**Janome 385**

# Janome Sewing Machine Model 385 User Manual

Your guide to operating and maintaining your Janome 385 Electronic Sewing Machine.

## 1. Introduction

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and efficient operation of your Janome Sewing Machine Model 385. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the machine to ensure proper setup, usage, and maintenance. The Janome 385 is an electronic sewing machine designed for various sewing tasks, featuring a range of stitch programs and user-friendly adjustments.

## 2. Machine Components Overview

Familiarize yourself with the main parts of your Janome 385 sewing machine. Refer to the image below for visual identification of key components.




**Figure 2.1: Janome Sewing Machine Model 385.** This image displays the front view of the Janome 385 electronic sewing machine, highlighting the stitch selector dial, stitch width dial, stitch length dial, and the reverse sewing lever. The needle area, presser foot, and the

extension table are also visible.

- **Stitch Selector Dial:** Used to choose from the 23 available stitch programs.
- **Stitch Width Dial:** Adjusts the width of applicable stitches (maximum 5 mm).
- **Stitch Length Dial:** Adjusts the length of stitches (maximum 4 mm).
- **Reverse Sewing Lever:** Engages reverse stitching for securing seams.
- **Presser Foot:** Holds fabric securely in place during sewing.
- **Needle Plate:** Provides a flat surface for fabric and includes seam guides.
- **Spool Pins:** Hold thread spools.
- **Handwheel:** Manually raises and lowers the needle.
- **Power Switch:** Turns the machine on and off.

## 3. Initial Setup

1. **Unpacking:** Carefully remove the machine from its packaging. Retain all packing materials for future transport or storage.
2. **Placement:** Place the machine on a stable, flat surface. Ensure adequate lighting and space for comfortable operation.
3. **Power Connection:** Connect the power cord to the machine and then to a suitable electrical outlet. The Janome 385 operates on corded electric power.
4. **Foot Controller:** Connect the foot controller to the machine.
5. **Threading the Machine:**
    - **Winding the Bobbin:** Follow the machine's specific instructions for winding the bobbin evenly with your chosen thread.
    - **Inserting the Bobbin:** Place the wound bobbin into the bobbin case according to the machine's diagram.
    - **Upper Threading:** Guide the upper thread from the spool pin through the thread guides, tension discs, and take-up lever, then down to the needle. The machine features an integrated needle threader for convenience.
6. **Needle Installation:** Ensure the needle is correctly inserted with the flat side facing the back, and tightened securely.

## 4. Operating Instructions

### 4.1. Stitch Selection and Adjustment

- **Choosing a Stitch:** Turn the Stitch Selector Dial to choose one of the 23 available stitch programs, including straight, covered, elastic, overlock, and decorative stitches.
- **Adjusting Stitch Length:** Use the Stitch Length Dial to set the desired stitch length, up to a maximum of 4 mm.
- **Adjusting Stitch Width:** Use the Stitch Width Dial to set the desired stitch width, up to a maximum of 5 mm, for applicable stitches.
- **4-Step Buttonhole:** The machine includes a 4-step buttonhole function. Refer to the specific instructions in your full manual for detailed steps on creating buttonholes.

### 4.2. Basic Sewing Operations

- **Starting to Sew:** Place fabric under the presser foot, lower the presser foot, and gently press the foot controller to begin sewing.
- **Reverse Sewing:** Press and hold the Reverse Sewing Lever to stitch backward, typically used at the beginning and end of seams to secure stitches.
- **Presser Foot Pressure Adjustment:** The machine allows for adjustment of presser foot pressure, which can be useful for different fabric types. Consult your full manual for details on this adjustment.
- **Drop Feed:** The drop feed mechanism allows for free-motion sewing or darning. Engage this function as needed.

- **External Thread Cutter:** Utilize the external thread cutter for convenient trimming of threads after sewing.
- **Double Needle Sewing:** The Janome 385 supports sewing with a double needle for decorative stitching. Ensure proper double needle installation and threading as per your full manual.
- **Snap-on Feet System:** The machine uses a snap-on feet SYSTEM MATIC, allowing for easy changing of presser feet for various sewing tasks.

## 5. Maintenance

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

- **Cleaning:** Regularly clean lint and dust from the bobbin area, feed dogs, and tension discs using a small brush. Disconnect the machine from power before cleaning.
- **Oiling:** Refer to your full instruction manual for specific oiling points and frequency. Use only sewing machine oil.
- **Needle Replacement:** Replace needles frequently, especially when sewing different fabrics or if the needle becomes dull or bent.
- **Storage:** When not in use, cover the machine to protect it from dust.

## 6. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues you might encounter. For more detailed troubleshooting, consult your comprehensive Janome 385 manual or contact customer support.

| Problem | Possible Cause | Solution |
|---|---|---|
| Skipped Stitches | Incorrect needle, bent needle, improper threading. | Replace needle, re-thread machine correctly, ensure needle is fully inserted. |
| Thread Breaking | Incorrect tension, poor quality thread, needle incorrectly inserted, burr on needle plate. | Adjust tension, use quality thread, check needle, inspect machine for rough spots. |
| Uneven Stitches | Incorrect tension, improper presser foot pressure, fabric not feeding smoothly. | Adjust tension, adjust presser foot pressure, ensure fabric is guided evenly. |
| Machine Not Starting | Power cord not connected, power switch off, foot controller not connected. | Check power connections, ensure switch is on, verify foot controller connection. |

## 7. Specifications

| Feature | Detail |
|---|---|
| Model Number | 385 |
| Type | Electronic Sewing Machine |
| Stitch Programs | 23 (including straight, covered, elastic, overlock, decorative) |
| Buttonhole Type | 4-step |
| Max Stitch Length | 4 mm |
| Max Stitch Width | 5 mm |
| Presser Foot Adjustment | Yes |
| Reverse Sewing | Yes |

| Feature | Detail |
|---|---|
| Drop Feed | Yes |
| Thread Cutter | External |
| Double Needle Capability | Yes |
| Presser Feet System | Snap-on (SYSTEM MATIC) |
| Hook Type | Shuttle Hook |
| Power Source | Corded Electric |
| Material | Metal |
| Item Weight | 11.61 Kilograms |
| Package Dimensions | 58 x 40.5 x 27.5 cm |
| Country of Origin | Thailand |

## 8. Warranty and Support

For information regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or contact your authorized Janome dealer or the manufacturer directly. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.
For technical support, service, or to purchase genuine Janome accessories, please contact Janome customer service or visit their official website. Contact details are typically provided in the product packaging or on the manufacturer's website.

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