

# CONTINENTAL M17

## New Owner Lesson Continental M17 Professional



### BASIC OVERVIEW

#### Machine Supplies:


- Continental M17
- Embroidery Unit
- Power cord
- Knee Lift
- All the standard accessories and hoops packed with the machine

#### Fabric & Supplies:


- Several 6" squares of cotton
- 10" X 14" piece of cotton and stabilizer for embroidery
- Two 12" square quilt sandwiches
- Prepared appliqué shape adhered to 6" cotton square
- Several 6" squares of tearaway stabilizer
- All-purpose sewing thread
- Embroidery thread
- Pre-wound bobbin
- Blue, Red and Purple Tip needles

#### Sewing Session:

##### 1. Getting Ready to Sew

- Attach foot control with remote cutter.
- Turn on machine.
- Insert new Blue Tip needle.
- Wind a bobbin.
- Thread machine.
- Attach knee lift. Use knee lift to raise and lower presser foot.
- Use Presser Foot Lifter to raise and lower presser foot.
- Use **Presser Foot Lifter Key**  to raise and lower presser foot

##### 2. Customize Machine Settings (use stylus to touch larger right screen)

- Touch: **Machine Settings** 
  - Scroll through the pages, explaining that these functions control entire machine.
  - Go to Page 1: Select Inch or MM - user's choice. Set date and time.
  - Go to Page 2: Import a Screensaver – this is a wonderful way to personalize machine.
  - Go to Page 3: Change default time for Needle Plate lifter.
- Touch: **Sewing Settings**
  - These settings control functions in the sewing mode. Scroll through pages to see options available.
  - Page 1: Thread Cut after Auto- Lock - users choice.
  - Page 3: ASR Sensitivity is here. Explain how you will set the Over Speed Warning Sound and how it will come in handy later when you use the stitch regulator.
  - Page 4: Favorite Stitch - user's choice. When Favorite Stitch is ON, any changes made can be saved in the Favorite Stitch folder as a new default.
  - Resume: User's choice. When Resume is ON, machine will resume last stitch/stitch pattern sewn when the power was turned OFF. A pop-up window will appear when the machine is turned on, asking if the user wants to resume the previous stitch.
    - Touch OK to save any settings made.

**Note:** For more tutorials and tips on how to use the machine, use AcuAssist app, which can be downloaded from iTunes and the Google Play store for free.

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### 3. Ordinary Sewing

- Select: **Ordinary Sewing Mode**

Ordinary Sewing Mode

- Touch: **Utility Stitches**



- **Select Stitch 1 Straight Stitch**; fold a 6" square of cotton in half and sew a short seam, stop, needle will end in down position. Press thread cutter button: machine will cut thread, and then raise needle and foot.
- Sew a second line of stitches parallel to the previous line, stopping at end of fabric, needle will end in down position. Step on remote thread cutter and then hold for 1 second; machine will cut thread, raise needle and foot.
- **Select Stitch 2 Lock-A-Matic**; sew a short seam. Press reverse button at end of seam. If Thread Cut after Auto-Lock was activated in the Set function, machine will automatically cut the thread and lift the foot.
- **Select Stitch 3 Locking Stitch**; sew a short seam. Press reverse button at end of seam. If Thread Cut after Auto-Lock was activated ON in Set function machine will automatically cut the thread and lift the foot.
- **Select Stitch 1**; disconnect foot control. Use Start/Stop button to sew a short seam.
- Press and Hold start button for a slow start. When the button is released the machine will speed up to the desired speed. Close to end of seam, press and hold start/stop button; machine will slow down. When the end of the fabric is under the needle, release the start/stop button and the machine will stop.
- **Select: Stitch 9 Zigzag** - There are three ways to adjust Zigzag width and length:
  - Width and length are displayed at the bottom of large touch screen on the right, on the center screen and can also be adjusted by turning the two knobs to the right of the smaller touch screen.
  - Sew a zigzag stitch. Machine automatically makes a four-stitch lock at beginning. Press locking stitch button at end; machine will lock and stop. If Thread Cut after Auto-Lock has been activated, the machine will cut thread and lift foot.

- Touch: **Auto Pivot Key**



- Fold a 6" square of cotton in half and sew a short seam and stop, foot will automatically lift for pivoting.

- Touch: **Buttonhole Tab**



- **Select buttonhole #1.**
- Attach Buttonhole foot R. Place a button in back of foot, pull down buttonhole lever. Fold a piece of cotton in half with stabilizer and make a buttonhole.
- Point out how machine will ask if you want to make the same one again.

- **Combining Decorative and Monogram Stitches**

- Select: **Monogram Tab**



- Select: **Block Font**



- Select: **Upper Case Letter "I"**



- Select: **Middle Space Key**



- Select: **Touch Decorative Tab**



- Press the forward arrow and Select: **Kids Tab**



- Select: **Stitch 5**




Select a space key again.

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- Select:  **Lifestyle**

- Select:  **Stitch #40**

**Note:** Gray highlighted stitches on stitch chart can be flipped horizontally.

- Attach Satin Stitch foot F and sew stitch combination on square of stabilized fabrics

- Touch:  **Auto Save In Key**

Stitch combination can be saved in machine or to a USB stick


- Touch **Ordf file**; touch pencil/star key to name stitch combination.

- Spell “**shoes**”; touch OK to save name, touch OK to save design.


- Touch:  **Auto Save In Key**


on bottom of screen.

- Touch **Ordf folder**; touch “**shoes**” to open saved design.

- Back on the screen, Touch:  **Combine Key**

to turn off the combine mode.

- Touch **Tapering Tab** 
  - Use this function to create tapered corners and points.

- Touch:  **Stitch Reference Button**

to view tapering stitches.

- Back a 6” square with tearaway stabilizer.


- Draw a line across square 1” from edge of square and again 2” from first line.

- Attach **Satin Stitch foot F**.
- Thread needle and bobbin with matching thread.
- Select a Taper Stitch.
- Place fabric under presser foot with needle at 1” starting point.

- Start sewing; when ending mark is at the red arrow on foot,

- Touch:  **Auto Lock Button**

- The machine will continue to sew as it completes the stitch pattern and creates the tapered end. Machine will automatically stop when taper is completed.

- Touch:  **Same Size- OK**

in the pop-up window.

**Note:** The number of stitch pattern repeats between beginning and ending taper stitches is displayed in pop up window.


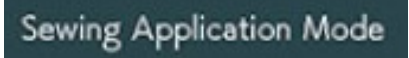
- Start at the same line, sew an identically sized second tapered stitch.

**Optional:**

- Select: **Hand Stitch Style Tab**

and select a couple of stitches in this category to show how you can create hand sewn looking stitches.

#### 4. Sewing Applications

- Select the **Home Key**,  and **Sewing Applications**  **Mode.**

This is a straightforward way to find common functions as well as preset settings for some optional accessories.

- Touch:  **Quilt**
- Select:  **Applique**

Attach **Satin Stitch foot F**.

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- Select **Applique 1**.

Touch:

**Cornering Key**



it will change to corner key image.

**Start Over at Corner Key**



will also change.

- Place a piece of stabilizer on wrong side of a 6" square of fabric. Place a 2" square in center. Start sewing applique stitch along one side, stop sewing at corner. Foot will automatically lift (if pivot function is still on from step 3b.) Turn corner.

Touch:

**Start Over at Corner Key**



- Finish appliquéing square using Start Over at a Corner key at each corner.
- Press reverse button at end, machine will stop and lock.

- Select **Patchwork Piecing**.



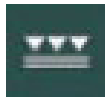
- Attach 1/4" Seam foot O. Fold a 6" square of cotton in half and sew a 1/4" seam.

**Note:** The 1/4" stitch can also be accessed in the Quilt section of stitches > stitch #2. These are the two places where the machine will then automatically adjust the needle position for 1/4" Seam foot O.

- Select: **Straight Stitch**



- Touch: **Acufeed Key**



Machine will indicate to use AcuFeed Flex Dual Feed foot AD.

- Attach **AD Foot** and **Dual Feed Holder**. Using a quilt sandwich, sew several rows of quilting.
- Touch **Acufeed Key** to disengage.

## 5. Free Motion Quilting

- Ask the owner if they are a novice or advanced free-motion sewist. If an intermediate, proceed to section **A** below. If a beginner, skip ahead to section **B**.

### • A. Intermediate-to-Advanced Free Motion Sewer/Quilter:

- Select: **Free Motion**



- Lock machine, select Needle plate icon and exchange Zigzag plate for Straight Stitch Needle plate.

- Insert Purple Tip needle.

- Select: **Straight Stitch**



snap on **QO Foot** and begin free motion quilting.

- Use speed control slider to increase/decrease speed depending upon comfort level.

- **One Stitch Stop**



is always ON to allow you to bring bobbin thread to top at beginning.

- **Presser Foot Height**

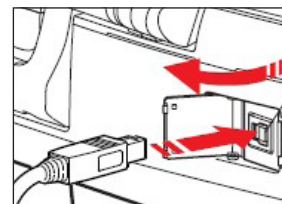


can be changed to adjust for the depth of the quilt sandwich.

- Make certain that the presser foot shown on the screen is the foot you have attached. Each option makes internal adjustments that are perfect for the quilting option chosen.

### • B. Beginner Free Motion Sewer/Quilter:

- Attach the **AcuStitch Regulator (A.S.R.)** foot holder to machine and plug the attachment into port at rear of machine.




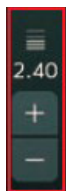
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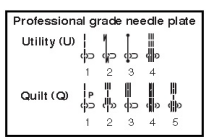
- Select: **Ruler Work** 

- Press: **ASR Key**  to engage.

- Place quilt sandwich under foot.
- Guide foot along edge of quilting ruler.
- Point out how you can adjust stitch length 


Also, point out that the sensitivity of the stitch regulator can be adjusted on Page 3/4 of the Sewing Settings in the **Settings Menu**. 


### Professional Grade HP Needle Plate and HP Foot

- Press: **Lock Key**  Select: **Needle Plate Key**  and exchange Straight Stitch Needle plate for HP Needle plate.
- Select Lock key to unlock machine. Attach HP Foot.
- The needle will automatically move to left needle position for precision seams, scant 1/4" seams and ease sewing 1/4" curved seams.
- The only stitches allowed for HP plate and feet are found in **Utility and Quilt Mode**. 
- Sew a seam with the HP needle plate and HP foot. Point out the scant 1/4" seam obtained by using the HP system.
- Attach AcuFeed Flex Professional Grade foot HP2.
- Quilt straight stitches on a quilt sandwich.

## Embroidery Session:

### 1. Getting Ready to Embroider

- Attach Embroidery Unit and turn on the machine.
- Attach Embroidery foot with Embroidery Positioning Marker. Connect foot cable to port on back of machine. 

- Lock the machine, select: 

**Needle Plate Key** 

and insert the Straight Stitch Needle plate to ensure precise embroidery designs. Touch lock key again to unlock machine.

- Insert embroidery bobbin holder.
  - Embroidery (yellow dot) bobbin holder: tension is two times tighter than normal bobbin holder. Use this any time the bobbin thread persistently comes to the top. Be sure to use the Lock function when changing the bobbin case.

- Thread machine with embroidery thread and Janome Prewound bobbin

- Janome Blue tip, Red tip and Purple tip needles are the recommend needles for embroidery. These needles have been designed with a larger eye and scarf to allow the embroidery threads to flow and lay smoothly on the fabric. The Blue Tip is a size 11/75 ball point needle and should be used with most embroidery threads. The Red Tip is a size 14/90 standard needle and should be used with metallic threads.
- Needles should be changed after approximately 8 hours of use.

### 2. Customize Machine Settings

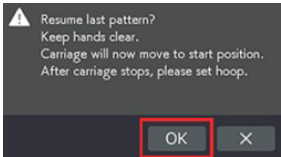
- Touch **Setting Menu**, 





Touch **Embroidery Settings Mode** 

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- B. Page 1/5, Maximum Speed Setting > Select a speed of user's choice.
- C. Page 2/5, Thread Cutting > touch ON to cut jump threads.
- D. Page 5/5, Resume mode > ON. When the Resume function is on, the machine will "resume" the design as well as the last stitch sewn when the machine was turned off. A pop up window will appear when the machine is turned off asking if the user wants to resume the embroidery design.  
A dialog box with a warning icon and the text: "Resume last pattern? Keep hands clear. Carriage will now move to start position. After carriage stops, please set hoop." There are "OK" and "X" buttons at the bottom.
- E. Touch OK to save any settings made.



- G. Spell your name, making sure to change to **Lowercase** after selecting the first letter. Touch OK.  
A square button with a lowercase 'a' and an uppercase 'A' separated by a diagonal line.
- H. Use the jog arrows on the **Edit Screen** to move the name into the desired position.  
A square button with four arrows pointing up, down, left, and right.
- I. Touch OK.
- J. Place a square of fabric and stabilizer in the RE20D hoop. Tighten hoop, using lever.
- K. Slide embroidery hoop into embroidery unit, making sure it clicks in place.
- L. Select the **Embroidery Positioning Marker Key**, so that you can see the light on the hooped fabric, denoting where the needle will start sewing.  
A square button with four arrows pointing up, down, left, and right.
- M. Select the **Cross Key**, so that you can see how the needle position changes as the machine embroiders.  
A square button with a white crosshair on a brown background.

**Note:** For more editing capability, use the E-Link app that can be downloaded from the iTunes and Google Play stores at no cost.

### 3. Embroidery Mode

- A. Select **Home Key**,  
A square button with a white house icon on a black background.  
Touch **Embroidery Mode**  
A rectangular button with the text "Embroidery Mode" in white on a dark background.
- B. Designs can be sorted by category or hoop.  
Select:  
**Hoop.** A square button with a white flower icon on a dark background.
- C. Select: **RE20D.**  
A square button with a white smartphone icon on a brown background and the text "RE20d" below it.  
on page 1/14  
Select: **Design 25.** A square button with a white heart icon on a dark background and the number "25" above it.
- D. Select: **Edit Key.** A square button with a white flower icon and a pencil icon on a dark background.
- E. Select: **Monogram Tab.** A square button with the text "Aa" in white on a dark background.
- F. Select: **Script Font.** A square button with a white cursive letter 'A' on a dark background and the text "Script" below it.

### 4. Wireless Connectivity

- A. Select **Settings Menu.** A square button with a white gear icon on a dark background.
- B. Select **Wi-Fi Tab.** A square button with a white Wi-Fi signal icon on a blue background.
- C. Refer to pages 105-108 in the Embroidery instruction manual to set up machine with a wireless connection to your router.