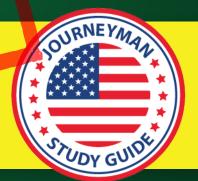
JOURNEYMAN STUDY GUIDE INDUSTRIAL SEWING MACHINE OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

YEAR

250 EXAM PREP QUESTIONS, WITH EXPLAINED ANSWERS



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Year 1: Foundations of Industrial Sewing Machine Operation & Maintenance

Subject 3. Fabric Handling and Stitching Basics

1. What is the purpose of fabric feeding?

- a) To measure fabric
- b) To control stitching
- c) To guide fabric
- d) To cut fabric

Correct Answer: c) To guide fabric

Explanation: Fabric feeding is crucial in ensuring that the material moves smoothly through the sewing machine, allowing for even and consistent stitching. Proper feeding prevents fabric bunching or slipping, which can lead to uneven seams. Understanding the feeding mechanism helps operators manage different fabric types effectively for quality results.

2. Which stitch is commonly used for seams?

- a) Basting stitch
- b) Straight stitch
- c) Overlock stitch
- d) Zigzag stitch

Correct Answer: b) Straight stitch

Explanation: The straight stitch is the most commonly used stitch for seams due to its strength and versatility. It creates a clean and durable seam that holds fabric pieces together effectively. While other stitches like zigzag or overlock have specific applications, the straight stitch remains foundational in garment construction and repair.

3. What is stitch length adjustment?

- a) Thread tension control
- b) Needle size change
- c) Fabric type alteration
- d) Space between stitches

Correct Answer: d) Space between stitches

Explanation: Stitch length adjustment refers to changing the distance between individual stitches on the sewing machine. This is crucial for accommodating different fabric types; shorter stitches are often used for finer materials, while longer stitches are suitable for heavier fabrics. Proper adjustment ensures seam strength and appearance, preventing issues in sewing projects.



4. Why is stitch tension important?

- a) To adjust machine speed
- b) To influence seam quality
- c) To determine fabric color
- d) To create thread patterns

Correct Answer: b) To influence seam quality

Explanation: Stitch tension is vital for achieving a balanced seam. Proper tension ensures that the upper and lower threads interlock correctly, preventing problems like loose stitches or thread breakage. Adjusting tension based on fabric type and thickness is essential for producing high-quality seams that are both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

5. What causes uneven stitches?

- a) Improper feeding
- b) Wrong needle size
- c) Inconsistent fabric type
- d) Incorrect thread color

Correct Answer: a) Improper feeding

Explanation: Uneven stitches can often result from improper fabric feeding through the machine. If the fabric is not guided correctly, it can lead to variations in stitch length or tightness, affecting the overall quality of the seam. Ensuring the fabric is fed smoothly and at the correct speed is essential for achieving uniform stitches.

6. What is puckering in fabric?

- a) Fabric gathering
- b) Fabric wrinkling
- c) Fabric discoloration
- d) Fabric distortion

Correct Answer: a) Fabric gathering

Explanation: Puckering occurs when fabric gathers or ripples along the seam, usually due to improper tension or incorrect stitch length. This undesirable effect can ruin the appearance of a garment. To prevent puckering, it is important to adjust machine settings according to the fabric type and maintain consistent feeding throughout the sewing process.



7. Which stitch is best for knits?

- a) Zigzag stitch
- b) Basting stitch
- c) Straight stitch
- d) Blind hem stitch

Correct Answer: a) Zigzag stitch

Explanation: The zigzag stitch is ideal for sewing knit fabrics as it allows for stretch while maintaining seam integrity. Traditional straight stitches can break when the fabric is stretched, but the zigzag stitch accommodates movement, making it perfect for t-shirts, leggings, and other stretchable garments.

8. How do you test stitch tension?

- a) Change the needle
- b) Use a thread gauge
- c) Sew a sample piece
- d) Adjust the ft pressure

Correct Answer: c) Sew a sample piece

Explanation: Testing stitch tension involves sewing a sample piece of fabric to evaluate the quality of the stitches. By observing the stitch appearance and ensuring the upper and lower threads are balanced, operators can adjust the tension settings as needed. This practice is important for achieving optimal results in sewing projects.

9. What is a basting stitch used for?

- a) Decorative stitching
- b) Temporary holding
- c) Hemming edges
- d) Final sewing

Correct Answer: b) Temporary holding

Explanation: A basting stitch is used primarily for temporary holding of fabric layers in place before final sewing. This stitch is usually longer and looser compared to regular stitches, allowing for easy removal without damaging the fabric. It is an essential technique in garment construction, helping to align patterns and adjust fit before finalizing seams.



10. Which adjustment affects stitch appearance?

- a) Thread color
- b) Stitch length
- c) Fabric weight
- d) Needle type

Correct Answer: b) Stitch length

Explanation: Stitch length significantly affects the appearance of the finished seam. Longer stitches create a more relaxed look, while shorter stitches result in a tighter, cleaner finish. Adjusting the stitch length based on the fabric and project requirements ensures that the final product meets aesthetic and functional expectations.

11. What tool is used to adjust stitch length?

- a) Thread cutter
- b) Stitch length dial
- c) Screwdriver
- d) ft pedal

Correct Answer: b) Stitch length dial

Explanation: The stitch length dial is the primary tool used to adjust the distance between stitches on an industrial sewing machine. By turning the dial, operators can select the desired stitch length for various materials. Proper adjustment is essential for achieving the correct seam for different types of sewing projects, ensuring both strength and appearance.

12. What type of stitch is overlock?

- a) Functional
- b) Straight
- c) Decorative
- d) Basting

Correct Answer: a) Functional

Explanation: The overlock stitch is a functional stitch commonly used to finish edges and prevent fraying on woven and knit fabrics. It sews multiple threads simultaneously, allowing for a secure and professional finish. Overlock stitching is often used in garment construction for seams and edges, providing both durability and a clean look.



13. Which fabric requires a longer stitch?

- a) Silk
- b) Canvas
- c) Jersey
- d) Denim

Correct Answer: b) Canvas

Explanation: Heavier fabrics such as canvas typically require longer stitches during sewing. Longer stitches help prevent the fabric from bunching or distorting. This adjustment is essential in maintaining the integrity and appearance of the final product, especially for items like bags or outdoor gear where strength is critical.

14. What is the first step in troubleshooting puckering?

- a) Change the needle
- b) Check fabric feed
- c) Adjust thread tension
- d) Use different thread

Correct Answer: b) Check fabric feed

Explanation: The first step in troubleshooting puckering is to check the fabric feed. Proper feeding is essential for maintaining even tension and avoiding puckering during sewing. If the fabric is not being fed smoothly, adjustments may be needed to the feed dogs or the presser ft pressure to ensure consistent movement.

15. How can you avoid thread breakage?

- a) Reduce stitch length
- b) Change machine speed
- c) Use thicker fabric
- d) Adjust needle size

Correct Answer: d) Adjust needle size

Explanation: Thread breakage can often be avoided by adjusting the needle size to match the thread and fabric being used. Using a needle that is too small for the thread can cause excessive tension and lead to breakage. Ensuring compatibility between the needle, thread, and fabric is key to smooth sewing operations without interruptions.



16. What type of stitch is best for hems?

- a) Basting stitch
- b) Zigzag stitch
- c) Blind hem stitch
- d) Straight stitch

Correct Answer: c) Blind hem stitch

Explanation: The blind hem stitch is specifically designed for creating invisible hems on garments. This stitch allows the hem to be securely attached while remaining nearly undetectable from the outside. It is ideal for professional-looking finishes on skirts, pants, and other apparel, giving a clean and polished appearance.

17. What does adjusting the presser ft do?

- a) Changes fabric type
- b) Controls fabric movement
- c) Adjusts thread color
- d) Alters stitch pattern

Correct Answer: b) Controls fabric movement

Explanation: Adjusting the presser ft controls how the fabric moves through the sewing machine. The right pressure ensures the fabric is fed evenly, preventing issues like slipping or bunching. Different fabrics require varying presser ft pressure for optimal results, making this adjustment critical for achieving high-quality seams in sewing projects.

18. What is the result of too much tension?

- a) Even stitches
- b) Thread breakage
- c) Puckered seams
- d) Loose stitches

Correct Answer: b) Thread breakage

Explanation: Excessive tension can lead to thread breakage, causing interruptions in the sewing process. When the tension is too high, it pulls the thread too tightly, leading to stress on the fibers. This can also result in uneven stitches and puckering, making it essential to find a balanced tension setting for smooth operation.



19. What is a common cause of skipped stitches?

- a) High speed
- b) Dull needle
- c) Incorrect thread type
- d) Fabric mismatch

Correct Answer: b) Dull needle

Explanation: A dull needle is a common cause of skipped stitches during sewing. When the needle is not sharp enough, it struggles to penetrate the fabric, leading to missed stitches. Regularly changing needles and using the appropriate type for the fabric being sewn can minimize this issue and improve overall stitching quality.

20. How can fabric distortion be prevented?

- a) Change the needle
- b) Adjust stitch length
- c) Choose lighter fabric
- d) Use a heavier thread

Correct Answer: b) Adjust stitch length

Explanation: Adjusting the stitch length can help prevent fabric distortion during sewing. Shorter stitches can grip the fabric more tightly, while longer stitches allow for more flexibility. Matching the stitch length to the fabric type and thickness is essential for maintaining the fabric's shape and appearance throughout the sewing process.

21. What type of needle is best for denim?

- a) Quilting needle
- b) Jeans needle
- c) Ballpoint needle
- d) Universal needle

Correct Answer: b) Jeans needle

Explanation: A jeans needle is specifically designed for sewing through heavy fabrics like denim. It features a thicker shaft and a sharp point that can easily penetrate multiple layers of fabric without causing damage. Using the correct needle type ensures smoother sewing and better stitch quality when working with tough materials.



22. What should you do if stitches are too tight?

- a) Shorten stitch length
- b) Decrease thread tension
- c) Increase thread tension
- d) Change fabric

Correct Answer: b) Decrease thread tension

Explanation: If stitches are too tight, the first step is to decrease the thread tension. Tight stitches can lead to puckering and fabric distortion, affecting the overall quality of the seam. Adjusting the tension allows the threads to relax, ensuring a balanced and even stitch appearance that maintains the integrity of the fabric.

23. What is the function of feed dogs?

- a) Control stitch length
- b) Cut fabric
- c) Adjust tension
- d) Move fabric

Correct Answer: d) Move fabric

Explanation: Feed dogs are small teeth-like components located beneath the presser ft that move the fabric through the sewing machine. They play a crucial role in controlling the fabric's movement, ensuring it is fed evenly and consistently for accurate stitching. Understanding how feed dogs work is essential for successful fabric handling during sewing.

24. Which stitch is best for decorative purposes?

- a) Zigzag stitch
- b) Straight stitch
- c) Basting stitch
- d) Overlock stitch

Correct Answer: a) Zigzag stitch

Explanation: The zigzag stitch is often used for decorative purposes, as it creates a visually interesting pattern while also providing functional benefits. This stitch can be used for embellishments, finishing edges, or adding texture to garments. Its versatility makes it a favorite among sewists for both practical and artistic applications.



25. What is the best practice for cleaning a machine?

- a) Use water
- b) Vacuum and oil
- c) Wipe with cloth
- d) Store without cleaning

Correct Answer: b) Vacuum and oil

Explanation: The best practice for cleaning an industrial sewing machine involves vacuuming out dust and lint, followed by oiling the moving parts. Regular maintenance keeps the machine running smoothly and extends its lifespan. Neglecting to clean the machine can lead to performance issues, including skipped stitches and uneven tension, negatively impacting sewing quality.





- 1). A B C D
- 6). A B C D
- 11). A B C D

- 2). (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 7). (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 12). A B C D

- 3). (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 8). A B C D
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- 17). (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 22). A B C D
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- 23). (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 19). (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 24). A B C D
- 20). (A) (B) (C) (D)
- 25). A B C D

About the Creators:

Bobby Bedi:

Bobby Bedi, co-creator of the Journeyman Study Guide, calls the Pacific Northwest home, where he has built an extensive career spanning more than two decades. His diverse background, which includes architecture, digital innovation, and industrial marketing, has given him a unique ability to bridge traditional industries with cutting-edge digital solutions. Bobby has worked across a spectrum of industries, from agile startups to publicly traded companies and educational platforms, bringing a depth of experience that has been crucial to the platform's success.

Bobby's precision and problem-solving skills, refined through his years in architecture, have seamlessly transitioned into his work in digital marketing and technology. Since 2006, Bobby has been at the forefront of digital innovation, applying his expertise to transform trade education. He has been instrumental in developing cutting-edge, user-friendly platforms that make learning accessible across the globe, combining technology with education to create impactful online experiences.

As co-creator of the platform, Bobby also plays a key role in the industrial sector, where he helps companies scale by leveraging his expertise in digital marketing and business strategy. His dedication to making education affordable and impactful has driven the growth of the Journeyman Study Guide, ensuring that individuals at every stage of their careers have access to quality learning tools.

Kris McFarlane:

Kris McFarlane, co-creator of the Journeyman Study Guide, has over two decades of experience in business development, education, and the trades. Based in the Pacific Northwest, Kris has worked with a range of organizations—from agile startups to publicly traded companies—driving business growth and developing successful strategies across industries. His expertise in scaling businesses and creating educational platforms has been key to the guide's reach and effectiveness.

Kris's deep roots in the trades and industrial sector, paired with his extensive experience in business development, give him a unique ability to understand both the practical and strategic needs of companies and individuals. His leadership and ability to mentor others have helped shape the platform, making it a go-to resource for tradespeople seeking career advancement and certification.

Having struggled with traditional education early in life, Kris understands the importance of making learning accessible for everyone. His passion for empowering others, especially those who feel underserved by conventional education systems, is reflected in every aspect of the Journeyman Study Guide. Kris's work is driven by a commitment to helping aspiring tradespeople succeed in their careers through affordable, practical, and accessible learning resources.

Work with the Creators

As co-creators of the Journeyman Study Guide, Bobby Bedi and Kris McFarlane draw from extensive experience working with agile startups, publicly traded companies, and education platforms. Their combined expertise has shaped a platform that empowers businesses and individuals alike. To learn more or explore opportunities with the *Unity Crest Solutions team*, visit *UnityCrestSolutions.com*, where they continue to help organizations and people succeed.



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