

JUKI HZL-F400

Juki HZL-F400 Exceed Series Computer Sewing and Quilting Machine User Manual

Model: HZL-F400 | Brand: JUKI

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, and care of your Juki HZL-F400 Exceed Series Computer Sewing and Quilting Machine. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the machine to ensure proper function and to maximize your sewing experience.

The Juki HZL-F400 is a computerized sewing and quilting machine designed for advanced sewers and quilters, offering a wide range of stitch patterns and features for various projects.

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

To reduce the risk of electric shock, burns, fire, or injury to persons:

- Always unplug the machine from the electrical outlet immediately after using and before cleaning, removing covers, or making any user servicing adjustments.
- Do not allow the machine to be used as a toy. Close attention is necessary when the machine is used by or near children.
- Use this machine only for its intended use as described in this manual. Use only accessories recommended by the manufacturer.
- Never operate this machine if it has a damaged cord or plug, if it is not working properly, if it has been dropped or damaged, or dropped into water.
- Never drop or insert any object into any opening.
- Do not operate where aerosol (spray) products are being used or where oxygen is being administered.
- To disconnect, turn all controls to the off position, then remove the plug from the outlet.
- Keep fingers away from all moving parts. Special care is required around the sewing machine needle.
- Always use the proper needle plate. The wrong plate can cause the needle to break.
- Do not use bent needles.
- Do not pull or push fabric while stitching. This may deflect the needle causing it to break.

- Wear safety glasses when operating the machine.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Juki HZL-F400 is equipped with features designed to enhance your sewing and quilting projects.

Key Features:

- Computerized operation with 157 stitch patterns and 3 fonts.
- Free arm for circular sewing and hard cover for protection.
- Drop feed capability for free-motion quilting.
- Advanced needle threader for easy threading.
- Jam-resistant drop-in top bobbin system.
- LCD screen for easy stitch selection and viewing.
- One-step buttonhole function.
- Knee lift for hands-free presser foot control.
- 8-inch throat space for larger projects and quilts.

Machine Components:



Figure 3.1: Overview of the Juki HZL-F400 sewing machine, showcasing its compact design and main operational areas.

- **LCD Screen:** Displays selected stitch, stitch length, and width.
- **Control Panel:** Buttons for stitch selection, adjustment, and machine functions.
- **Needle Area:** Includes needle, presser foot, and needle plate.
- **Bobbin Area:** Top-loading bobbin case for easy access.
- **Thread Guides:** System for guiding the upper thread.
- **Handwheel:** Manually raises and lowers the needle.
- **Foot Pedal:** Controls sewing speed.
- **Knee Lift Lever:** Allows hands-free lifting of the presser foot.



Figure 3.2: Close-up of the Juki HZL-F400 control panel and LCD screen, showing stitch selection buttons and display.



Figure 3.3: Top view of the Juki HZL-F400 with the lid open, revealing the stitch pattern chart, bobbin winding mechanism, and thread path.

4. SETUP

4.1 Initial Setup

1. Unpack the machine and all accessories.
2. Place the machine on a stable, flat surface.
3. Connect the power cord and foot pedal to the machine and then to a suitable electrical outlet.
4. Turn on the power switch, usually located on the side or back of the machine.

4.2 Winding the Bobbin

1. Place a spool of thread on the spool pin.
2. Guide the thread through the bobbin winding thread guide.
3. Place an empty bobbin onto the bobbin winder spindle.
4. Wrap the thread clockwise around the bobbin a few times.
5. Push the bobbin winder spindle to the right.
6. Press the foot pedal or start/stop button to begin winding. The machine will stop automatically when the bobbin is full.
7. Cut the thread and push the spindle back to the left.

4.3 Inserting the Bobbin



Figure 4.1: View of the Juki HZL-F400's transparent bobbin cover and drop-in bobbin system, showing the bobbin in place.

1. Ensure the needle is in its highest position.
2. Open the transparent bobbin cover plate.
3. Insert the wound bobbin into the bobbin case with the thread unwinding counter-clockwise.
4. Guide the thread through the tension spring and into the thread guide slot.
5. Pull out about 6 inches of thread and replace the bobbin cover.

4.4 Threading the Upper Thread



Figure 4.2: The Juki HZL-F400 with the upper thread correctly routed through the machine's guides and tension discs.

1. Raise the presser foot lever.
2. Place the thread spool on the spool pin and secure it with the spool cap.
3. Follow the numbered thread path guides on the machine, ensuring the thread passes through all tension discs and the take-up lever.
4. Lower the presser foot.
5. Use the advanced needle threader: Lower the needle threader lever, hook the thread, and release the lever to pull the thread through the needle eye.
6. Pull about 6 inches of thread through the needle eye and place it under the presser foot.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 4.1: This video demonstrates the bobbin winding, bobbin insertion, and upper threading process for a Juki HZL-F series machine, including the use of the advanced needle threader. While shown on an HZL-F300, the steps are largely identical for the HZL-F400.

5. OPERATING THE MACHINE

5.1 Stitch Selection

The Juki HZL-F400 offers 157 stitch patterns and 3 fonts. Refer to the stitch chart located under the top cover of the machine (Figure 3.3) for a complete list of available stitches.

1. Turn on the machine. The LCD screen will display the default stitch.
2. Use the numerical keypad or the arrow buttons on the control panel (Figure 3.2) to select your desired stitch pattern.
3. The LCD screen will show the selected stitch number, recommended presser foot, and default stitch length and width.
4. Adjust stitch length and width using the '+' and '-' buttons next to the corresponding display values on the LCD.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 5.1: This video demonstrates how to select and adjust stitches using the LCD screen and control panel on a Juki HZL-F series machine. The process is applicable to the HZL-F400.

5.2 Basic Sewing

1. Place your fabric under the presser foot.
2. Lower the presser foot using the presser foot lever or the knee lift.
3. Gently press the foot pedal to start sewing. The harder you press, the faster the machine will sew. Alternatively, use the Start/Stop button for consistent speed.
4. Use the speed control slider to set the maximum sewing speed.
5. To reverse stitch or reinforce, press the reverse button.
6. When finished, stop the machine, raise the needle to its highest position, and lift the presser foot.
7. Pull the fabric away from the machine and use the built-in thread cutter or scissors to cut the threads.

5.3 Quilting with Drop Feed



Figure 5.1: The Juki HZL-F400 demonstrating quilting with a walking foot on a purple fabric, showing even stitch lines.

The drop feed feature allows for free-motion quilting. To engage the drop feed:

1. Locate the drop feed lever, typically on the back or side of the free arm.
2. Move the lever to the "down" position to lower the feed dogs.
3. Attach a darning or free-motion quilting foot (if not already installed).
4. When finished, raise the feed dogs by moving the lever back to the "up" position.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your sewing machine.

6.1 Cleaning

- Always unplug the machine before cleaning.

- Remove the needle, presser foot, needle plate, and bobbin case.
- Use the small brush provided (Figure 6.1) to remove lint and dust from the feed dogs and bobbin area.
- Wipe the exterior of the machine with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use liquid cleaners.



Figure 6.1: Included accessories for the Juki HZL-F400, featuring various presser feet, bobbins, needles, and a cleaning brush.

6.2 Needle Replacement

- Turn off and unplug the machine.
- Raise the needle to its highest position.
- Loosen the needle clamp screw with a screwdriver.
- Remove the old needle by pulling it downwards.
- Insert a new needle with the flat side facing the back of the machine, pushing it up as far as it will go.
- Tighten the needle clamp screw securely.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter. For more complex problems, contact JUKI customer support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Thread Breaking	Incorrect threading, wrong needle size, poor quality thread, incorrect tension.	Re-thread the machine, ensure correct needle for fabric, use quality thread, adjust tension.
Skipped Stitches	Bent or dull needle, incorrect needle insertion, wrong needle type for fabric.	Replace needle, ensure needle is fully inserted with flat side to the back, use appropriate needle.
Uneven Stitches / Poor Tension	Incorrect upper or bobbin thread tension, lint in tension discs, improper bobbin winding.	Adjust tension dials, clean tension discs, re-wind bobbin evenly.
Machine Not Starting	Power cord not connected, foot pedal not connected, power switch off.	Check all connections, ensure power switch is on.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** HZL-F400
- **Product Dimensions:** 17.49 x 8.19 x 11.49 inches
- **Item Weight:** 21.6 pounds
- **Manufacturer:** JUKI
- **Power Source:** Corded Electric
- **Material:** Plastic
- **Color:** White
- **Stitch Patterns:** 157
- **Fonts:** 3
- **Throat Space:** 8 inches

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official JUKI website. For technical support, parts, or service, please contact JUKI customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for warranty claims.

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.

Name

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After a successful submission, we securely hash the supplied account or form email before sending it to Microsoft Advertising for conversion attribution. [Privacy details](#).

Question

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.

Submit question