

Singer 8280

Singer 8280 Sewing Machine User Manual

MODEL: 8280

1. Introduction

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and efficient operation of your Singer 8280 sewing machine. Please read it thoroughly before using the machine for the first time and keep it for future reference.

The Singer 8280 is a versatile sewing machine designed for various sewing tasks, featuring 7 sewing programs, a 4-step buttonhole function, and adjustable stitch length and zig-zag width.

2. Safety Instructions

- Always unplug the machine from the electrical outlet when removing covers, lubricating, or when making any other user servicing adjustments mentioned in the instruction manual.
- Keep fingers away from all moving parts. Special care is required around the sewing machine needle.
- Use the correct needle plate. The wrong plate can cause the needle to break.
- Do not pull or push fabric while stitching. This may deflect the needle, causing it to break.
- Turn the sewing machine off when making any adjustments in the needle area, such as threading the needle, changing the needle, threading the bobbin, or changing the presser foot.

3. Setup

3.1 Unpacking and Initial Inspection

Carefully remove the sewing machine from its packaging. Check for all included accessories. Ensure no parts are damaged during transit.



Image: The Singer 8280 sewing machine, showing its compact design and main components.



Image: Various accessories included with the Singer 8280 sewing machine, such as bobbins, needles, presser feet, and a seam ripper.

3.2 Power Connection

Connect the power cord to the machine and then to a suitable electrical outlet. Ensure the foot controller is also connected.

3.3 Threading the Machine

Upper Threading:

1. Place a spool of thread on the spool pin.

2. Guide the thread through the upper thread guide.
3. Follow the numbered threading path down to the tension discs and up to the take-up lever.
4. Thread the take-up lever from right to left.
5. Guide the thread down through the lower thread guide and then through the needle eye from front to back.

Bobbin Winding:

1. Place an empty bobbin onto the bobbin winder spindle.
2. Guide the thread from the spool through the bobbin winding tension disc.
3. Wrap the thread around the bobbin a few times, then push the bobbin winder spindle to the right.
4. Press the foot controller to start winding. Stop when the bobbin is full and push the spindle back to the left.

Lower Threading (Inserting the Bobbin):

1. Open the bobbin cover.
2. Insert the wound bobbin into the bobbin case, ensuring the thread unwinds in the correct direction (usually counter-clockwise).
3. Guide the bobbin thread through the tension spring of the bobbin case.
4. Close the bobbin cover.
5. Hold the upper thread, turn the handwheel towards you to lower and raise the needle, catching the bobbin thread. Pull both threads under the presser foot.

3.4 Needle Installation

Ensure the machine is turned off. Loosen the needle clamp screw, insert the new needle with the flat side facing the back, and push it up as far as it will go. Tighten the screw securely.

3.5 Presser Foot Attachment

Raise the presser foot lifter. To attach a presser foot, align the pin on the foot with the groove on the presser foot holder and lower the lifter until it snaps into place. To remove, press the release lever at the back of the presser foot holder.

4. Operating the Machine

4.1 Stitch Selection

The Singer 8280 offers 7 sewing programs. Use the pattern selector dial on the front of the machine to choose your desired stitch pattern. Refer to the stitch chart on the machine for available options.

4.2 Stitch Length Adjustment

Adjust the stitch length using the stitch length dial. A higher number indicates a longer stitch, suitable for basting or thicker fabrics. A lower number creates a shorter, stronger stitch, ideal for fine fabrics or reinforcement.

4.3 Zig-Zag Width Adjustment

For zig-zag stitches, the width can be adjusted to suit your project. Use the zig-zag width dial to select the desired width. A wider zig-zag is often used for decorative stitches or finishing raw edges.

4.4 4-Step Buttonhole Function

To create a buttonhole, attach the buttonhole presser foot. Select the buttonhole stitch on the pattern

selector. Follow the four steps indicated on the machine or in the detailed manual to sew each side and the bar tacks of the buttonhole.

4.5 Free Arm Usage

Remove the accessory storage box to reveal the free arm. This feature is useful for sewing tubular items such as cuffs, sleeves, and pant hems.

4.6 Basic Sewing Techniques

- **Starting to Sew:** Place fabric under the presser foot, lower the presser foot, and gently press the foot controller.
- **Reverse Stitching:** Press and hold the reverse lever/button to sew backward, useful for securing stitches at the beginning and end of a seam.
- **Turning Corners:** Stop sewing with the needle in the fabric, raise the presser foot, pivot the fabric, lower the presser foot, and continue sewing.
- **Finishing a Seam:** Sew a few reverse stitches, raise the needle and presser foot, pull the fabric away, and cut the threads.

5. Maintenance

5.1 Cleaning the Machine

Regular cleaning is crucial for optimal performance. Always unplug the machine before cleaning.

- **Feed Dogs:** Use a small brush to remove lint and dust from the feed dogs.
- **Bobbin Area:** Remove the bobbin case and needle plate. Clean out any lint or thread scraps from the bobbin area and hook race.
- **Exterior:** Wipe the exterior surfaces with a soft, dry cloth.

5.2 Oiling

Your Singer 8280 may require occasional oiling in specific points. Refer to the detailed manual for exact oiling locations and frequency. Use only high-quality sewing machine oil.

5.3 Needle Replacement

Replace the needle regularly, especially after sewing thick fabrics or if it becomes bent or dull. A damaged needle can cause skipped stitches or fabric damage. Always use needles appropriate for your fabric type.

6. Troubleshooting

If you encounter issues with your sewing machine, consult the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Skipped Stitches	Incorrect needle, bent needle, improper threading.	Change needle, re-thread machine, ensure correct needle type for fabric.
Thread Breakage	Incorrect threading, tension too tight, damaged needle, poor quality thread.	Re-thread, adjust tension, replace needle, use good quality thread.
Fabric Puckering	Stitch length too long for fabric, tension too tight.	Shorten stitch length, loosen upper thread tension.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Machine Not Starting	Power cord not connected, foot controller not connected, main switch off.	Check all connections, ensure power switch is on.

If problems persist after attempting these solutions, please contact Singer customer support or a qualified service technician.

7. Specifications

- **Brand:** Singer
- **Model:** 8280
- **Color:** White
- **Material:** Stainless steel, Plastic
- **Product Dimensions (D x W x H):** 6.7 cm x 14.2 cm x 12.6 cm
- **Item Weight:** 7.19 Kilograms
- **Power Source:** Corded Electric
- **Sewing Functions:** Sewing
- **Buttonhole Type:** 4 Step
- **Free Arm:** Yes
- **Number of Programs:** 7
- **Stitch Length:** Variable
- **Number of Stitches:** 7
- **Control Type:** Knob
- **Display Screen:** No
- **Key Features:** 14 sewing operations, four-step buttonholer, adjustable stitch length, adjustable zig-zag width.

8. Warranty and Support

For warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your purchase or visit the official Singer website. For technical support or service inquiries, contact Singer customer service through their official channels.