

JUKI DU-1181

Juki DU-1181 Single Needle Walking Foot Industrial Sewing Machine User Manual

Model: DU-1181 | Brand: JUKI

1. INTRODUCTION

The Juki DU-1181 is a robust single-needle, top and bottom-feed, lockstitch industrial sewing machine designed for handling medium to heavy-weight materials. Its walking foot mechanism ensures consistent and even feeding of multiple layers, making it ideal for projects involving leather, vinyl, canvas, and other challenging fabrics. Equipped with a K.D. stand and a responsive servo motor, this machine offers precise speed control and quiet operation, enhancing productivity and stitch quality for professional and demanding sewing applications.

JUKI Industrial Sewing Machine

DU-1181N

1-needle, Top and Bottom-feed,
Lockstitch Machine with
Double-capacity Hook



Figure 1.1: Juki DU-1181N Industrial Sewing Machine head, highlighting its single-needle, top and bottom-feed, lockstitch capabilities with a double-capacity hook.

2. SETUP AND ASSEMBLY

Your Juki DU-1181 machine typically arrives in multiple packages, requiring assembly of the machine head, K.D. stand, and servo motor. While detailed step-by-step instructions are usually provided with the physical product, here are general guidelines for assembly:

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully unpack all components, including the machine head, table top, K.D. stand parts, servo motor, and accessories. Verify all parts against the packing list.
2. **Stand Assembly:** Assemble the K.D. (Knock-Down) stand according to the included diagrams. Ensure all bolts are securely tightened for stability.
3. **Motor Installation:** Mount the servo motor beneath the table, ensuring it is correctly aligned with the machine's drive mechanism. Connect the foot pedal linkage to the motor and the machine.
4. **Machine Head Placement:** Carefully place the machine head into the cutout on the table top. Secure it using the provided mounting hardware.
5. **Thread Stand and Accessories:** Assemble and attach the thread stand, bobbin winder, and any other accessories.
6. **Initial Oiling:** Before first use, fill the oil pan with the recommended sewing machine oil to the indicated level.



Figure 2.1: Complete Juki DU-1181N setup, including the machine head, K.D. stand, and servo motor, ready for operation.



Figure 2.2: The iKonix 550W Servo Motor, providing precise speed control and quiet operation for the Juki DU-1181N.



Figure 2.3: Underside view of the sewing machine table, showing the installed foot pedal and servo motor mechanism.



Figure 2.4: Top view of the industrial sewing machine table, featuring the integrated ruler for precise measurements during sewing.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Threading the Machine

Proper threading is crucial for optimal stitch quality. Follow the numbered guides on the machine, ensuring the thread passes through all tension discs, take-up lever, and needle eye correctly. Refer to the machine's threading diagram for precise routing.

3.2. Bobbin Winding and Insertion

Place an empty bobbin on the bobbin winder spindle. Route the thread from the spool through the tension guide and around the bobbin. Engage the winder and press the foot pedal to wind the bobbin. Once full, insert the bobbin into the bobbin case and then into the machine's shuttle hook area.

3.3. Adjusting Stitch Length and Tension

The stitch length can be adjusted using the dial on the machine head. For heavier materials, a longer stitch length is often preferred. Thread tension is controlled by the tension discs. Adjust as needed to achieve balanced stitches on both the top and bottom of your fabric. Test on scrap material before sewing your project.

3.4. Utilizing the Walking Foot

The walking foot mechanism moves in conjunction with the feed dogs, gripping the top and bottom layers of fabric simultaneously. This prevents material slippage and ensures even feeding, especially when working with thick, slippery, or multiple layers of material. Guide the fabric gently without forcing it.

3.5. Speed Control with Servo Motor

The servo motor allows for precise and variable speed control via the foot pedal. Press lightly for slow, controlled stitching, and apply more pressure for increased speed. This feature is particularly beneficial for intricate work or when transitioning between different material thicknesses, providing smooth starts and stops.

4. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Juki DU-1181.

- **Cleaning:** Regularly clean lint and thread debris from the bobbin area, feed dogs, and under the needle plate. Use a brush or vacuum.
- **Oiling:** Follow the machine's oiling schedule and points. Use only high-quality sewing machine oil.
- **Needle Replacement:** Replace needles frequently, especially when working with heavy materials, to prevent skipped stitches and thread breakage. Use the correct needle type and size for your material and thread.
- **Belt Inspection:** Periodically check the motor belt for wear and proper tension.

5. TROUBLESHOOTING

- **Skipped Stitches:** Check if the needle is inserted correctly, not bent, and is the appropriate type/size for the fabric. Re-thread the machine completely, ensuring proper tension.
- **Thread Breakage:** Inspect the thread path for any snags or sharp edges. Ensure correct tension, proper needle size, and that the thread is not old or brittle.
- **Uneven Stitching:** Verify that the walking foot is properly engaged and that the material is feeding smoothly. Adjust thread tension as needed.

- **Machine Not Starting/Running:** Check power connections, ensure the motor is plugged in, and verify the foot pedal is connected.

6. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Number	DU-1181
Brand	JUKI
Type	Single Needle Walking Foot Industrial Sewing Machine
Feed Mechanism	Top and Bottom Feed
Hook Type	Double-capacity Hook
Motor Type	Servo Motor (included with K.D. Stand)
Color	White, Grey
Item Weight	15 pounds (machine head only)
Package Dimensions	15 x 13 x 11 inches (machine head package)
Is Electric	Yes

7. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, technical support, or to purchase replacement parts, please refer to the documentation provided with your machine or contact the seller directly. Keep your purchase receipt and model number handy for faster service.

While this manual provides essential information, additional resources such as official seller videos or community forums may offer further assistance for specific operations or advanced techniques. Always prioritize safety and consult a qualified technician for complex repairs.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page's manual context to help answer it.

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Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

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