

Brother Computerized Sewing Machines

Note:

Each Machine is a little different. Placement of buttons, etc. may vary slightly with different sewing machine models.

The Brother CS6000i is shown in most photos.

Backstitching:

In order to secure thread at the beginning and end of seams you need to backstitch. This means reversing the direction of your stitches.

To backstitch press and hold down the backstitch button or lever while stitching.



Needle Position

Some machines have a Needle Up/Down button. To move the needle position from up to down press the needle down button.

Only use this button when the needle is NOT moving. Do not sew and push this button at the same time.



Stop/Start Button

This button is almost never used. If you unplug your foot pedal, this button can be used to have the machine start and stop sewing.

Yes, it will sew on its own.

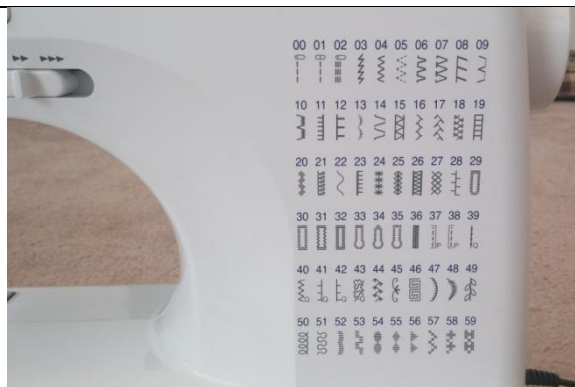
This might be a good option if you are unable to use the foot pedal, but it can actually quite difficult to use. I would recommend not to use it when you first start out. Learning how to use the foot pedal is priceless and will make your sewing more efficient and more accurate in the future.



Choosing Stitches

Refer to the list on the side of your machine to tell you the stitches that are available to use. There may also be additional stitches listed on the top of the machine or on a separate card.

It is always a good idea to refer to your manual for the details regarding each stitch.



Selecting a stitch

To select a stitch enter the stitch number using the two buttons below the view screen.

If your machine has a lot of stitches you may need to press and additional selection button to choose some stitches.

The stitch selected will appear on the screen as well as the letter of the foot needed for the stitch.

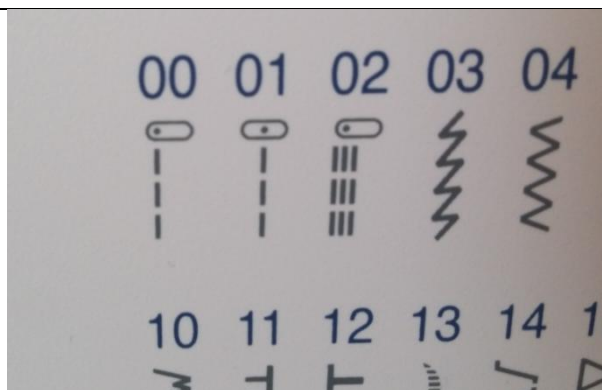


Straight stitch

Stitches 00 and 01 are straight stitches. Stitch 00 is the default setting and is the stitch that will line up with the seam guides on the machine.

YOUR MACHINE WILL RETURN TO THIS STITCH **EVERY TIME** YOU TURN IT OFF AND ON.

ALWAYS CHECK YOUR STITCH SETTING **BEFORE** SEWING!!!

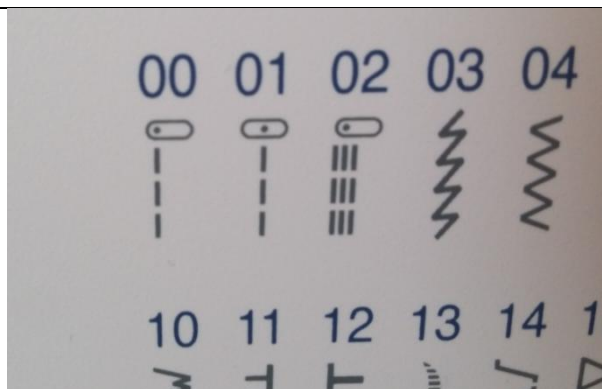


Zig Zag Stitch

The zig zag stitch is used quite commonly in sewing. It is used for appliqué, decorative stitching, finishing seams, and much more.

On brother machines the **zig zag** stitch is **Stitch 04**. You can adjust the size using stitch length the stitch width buttons. (See below.)

Note: Stitch 03 is **NOT** a zig zag stitch. Although they are similar in appearance, stitch 03 is a stretch stitch and can be used when sewing stretchy fabrics.



Stitch Length

You can adjust the stitch length and width on many of the stitches on your machine.

Adjust the stitch length by pressing the button at the top right. + makes the stitch longer and – shorter.

Setting stitch length to **2.5** is a good position for most fabrics. This is the default stitch length.

The stitch length is displayed on the screen.



Stitch Width

Adjust the stitch Width button to change the width of your stitches.

Default setting is a straight stitch with a width of 0.0.

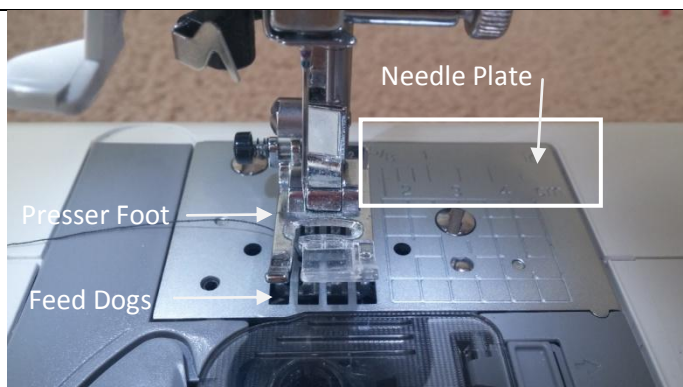


Measurement Guides, Feed Dogs, Presser Foot

Measurement guides and grid are located on your needle plate, the metal plate that rests below your presser foot. In order for your seam allowance measurement guides to line up with your stitches make sure the stitch selected is 00.

The presser foot and feed dogs help secure and move the fabric while stitching.

Your machine comes with a standard zig zag presser foot attached, but there are many more options available for specialty sewing and for specific tasks such as installing zippers.



Tension

Stitches react differently to different fabrics. As a result the tension on the thread often needs to be adjusted.

To do so turn the tension dial.

Whenever you change your tension always lift your presser foot up and rethread your machine when finished.

I would recommend referring to your manual regarding proper tension before sewing, as improper tension is one of the most common problems that occurs when sewing.



Machine Speed

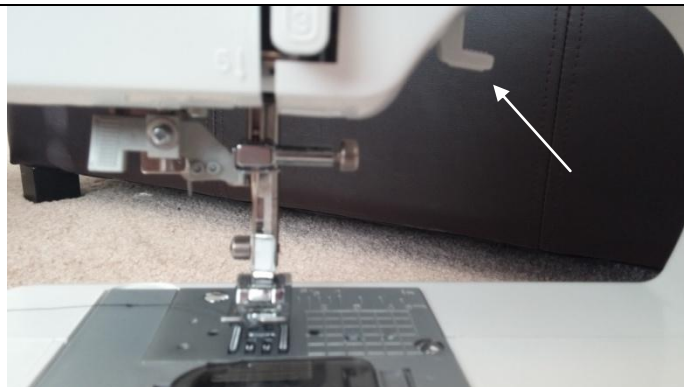
Some machines have speed control. To control the stitching speed of your machine move the slider. Move the slider to the left to ensure the machine moves slowly. Move the slider to the right to allow it to stitch at maximum speed.

You still control much of the speed with the foot pedal, but this feature prevents the machine from going too fast. If you do not have speed control simply use your foot pedal.



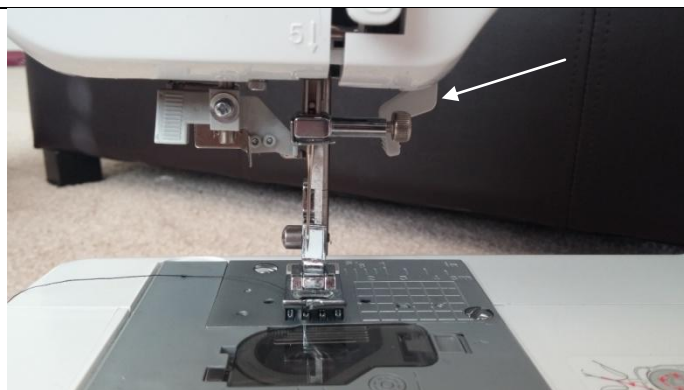
Raising the Presser Foot

Lift up the gray lever in the center of the machine to raise the presser foot.



Lower the Presser Foot

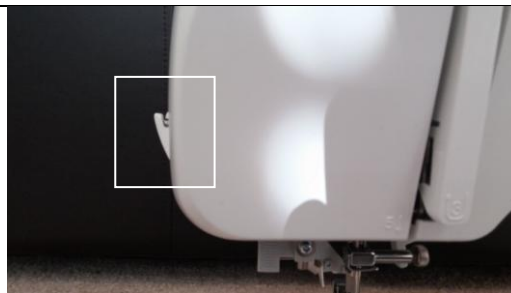
Push down the gray lever in the center of the machine to lower the presser foot.



Thread Cutter

Use the thread cutter on the side of the machine to cut loose threads.

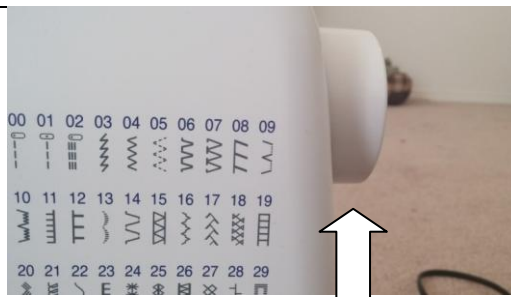
Some thread cutters look a little different, but they are usually placed on the far left side or back of the machine.



Raise and Lower Needle

Raise and lower the needle by turning the hand knob on the side of the machine. You have to use the knob to raise and lower your needle if you do not have a needle up/down button on your machine.

The hand knob is also helpful when you only want to move



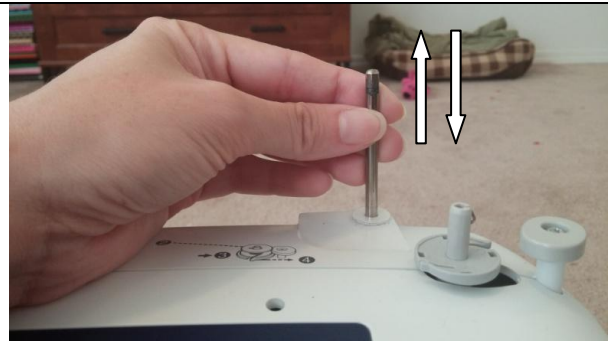
a stitch or two, when you start sewing, or when you stitch through thick fabrics and need to go very slowly.

Vertical Spool Pin:

A spool pin is where you place your thread. Some machines have a vertical spool pin that makes a right angle with the machine.

Raise and Lower Spool Pin

Raise the spool pin when sewing, in order to place thread there, and lower when the machine is not in use or when it is stored.

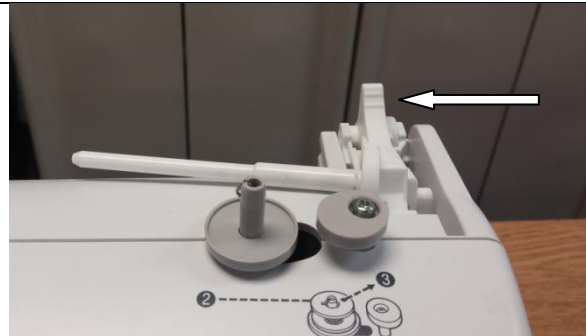


Horizontal Spool Pin Closed

Some machines have a horizontal spool pin. The spool pin shown is closed. This is how your spool pin will look when it is stored.

You will have to open the spool pin to put on the thread.

To open gently press on ridged tab at the top of the spool pin.



Horizontal Spool Pin Open

This is what the spool pin looks like when open and ready to sew.

Always close the spool pin and remove the thread when moving the machine to prevent breaking the spool pin.



These are just a few of the functions and features of your machine. Refer to your manual for a more detailed description of what your machine can do.