

My Machine Is Skipping Or Dropping Stitches

Depending on your exact model, there are several general causes for a machine to skip, or drop stitches. Most of this information is geared towards the Singer machine, but may apply to other makes and models as well.

Ok...you have a machine that is skipping, or dropping stitches.

In general, this is my experience with a machine skipping, or dropping stitches, and the machine is in generally good working order. That means no broken gears, and no worn timing belts.

Now, for newer models bought off the shelf:

1. The hook to needle gap may be out of factory spec, and should be taken back into a authorized repair shop immediately
2. The top tension check spring travel may if improperly set, as mentioned in the looping underneath the fabric tip, take it back to a authorized repair center to inspect
3. Bent or improper needle – change the needle
4. Bad spool of thread – always try another brand and spool of thread to see if any conditions improve

Now my focus will narrow to just the 600/700 Touch & Sew, Futura 900, 920, 925 & Creative Touch, and Athena & Touch Tronic Singer models

1. For older 600 T&S machines that are skipping, or dropping stitches, inspect as above, but unfortunately you are way out of warranty now, but still get a hold of a repair manual if you wish to DIY, or take to a good known Singer repair person
2. As above for the 700 T&S series & all models listed in this section
3. If a 700 T&S series, and you already went to a repair shop, perhaps they missed something like a really worn timing belt. This is determined by residue built up in the upper and lower belt cog areas
4. Could have a broken, or cracked gear that slipping and overlooked in inspection
5. Any model in the above sectioned models are prone to:
 - a. Gear Failure
 - b. Timing Belt Failure (if equipped)
 - c. Tension problems
 - d. Improper Thread, or low quality thread
 - e. Poor or damaged bobbin
 - f. Hook to Needle gap off...doubtful after all these years, but still a consideration

My major experience in this area is finding that either:

1. The machine has a broken, or cracked gear
2. The machine may have a worn timing belt
3. The needle is bent
4. The thread is low quality
5. The hook to needle gap is out of factory spec
6. The top tension check spring is damaged, or not properly set

This tip guide is the property of TNT Repair, and may not be published, distributed to, nor posted on any other site, or sold without the expressed written permission of the author. If pictures were captured from the web in general, they are assumed free domain for public use.

Terry S Fielding

www.tandtrepair.com

terryf@tandtrepair.com

© April 16, 2012