Hemming and Sewing on Lace at One Operation

Start the hem in the regular way and with the needle holding the hem in position, raise the presser bar sufficiently to allow the edge of the lace to be slipped in under the Foot Hemmer, at the same time bringing it up through the slot at the right of the Hemmer. See Fig. 95. Lower the bar, turn the balance wheel and catch the edge of the lace with the needle. Guide the hem with the right hand and the lace with the left. Care should be taken not to stretch the lace as it is being fed into the Hemmer.

The French Way of Applying Lace

A very attractive way of applying lace so that the stitching of the hem is not visible is to start the hem in the regular way, slipping the lace in from the left as you would the second piece of material when making a hemmed seam. See Fig. 95.

How to Adjust the Hemmer for Hems of Various Widths

To adjust the Hemmer loosen the screw and you will then be able to move the hemmer guide to the right or to the left. Note the pointer (A, Fig. 98) which is used in connection with the scale of figures on the Adjustable Hemmer.

The Hemmer may be adjusted as follows:

Point set at:

1—for \( \frac{3}{4} \)" hem (approximate)
2—\( \frac{1}{2} \)"
3—\( \frac{3}{8} \)"
4—\( \frac{5}{32} \)"
5—\( \frac{1}{8} \)"
6—\( \frac{3}{32} \)"
7—\( \frac{5}{64} \)"
8—\( 1 \)"

After setting the Hemmer, care should be taken to see that the adjusting screw is well tightened before starting to sew.

How to Insert the Material in the Adjustable Hemmer

Fold over the edge at the end of the material to be hemmed, as instructed for starting a hem with the Foot Hemmer. Place the material in the Hemmer under the scale and draw it back and forth until the hem is formed.

You will then be able to determine the width and to fold over the end of the hem for the second turning. Draw the material back until the end comes directly under the needle. Lower the presser bar and sew, guiding sufficient material in the Hemmer to turn the hem properly. See Fig. 101.

If the hem is not started at the edge, it will run bias and not come out even at the other end.

Hemming Soft Material

When hemming soft materials such as georgette or crepe de chine with the Foot Hemmer, it is necessary to feed in a uniform amount of lace when applying it in this manner, and practice is required to do it perfectly.

Hemming Fine Materials with the Foot Hemmer

When hemming fine materials such as georgette or crepe de chine with the Foot Hemmer, the material will not feed through properly and the stitch will be very much shorter than when sewing with the presser foot on the same material.

To overcome this difficulty, and to assist in holding soft materials so that they will be turned properly with the Foot Hemmer, insert a piece of paper under the foot of the Hemmer and allow it to feed through with the material. Strips of thin paper or the edges of newspapers are very convenient for this purpose. Never use tissue paper, as this will be very difficult to pull away from the material.

The Adjustable Hemmer

The Adjustable Hemmer (Fig. 98) is a part of the set of attachments supplied with most family machines. This Hemmer will make a hem of any desired width up to about \( \frac{1}{2} \)" inch. For wider hems the scale may be released and thrown out of position.

Remove the presser foot and attach the Hemmer to the presser bar, taking care that the needle comes in the center of the needle hole after you tighten the thumb screw.

How to Prepare a Hem on Table Linen

Much time is saved in turning the hem of table linen to make it ready for hand sewing. The Hemmer is very valuable for this operation. Set the Hemmer for the desired width of hem, take the thread from the needle and run the linen through the Hemmer.

Hemming Glass Towelling

When hemming glass towelling or striped material of any kind it is quite necessary that the stripes meet. This can be done by starting the hem at the very edge and guiding the material so that the edge is not stretched. It is well to practice hemming on this kind of material, for by matching each stripe you prove your ability to hem any kind of material perfectly.
How to Make a Wide Hem with the Adjustable Hemmer

To make a hem wider than 3/4 inch, loosen the adjusting screw and throw the scale guide out of position.

Fold and crease the hem the desired width by hand, place the edge in the Hemmer, as shown in Fig. 106, and commence to sew. The Hemmer will now make one turning of the edge. The hem must be kept flat at all times to retain the desired width.

Fig. 106. Making a Wide Hem with the Adjustable Hemmer

Fig. 107. Wide Hem Made on the Adjustable Hemmer

Suggested List of Garments and Articles for Hemming Projects

Kitchen and hand towels.
Curtains.
The edges of ruffles or bouses for lingerie or dresses.
Hemming and sewing on lace for ruffles.
Setting in lace insertion for lingerie, blouses or children's clothes.
Aprons and smocks.
Gilts and veinettes.
Slips and petticoats.
Nightgowns and pajamas.
Dust ruffles for beds.
Dust ruffles for slip covers.
Sheets—small and wide hem.
Table linen—hem turned, ready for hand sewing.

CHAPTER 5

THE EDGE-STITCHER

The Edge-Stitcher is a very useful attachment and is available for all family machines described in this book. It is attached to the machine in place of the presser foot. The slots, which are numbered from 1 to 5 (Fig. 108) serve as guides for sewing together laces, insertions, embroidery, sewing in position basted or folded edges, piping or sewing flat braid to a garment. The Edge-Stitcher will be found an indispensable aid wherever stitching must be kept accurately on the extreme edge of a given line.

Attaching the Edge-Stitcher to the Machine

Raise the needle bar to the highest point, remove the presser foot and attach the Edge-Stitcher in its place. Turn the balance wheel over slowly by hand to see that the needle goes through the center of the needle hole. For practice in adjusting the Edge-Stitcher, place a folded edge of material in slot 1 and proceed to stitch. Push the adjusting lug A, Fig. 108, as far as it will go to the right and note the result; then pull to the left and note that the stitching is now closer to the edge. If the attachment seems hard to adjust, place a drop of oil at the blue eyelet. As the oil works under, the lug may be moved smoothly, from side to side, as desired.

Sewing Lace Together with the Edge-Stitcher

When adjusting the Edge-Stitcher to sew two lace edges together, it is necessary to place one edge of the lace in slot 1 (Fig. 108) and adjust to sew close to the edge. Place the second piece of lace in slot 4 and as the lace feeds through the attachment, hold the edges slightly overlapped. This will prevent the lace from feeding away from the guides. The tension on the machine must be properly adjusted so that the lace will not be puckered. If the edges of the lace are not caught together, adjust lug A, Fig. 108, slightly in the proper direction.