

## Basic Sewing Machine Troubleshooting



Sometimes your machine just doesn't seem to do what you want!!

Usually it's the thread breaking, the thread bunches up, the needle breaks or it seems to skip stitches.

Try not to get too frustrated, we have put together a few of the more common problems people have and hopefully how to troubleshoot them.

## 1. Machine not sewing

Check the machine is threaded correctly

Unthread and re thread your machine and ensure the needle position in the correct top position for threading. The take up lever must be showing.

Ensure the thread goes through/around the take up lever.

Ensure the bottom bobbin is threaded correctly. The midi machine uses a metal bobbin which is magnetised to create the tension.

Lower the foot before sewing.

When removing or adjusting fabric during a project ensure the needle is in the top position, **THE TAKE UP LEVER MUST BE SHOWING IN THE TOP POSITION.**

## 2. Thread is bunching

Re thread your machine.

Missing the take up lever when threading will cause thread to gather under the material.

When adjusting the material or changing direction, ensure the take up lever is in the top position

Check the top tension setting. For the upper thread the foot must be up when threading.

## 3. Thread Breaking

Ensure you have the correct size and type of needle for the job

Do not sew through too many layers, do not push your machine too far.

Use a quality thread, it makes a big difference, some threads are suitable only for hand sewing.

## HIGHLIGHTED THINGS TO CHECK

Try re threading

Change the needle (size or type)

Use a Metal Bobbin (Magnetised bobbin case)

Take up lever in upper position when threading or moving material.

Use a test piece of fabric before you sew.



Raised take up  
Lever



Raised Needle



Raised Needle  
when turning