

THE FOOT HEMMER AND THE ADJUSTABLE HEMMER

THE FOOT HEMMER



FIG. 83. THE FOOT HEMMER

The Foot Hemmer (Fig. 83) is attached to the machine in place of the presser foot. Raise the needle to the highest point, loosen the thumb screw which clamps the presser foot to the presser bar and remove the presser foot. Attach the Foot Hemmer to the bar, taking care to tighten the screw firmly so that the Hemmer will not become loose when the machine is running. Turn the balance wheel slowly to make sure that the needle goes through the center of the needle hole and that the lower thread is properly pulled up.

How to Start the Hem at the Very Edge

How to start the hem at the very edge of the material is of great importance in learning to use the Hemmer. If the hem is not started at the edge and the material is pulled bias a perfect hem cannot be made.

There are several ways of starting the hem at the edge, but the most practical one is as follows:

1. Fold over about $\frac{1}{8}$ " of the edge of the material at the starting point for a distance of about one inch.
2. Place the material in the Hemmer on an angle leading to the right at a point just beyond the fold.
3. Draw the material toward you through the Hemmer,



FIG. 84. STARTING A HEM AT THE EDGE

as shown in Fig. 84, at the same time making the second fold at the very edge. Continue to draw the material through the Hemmer until the edge is just under the needle. Place the upper and lower threads together under the Hemmer foot and assist the starting of the hem by slightly pulling the threads from the back as the machine is run.

This method makes it possible to start the hem very easily and neatly at the edge after a little practice.

Another way to start a hem is by clipping off a corner of the material and slipping the edge carefully into the scroll of the Hemmer. It is not possible, however, to make a perfect starting in this manner.

Making a Hem with the Foot Hemmer



FIG. 85. MAKING A HEM WITH THE FOOT HEMMER

The same width of material must be kept in the Hemmer at all times. After placing the correct width of material in the Hemmer hold it in a straight line and you will find it quite easy to make a perfect hem. See Fig. 85.

If too much cloth is fed into the Hemmer, the hem will not be straight, while if too little is fed in, the edge of the hem will not be turned.

Practice Hemming with the Foot Hemmer until you can make a perfect hem with ease before attempting to hem a garment.



FIG. 86. HEM MADE WITH THE FOOT HEMMER

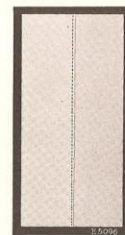


FIG. 87. HEMMED SEAM MADE WITH THE FOOT HEMMER

Hemming Over a Seam with the Foot Hemmer

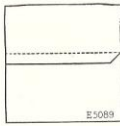


FIG. 88. BIAS CORNER ON SEAM

When a narrow hem is to be made over a French seam, the seam should be pressed as flat as possible and as the seam is reached in hemming, a bias corner should be cut from the seam as shown in Fig. 88. This method makes it possible to hem over a fairly heavy seam without difficulty.

If an open seam is used, it should be basted flat to the garment about one-quarter of an inch from the edge. A bias corner may then be cut from each edge of the seam to prevent the edge from turning in the wrong direction as it feeds into the Hemmer.

Making a Hemmed Seam with the Foot Hemmer

The hemmed seam is very practical to use on underwear, or in fact on any garment where a straight seam is used and where a small double seam would be suitable.

When using this seam, the garment must first be fitted and the edge of the material trimmed, allowing for about one-eighth inch seam. The two edges are placed together and inserted in the Hemmer in the same manner as a single hem. If the material is bulky, the edge of the upper piece of material may be placed about one-eighth inch in from the edge of the lower piece. See Fig. 89.

The free edge of a hemmed seam may be stitched flat to the garment if desired. First open the work out flat, then place the hem in the scroll of the Hemmer, which acts as a guide, holding the edge of the hem in position while it is being stitched.

If the seam is stitched flat to the garment, one row of stitching is visible on the right side.

The hemmed seam may be used on muslin, lawn, percale, organdie or other fine materials where a narrow seam is desirable. It is not practical to seam woolen material in this manner.

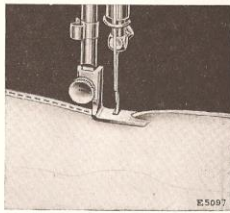


FIG. 89. MAKING A HEMMED SEAM

Making a Felled Seam with the Foot Hemmer

To make a felled seam on the right side of the material with the Foot Hemmer, place the wrong sides together, having the edge of the under piece projecting beyond the upper piece

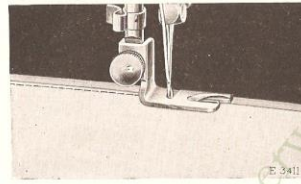


FIG. 90. STARTING A FELLED SEAM

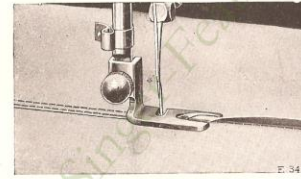


FIG. 91. FINISHING A FELLED SEAM

This seam will require a little practice; but it is very easily done after you have made your seam of uniform width at the first stitching and have practiced the plain hem sufficiently to enable you to make a perfect one. If you are felling over a seam, it is necessary to have the seam pressed flat, and it is often advisable to help the Hemmer over the seam by pulling the work slightly from the back just as the seam is reached and to clip a bias corner from the seam as shown in Fig. 88.

The felled seam is practical to use on men's shirts or on any garments where a strong flat seam is desirable.

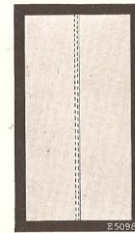


FIG. 92. FELLED SEAM

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. 93. 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.

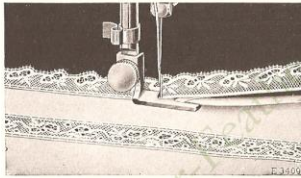


FIG. 93. HEMMING AND SEWING ON LACE

It is not practical to sew gathered lace on with the Foot Hemmer, as the full lace catches in the Hemmer slot.

Practice this operation with the Hemmer, using strips of material in place of lace until you have learned to hold it correctly.



FIG. 94. SAMPLE OF HEMMING AND SEWING ON LACE AT ONE OPERATION

The French Way of Applying Lace

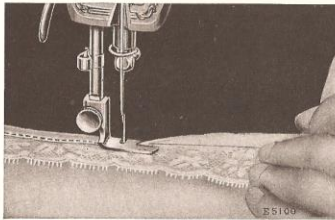


FIG. 95. APPLYING LACE THE FRENCH WAY

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.

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 stitching. 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.



FIG. 96. LACE APPLIED THE FRENCH WAY



FIG. 97. HEMMED CURVE

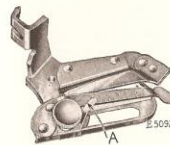


FIG. 98. THE ADJUSTABLE HEMMER