

GORGEOUS FREE-MOTION WORK

Let your hands take over!

It's great fun to do free-hand embroidery with a sewing machine. The stitching is controlled by the movement of your hands while manually guiding the fabric to follow your inspirations for unique designs.

The darning and embroidery foot belongs to the most versatile group of presser feet. It's used for sewing large-scale embroideries, beautiful monograms or for darning holes and torn areas. For passionate quilters it's an indispensable accessory, e.g. for crazy quilting or free-motion quilting, also known as stippling. Free-motion work requires a little practice, but with a few simple tips it's easy to create gorgeous, original designs!



The specialist for
»creative moments«:

THE DARNING AND EMBROIDERY FOOT

When working with the darning and embroidery foot you always have to drop the feed dogs, or cover the feed dogs with the feed cover plate (depending on the machine model). The fabric is no longer fed by the machine enabling you to guide the fabric manually and to determine the stitch density yourself, simply with your chosen sewing speed.

The opening in this special presser foot provides a better view of the area to be embroidered. Give it a try!

THE EMBROIDERY HOOP

For better control when free-hand embroidering or darning, it is recommended that you hoop the section of fabric you are working with. It provides even tension and prevents fabric displacement during stitching, for perfect results. Embroidery hoops are available in different sizes and designs.

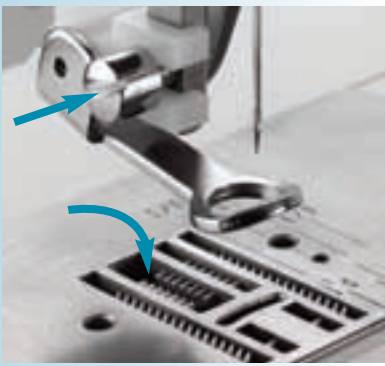


Materials Required:

- > **Any fabric you like:** Linen, cotton, denim, velvet, terry cloth, etc. The firmer the fabric, the easier to be embroidered.
- > **Stabilizer as fabric backing**
- > **Spray-on temporary adhesive, if needed**
- > **Machine embroidery thread**
- > **SINGER® needle, size 70 or 80**
- > **SINGER® darning and embroidery foot**
- > **Embroidery hoop**
- > **Disappearing fabric-marking pen**
- > **Water-soluble stabilizer, if needed**

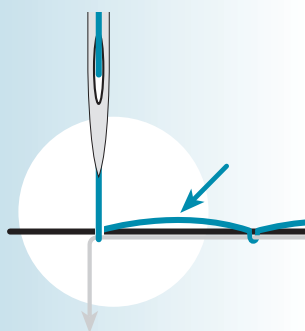
1 Preparing the Sewing Machine:

- 1** Remove the presser foot including presser foot holder and screw on the darning and embroidery foot. Drop the feed dogs.



- 2** Thread the needle with the machine embroidery thread. If you have selected a rayon sheen as embroidery thread, don't use it as bobbin thread. Use a fine cotton or special bobbin thread instead.

Reduce the upper thread tension to obtain a smoother stitching on the fabric. As a result, the finished embroidery has a more pronounced appearance.



2 Preparing the Fabric:

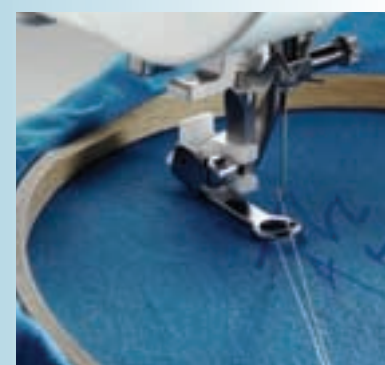
- 3** To prevent fabric distortion during your embroidery work, we recommend to back the fabric with a layer of stabilizer. You can further secure the stabilizer to the fabric by spraying it on with a temporary adhesive. After finishing the embroidery the stabilizer can easily be removed.



Draw your chosen design, or letter for sewing a monogram on the fabric using a disappearing fabric-marking pen.



- 4** Hoop the fabric. Pull it tight with an even tension. It's ideal when you can »drum« on the fabric with your fingers. Place the hooped fabric under the darning and embroidery foot and lower the foot.



3 Let's Start Sewing:

5 | Monograms and letters:

Select a zigzag stitch with a width of 3.0 – 5.0 mm. No need to select a stitch length, as the stitch density of the monogram depends on your sewing speed. This requires a little practice: If you're sewing too fast, the stitching doesn't have a consistent and uniform appearance. If you're sewing too slowly, the stitching becomes too dense and creates small knots on the back of the embroidery. The ideal combination is to sew with a fast speed while guiding the fabric slowly! There's a little trick for sewing round shapes: Instead of turning the fabric, evenly guide it in small right and left movements. This way, the stitch direction remains unchanged giving your finished monogram a smoother appearance!



6 | Finishing:

Pull the threads to the back and neaten or tie a knot. Remove the stabilizer and press.



Tip! Classic examples for monogram sewing are towels and bathrobes. If you plan to embroider on terry cloth, tack or pin water-soluble stabilizer onto the terry cloth to cover the terry loops. This way the loops are flattened, leading to a higher stitch density and more pronounced effect. First sew the outline of the letter or motif with a narrow zigzag stitch. Then overstretch it with a wider zigzag. You'll be stunned by the perfect results! To remove the water-soluble stabilizer, simply place the fabric into water. The stabilizer will dissolve.



Be a needle-artist and create your own masterpiece with fabrics and yarns!

The darning and embroidery foot is perfect even for the craziest of projects you have in mind: Try to mix and match fabric remnants, different threads and yarns, paper, feathers – anything that can be sewn! Works of art are easily achieved with this special technique.

Scatter all pieces of materials you wish to join together on a layer of water-soluble stabilizer. Cover it with a second layer of water-soluble stabilizer. Sew a square or rectangle along the outer edge of the fabrics with a straight stitch. This »window-type« frame prevents the materials from distortion. With a zigzag stitch in different widths and the straight stitch overstretch the contents of the square or rectangle, moving in different directions.



Play with colors and materials, remembering to stitch the materials in place within the »window« from time to time to prevent distortion of your work. For finishing the project, sew one or two additional reinforcing seams along the outer edge of the square or rectangle. Finally let the stabilizer dissolve in water.



The practical side of this special presser foot: Darning



Darning is not everybody's favorite work – with the darning and embroidery foot, however, even these tedious sewing jobs can be accomplished fast and easy.

Select a straight stitch. Hoop your fabric, if possible. Pull up the bobbin thread with the needle and hold tight both, bobbin and upper thread, when you start sewing. Oversee the torn area while guiding the fabric back and forth in even movements. After the torn area has completely been covered with stitches, leave the needle in the fabric, turn the fabric by 90° and oversee the torn area again from this angle.



Tip! We recommend to reinforce torn areas and holes with interfacing before darning. It improves the quality and look of your finished work.