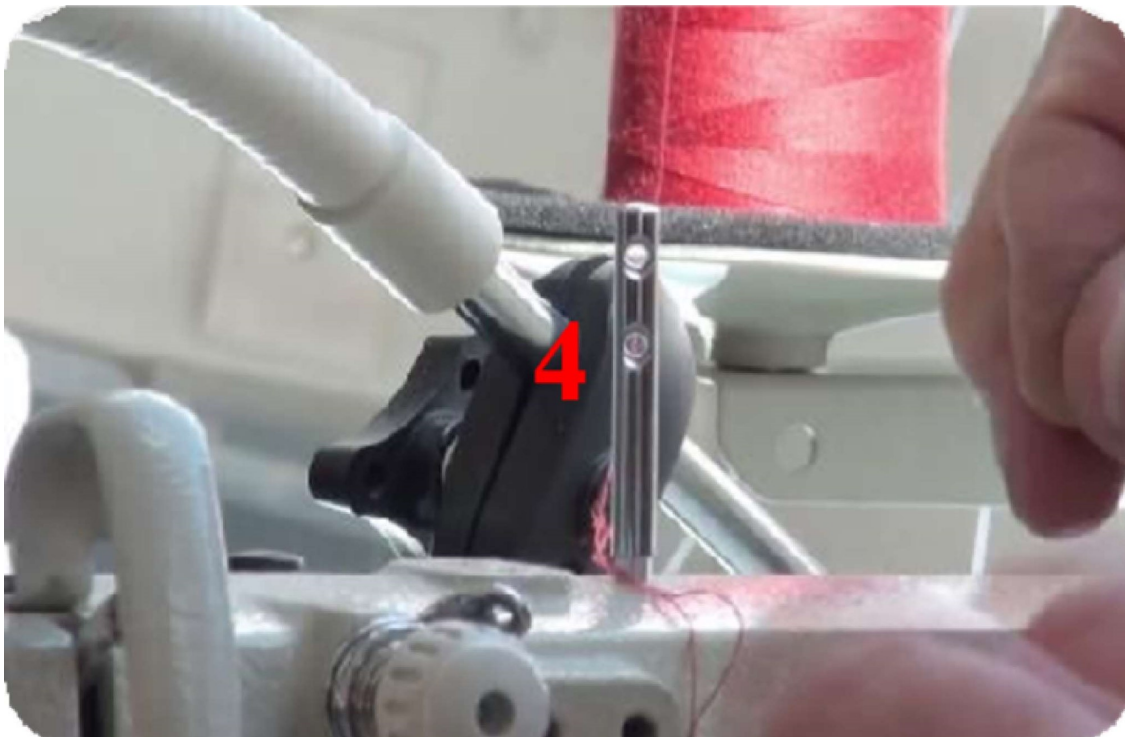
1. Ensure that the machine is switched off and remove your feet from the pedal
2. Raise the needle to its highest point



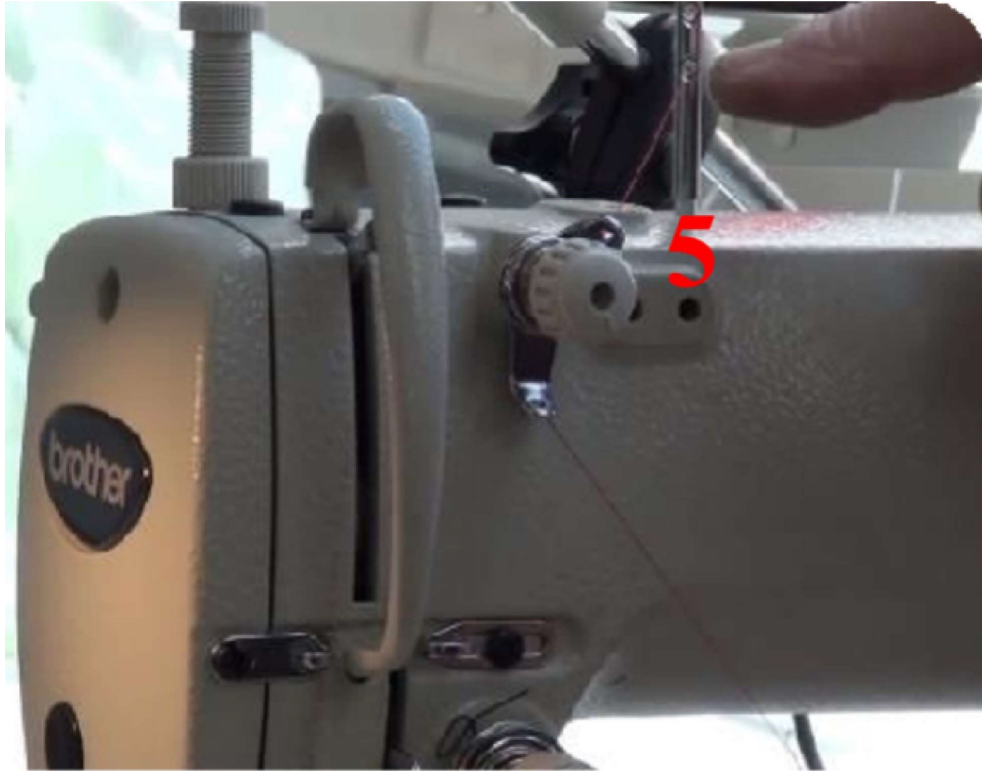
3. Place the cone of thread on the thread stand. Ensure a circular foam pad is positioned underneath the thread as this will help eliminate thread twisting. take the end of the thread and pass through the guide at the top of the thread stand



4. Guide the thread (from the back) into the top hole of the thread guide (spool pin) and out of the bottom hole



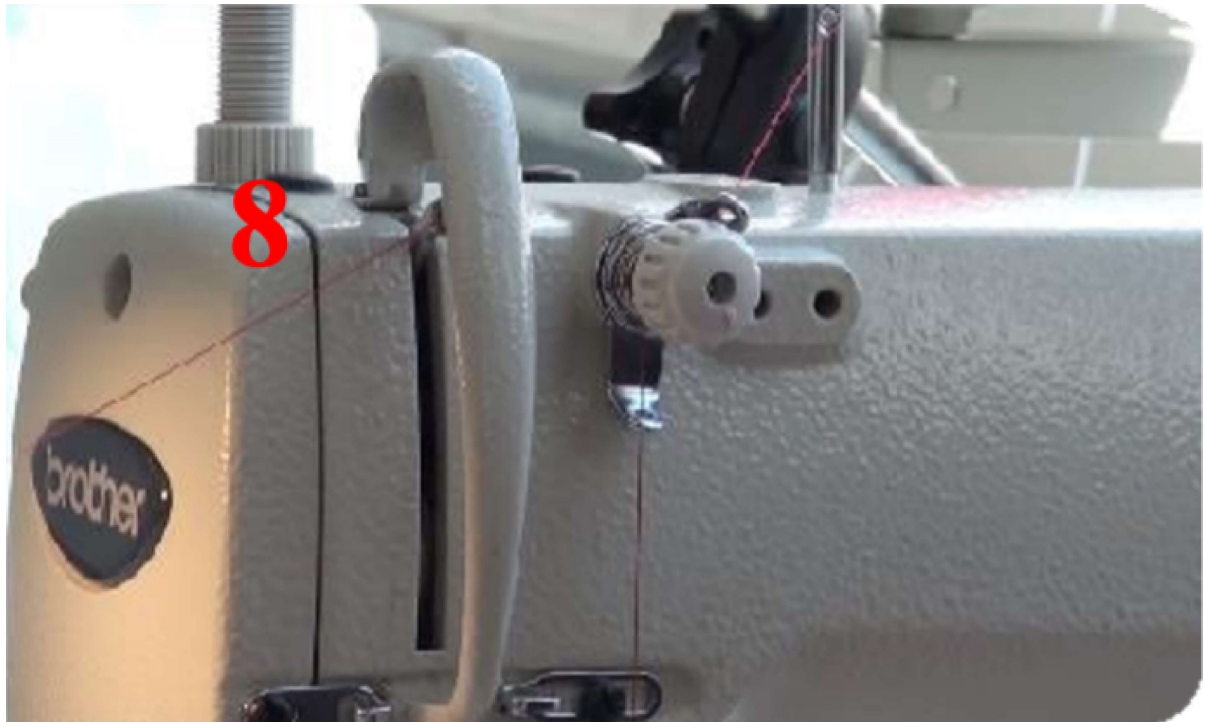
5. Thread the top hole of the first tension discs, in between the discs and out through the bottom hole



6. Take the thread down to the 2nd tension discs, take it around the discs and over the spring, pull it and the spring will be drawn down

7. Guide the thread under the bar and back up to the take-up lever

8. Guide the thread from right to left into the eye of the take- up lever



9. Take the thread down toward the needle, through the remaining guides

10. The last thread guide is located directly above the long groove on the needle



11. Guide the thread it into the eye of the needle from left to right

Bobbin/bottom thread



1. Insert empty bobbin onto the winding pin at the front of the bobbin-winder at the right-hand side of your machine.



2. Pull the thread from the stand and into the thread hole in front of the tension disk. Wind the thread between the two tension disks. Adjust so that the thread tension is slow and steady. If the thread tension is too low

or too tight this will cause the thread to wind unevenly and cause defective stitching

3. Draw the thread and wind it several times around the bobbin. Press the positioning finger down onto the bobbin – it should click. (Raise the presser foot and ensure there is no thread on the needle)

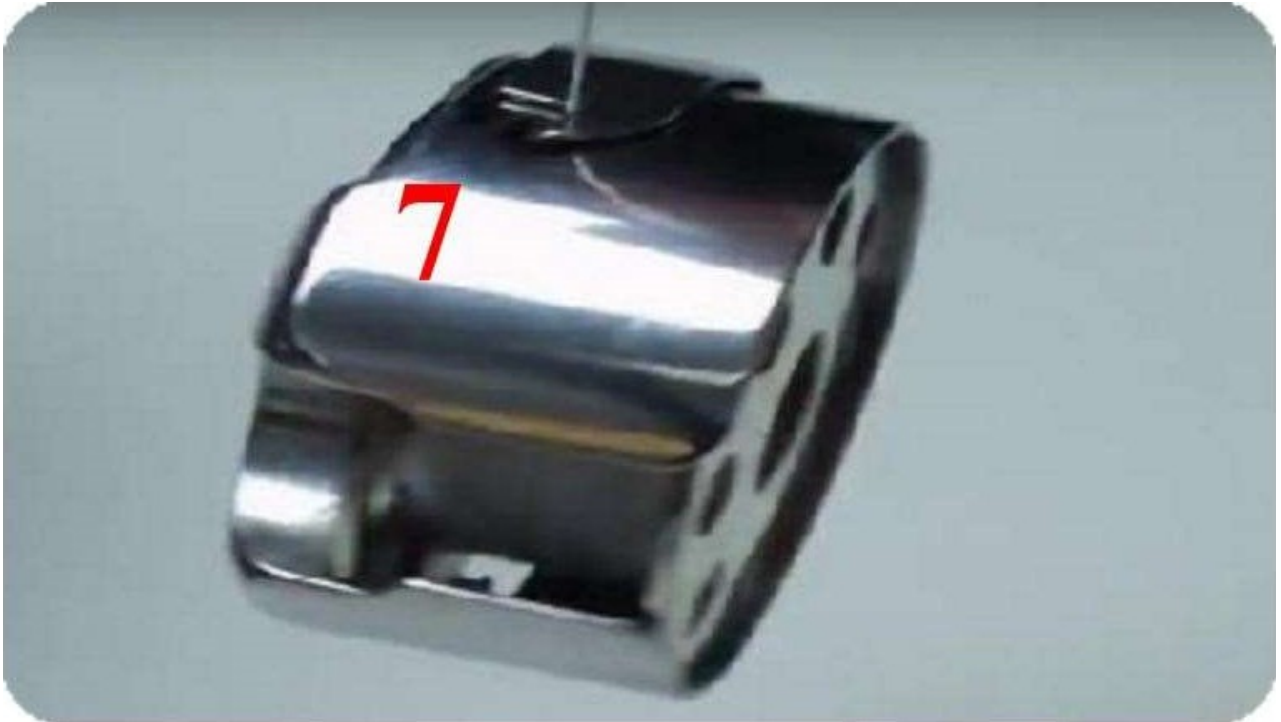


4. Turn ON the power switch and press the front of the pedal down to operate the sewing machine. This will turn the winding pin and fill the bobbin. When the bobbin is full, the positioning finger will spring back and the thread-winding wheel automatically stops
5. Set the full bobbin into the bobbin case by holding the bobbin with the right hand so that the thread is wound to the right (clockwise) or looks like the tail of a G). Hold the bobbin case with the left hand and set the bobbin with the thread hanging down into the bobbin case

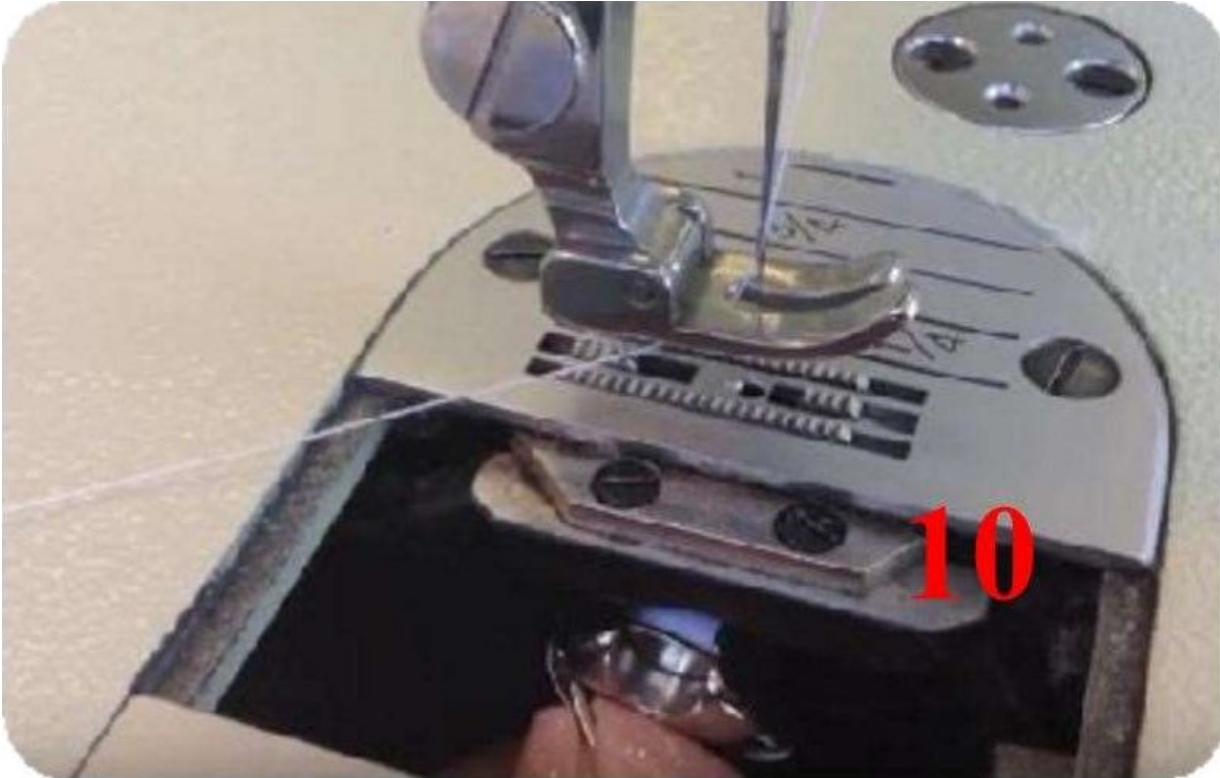


6. Hold the end of the thread hanging outside and pass the thread through the slit located at the rim of the bobbin case. Pull down the thread, it goes under the tension spring, then come out from the notch

7. To check tension, hold the thread and let the case dangle it should very slowly move downward



8. Raise the latch of the bobbin case and hold it with the left hand. The bobbin does not drop when raising the latch and holding the bobbin case
9. Set the bobbin case into the hook located underneath the throat plate of the sewing machine.



to

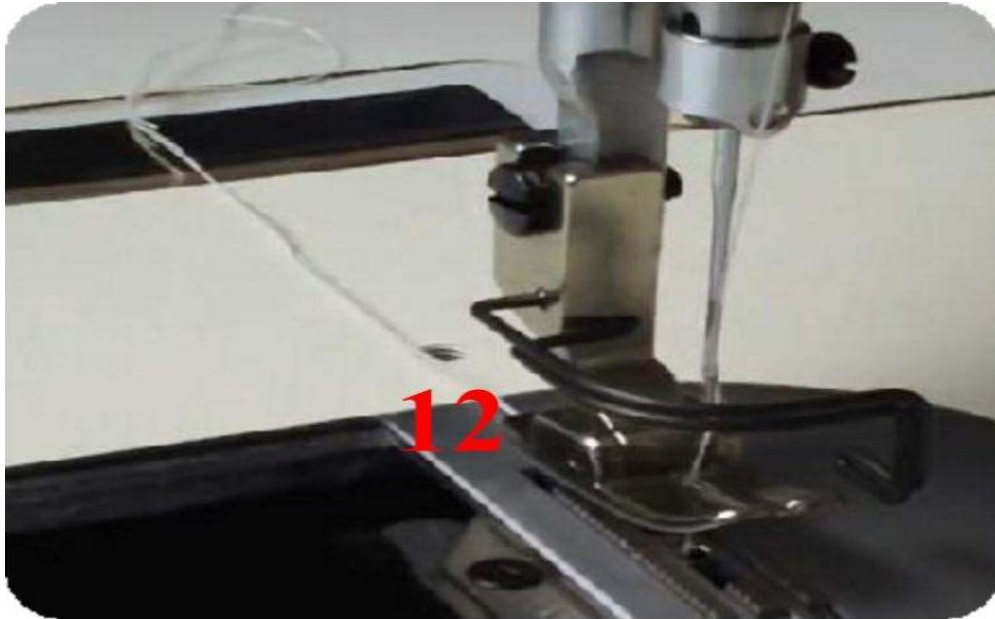
10. Fit it to the shaft of the inner hook and close the latch of the bobbin case in the home position, you will hear it click into place. If the bobbin case has not completely set into the hook, it will cause problems such as needle breakage, hook breakage, thread tangling etc

NOTE: No needle guard on image for demonstration purpose

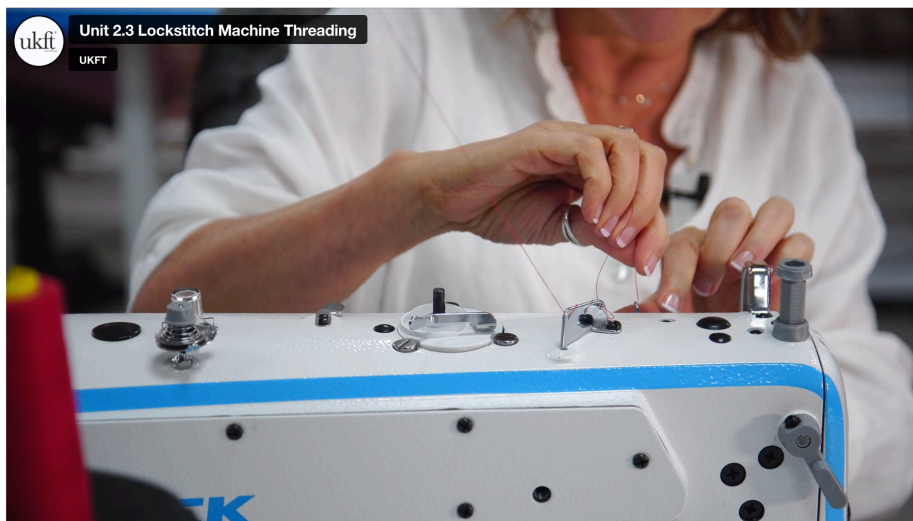


11. Slowly turning the balance wheel towards you lower the needle through the needle hole holding the needle thread, so that it collects the bobbin thread and brings it back up through the needle hole, the thread loop will appear
12. Pull both threads between the prongs of the presser foot, and then under the presser foot to the back of the machine leaving approx. 15cm tail, you are now ready to start stitching

REMEMBER: Always do a stitch test after rethreading



Watch the video below to see the threading of a lockstitch sewing machine in more detail



Unit 2.3 Lockstitch Machine Threading

<https://vimeo.com/580208459>

Knowledge Challenge 2.7

1. Put the top threading sequence of lockstitch machine in the correct order by numbering them from 1 to 11
 - Ensure that the machine is switched off and remove your feet from the pedal
 - Take the thread down toward the needle, through the remaining guides
 - Take the thread down to the 2nd tension discs, take it around the discs and over the spring
 - Thread into 1st tension discs, in between the discs and out through the bottom hole
 - Guide the thread under the bar and back up to the take-up lever
 - Guide the thread it into the eye of the needle from left to right.
 - Raise the needle to its highest point.
 - Guide the thread into the top hole of the thread guide and out of the bottom hole
 - The last thread through the last and final thread guide located directly above the long groove on the needle.
 - Place the cone of thread on the thread stand, take the end of the thread, and pass through the guide at the top of the thread stand
 - Guide the thread from right to left into the eye of the take- up lever

Knowledge Challenge 2.8

1. Too fill the spool or bobbin. you need to follow the correct sequence. Put the spool/bobbin filling sequence below in the correct order by numbering them from 1 to 7
- The positioning finger will spring off when the spool is full
 - Take the thread through the tension disks
 - Place the empty bobbin onto the winding pin at the front of the bobbin-winder
 - Place the cone of thread into the thread stand, take the thread end though the thread guides
 - Turn the machine on and press the foot pedal
 - Press the positioning finger down on to the bobbin
 - Bring the thread across to the bobbin and wind the thread several times around the bobbin, making sure it is secure

Knowledge Challenge 2.9

1. If I do not thread my machine correctly the stitches may...
 - be too tight and cause the fabric to pucker
 - be uneven and loose
 - be even and well balanced
 - skip and unravel

Now you know how to thread the lockstitch machine correctly, we will look at the setting on the machine and how to make adjustments.