



Sewing Machine Presser Feet

a **Quick Guide** to Help You Get the Most Out of Sewing



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Let's Talk About Feet.

Sewing Machine Feet, to be precise.

Even wondered about those unfamiliar looking things that come with your sewing machines?

This Guide is for you. **Enjoy!**



This is a Quick Guided Tour...

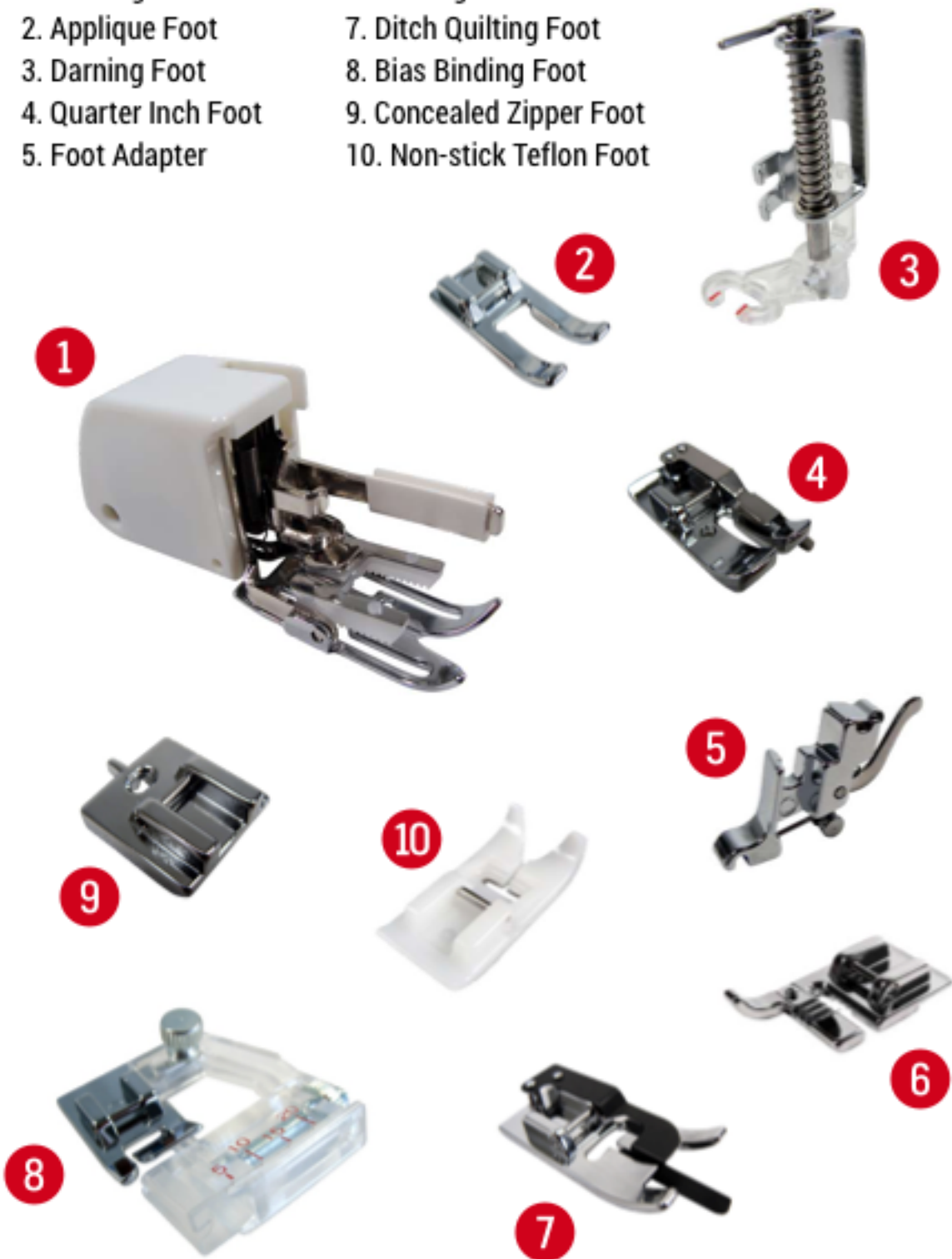
That helps you identify various presser feet - what they are, what they do, and how they can help you.

Once you understand how these unfamiliar-looking things can help you achieve specific tasks - without (too much) unpicking - you'll enjoy sewing like never before!

Ready to go? Let's start by putting names to faces (or feet)...

- 1. Walking Foot
- 2. Applique Foot
- 3. Darning Foot
- 4. Quarter Inch Foot
- 5. Foot Adapter

- 6. Cording Foot
- 7. Ditch Quilting Foot
- 8. Bias Binding Foot
- 9. Concealed Zipper Foot
- 10. Non-stick Teflon Foot



- 1. Slim Zipper Foot
- 2. Buttonhole Foot
- 3. Button Foot
- 4. Rolled Hem Foot
- 5. Clearview Foot

- 6. Blind Hem Foot
- 7. Gathering Foot
- 8. Roller Foot
- 9. Ruffler Pleating Foot
- 10. Pintuck Foot



1



8



2



9



7



3



10



6



5



4



Walking Foot / Quilting Foot

Our most popular specialty foot, a walking foot is also referred to as an [“Even Feed” foot](#).

Design specifically for sewing multiple layers of fabric, by feeding them through without puckering... that's what you want when you do Machine Quilting and putting bindings on your quilt.

It is also very useful for matching patterns like large motifs, checks, stripes and plaids. If you 're sewing anything on the bias, or

use 'fluid' kinds of fabric like silks and satins, you will get a smoother result by sewing with a walking foot.

Available in Standard or Open-toe, they come with or without a Quilting Guide, and there are different versions to suit low and high shank machines.

A walking foot needs to be screwed on to your machine. Here's an [installation guide](#) that shows you how to do that (same method applies to other screw-on feet).



Open Toe Appliqué Foot

Also known as “**Clearview Foot**” or “**Custom Craft Foot**”, the open front of this foot ensures greater visibility while sewing, it has a stitching area wide enough for maximum stitch width without compromising control. This foot comes with or without the shank, choose from clear resin or metal.

Perfect for appliqué, the bottom of the foot has a rectangular shaped indentation, which allows even satin / blanket stitching to glide under the foot without dragging.

The toes of the foot are shorter, compared to a regular zigzag foot. This makes it easier for machine embroidery / appliqué.



Darning / Free-Motion Quilting Foot

Darning Foot was originally designed for mending garments (denim, for example) - though these days it is most commonly used for free-motion quilting or embroidery.

Also known as a **"Stippling Foot"** or **"Free-Motion Embroidery Foot"**, it is design specifically to NOT rely on the feed dog, but letting you "drive" the stitches freely in all directions.

Since there is no contact between your quilt and the machine between stitches, it gives you maximum freedom to quilt or embroider any kind of curve line as you wish.

To do this, the feed dog is often dropped or covered, though it is not absolutely essential because some quilters do prefer to still have the feed dog involved while they stitch.

Darning Foot designs vary a lot, as you can see. Some open-toe, some have grids, some are spring-loaded, and you can always find one to fit your machine wither you have a low shank or high shank.

If you are a quilter, then you will need to use this foot for free-hand machine quilting or "stippling". Check out the **"Open Toe"** version of the Darning Foot, for better visibility.



1/4 Inch Foot

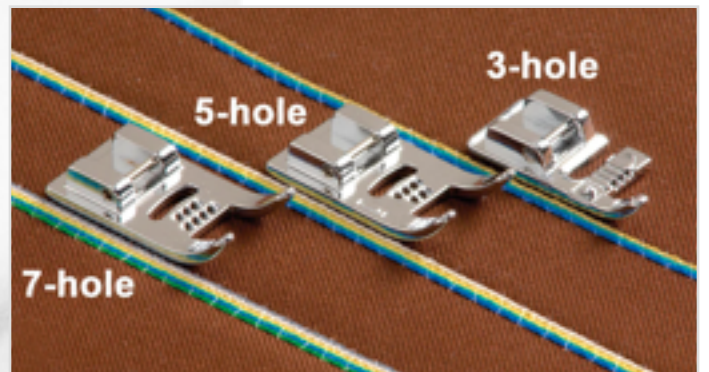
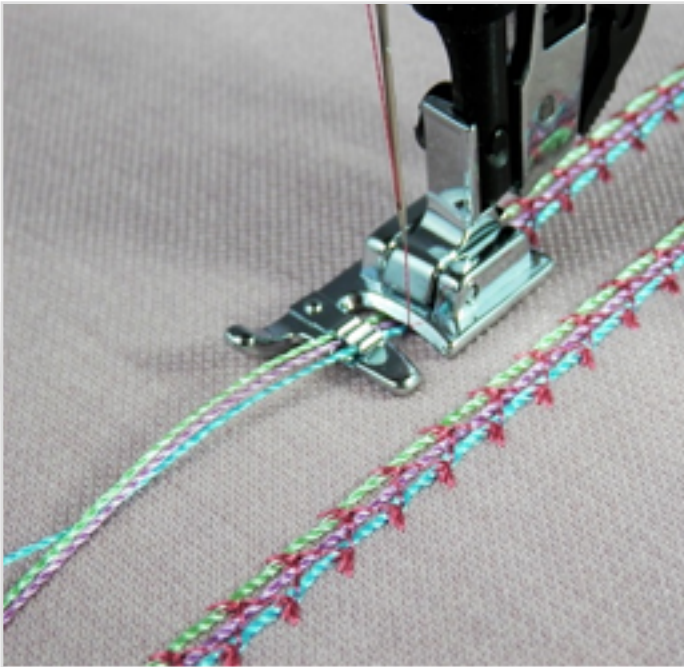
Also known as a “**Patchwork Piecing Foot**”, this foot is designed to give you a 1/4” inch seam - essential for patchwork piecing.

Quarter inch foot most commonly has a built-in guide that keeps your fabric in-line, or a flat design that acts as a ruler that helps you keep a consistent, accurate seam allowance that is exactly 1/4 inch (or 6.3mm)... no matter how fast you sew!

Equally useful in dressmaking, a 1/4" (or 6.3mm) seam allowance is perfect for curved edges like armholes and collars.

I find it most helpful for French Seams, because you will be seeing the seams twice - it's easy to achieve neat and accurate results every time with this foot.

Keep in mind that the maximum stitch width of your machine determines whether the 1/4” foot fits - because the needle alignments might be different. While **most machines are 7mm**, the budget / basic machines tend to be 5mm. Check yours....



Cording Foot

This foot is used for embellishment, quickly and easily.

Simply insert cord or decorative thread / yarn into the slots, and stitch over with basic zigzag or experiment with decorative stitches from your sewing machine.

Try different threads, cords and fabric combination to create one-of-a-kind results. The combination is endless so **have some fun** with it - you might be pleasantly surprised!



Ditch Quilting Foot

AKA “**Quilting-in-the-Ditch**” Foot

Simply put: this foot keeps your stitches in the ditches :-)

The guide on the foot spreads the seams, allowing you to **stitch precisely** in the seam - where the two fabric joined. When this is stitched through multiple layers, the fullness in the batting creates shadow which makes the seam less visible, and helps your block designs to ‘pop’.

It’s useful for top stitching too - along the waistband, for example. Simply move your needle left or right, and let the black metal guide sit against the seam. This way your top-stitching will remain perfectly parallel to the seam. Easy!



Bias Binding Foot

The full name is “**Adjustable Bias Tape / Binding Foot**”. All this foot does is put bindings around edges, but you only need to stitch it **ONCE** - which means it’s faster and easier compare to traditional binding methods

Simply use one dial to adjust the slot to fit the exact width of your binding, and the other dial to fine-tune your needle position, so you have precise control over where your stitching sits. Perfect for binding curves like armholes and necklines, works well on quilt binding too - as long as your batting is low-loft and fits in the slot. You can **mitre corners** too. [Here’s how.](#)

Using this foot ensures your binding is always neat and professional-looking; without any hand tacking or excessive pinning. Happy days!



Concealed Zipper Foot

Sometime known as the “**Invisible Zipper Foot**”, this foot only does the ONE thing - helping you sew concealed / invisible zips quickly and easily.

See the two tunnels side by side?

They are designed to hold the rolled zipper teeth open just enough, so that you can stitch exactly at the right spot.

Simply snap this foot on your machine, and adjust your needle position so that it goes into the hole before you get sewing.





Ultra Glide Teflon Foot

Non-Stick for Leather, Suede, Vinyl, Oil Cloth, PVC, PUL etc.

A coating of super smooth Teflon on the sole of this foot makes it glide over your sticky, rubbery fabrics that “grabs” or anything else that gives a metal foot a hard time. It works on velvet too.

This foot is designed to prevent fabrics such as leather and vinyl / oil-cloth, plastic, suedes and ultrasuede from sticking to the bottom of the foot and to the foot plate of the sewing machine.

The shape of this foot is the same as your regular straight stitch / zigzag / all-purpose foot and simply snaps on your machine.



Super-Slim Adjustable Zipper Foot

Much slimmer than the squarish, wider snap-on zipper foot that often come with your sewing machine, the shape and size of this foot makes it easier for inserting zippers, press-studs (or “snap”) tape, and sewing pipings and other trims.

What this foot does is **simply get your needle REALLY close** to “the bump” (which is your zipper teeth or your piping cord) and still hold your fabric down as you stitch them, eliminating the risk of losing control or breaking needles.



Buttonhole Foot & Button Sewing Foot

Making buttonholes & sewing buttons can be **done easily** with your machine!

This is a **4-Step Buttonhole** Foot - perfect for basic machine which does not have 1-Step automatic buttonhole functions.

The red marker (slide) makes it very easy to reproduce identical buttonholes – plain or corded. The grips on the underside of the foot help feed your fabric smoothly, and the sliding

frame guides the fabric while the buttonhole is being stitched.

To use the **Button Sewing Foot** - first lower (or cover) your feed dogs. This is because you want to stitch on the spot and you don't want the fabric to move.

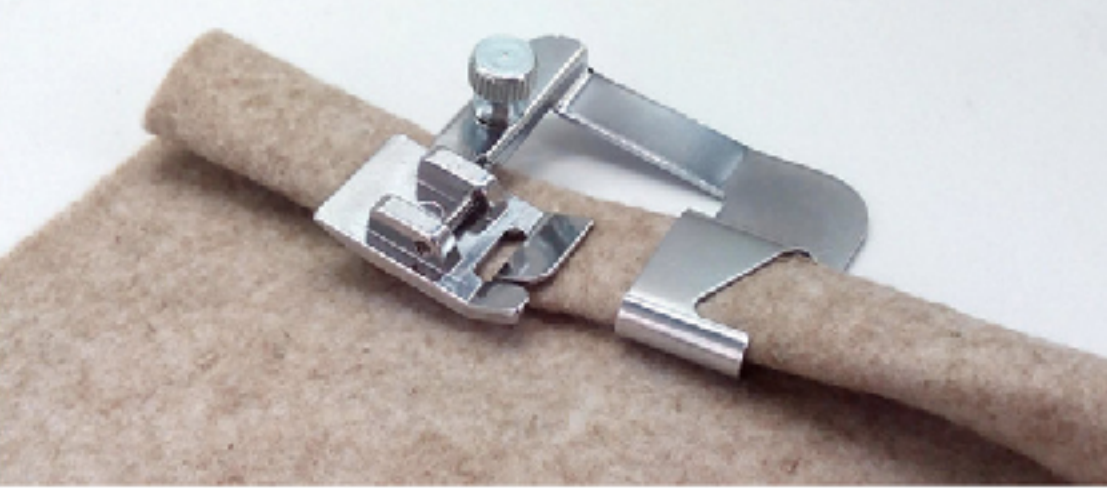
Simply choose a zigzag stitch width that allows your needle to go into both holes, and zigzag away. There, no hand sewing!



Rolled Hem Foot (Narrow)

This foot will give your projects a bespoke finish, by creating beautiful narrow rolled hems on lightweight fabric, which could be extremely tedious if done by hand (could you imagine even trying...?)

Like all specialty finishes, be sure to test your chosen fabric / thread / needle before commencing, so that you can be 100% confident that your narrow hem will come out every bit as professional as it could :-)



Rolled Hem Foot (Wide)

Rolled Hem doesn't have to be narrow - sometimes you just want a double-folded hem for skirt hems, trousers cuffs or shirts tails that's nice and wide - done neatly and easily with just ONE row of stitching.

It's easily done these [metal hemmers](#) (they come in a set of 3 widths with the bias binding foot).

Simply fold and press your hem, start sewing, then feed your hem into the slot so the metal folder can roll and fold the rest of your hem as you sew - you don't even have to press or pin the whole hem!

This works on a wide variety of fabric, including heavier weight like denim, woollens, linens, even light home interior fabrics!





Adjustable Blind Hem Foot

For When You Don't Want to Do it by hand

Using this foot ensures your blind hem is **always neat and almost invisible** - this gives your garment that tailored-finish; without having to painstakingly hand finish your garments - because hand sewing takes time that most of us do not have!

You can produce professional-looking hems fast - simply by using the blind stitch on your sewing machine. This is easy once you know how.

Having this foot and learning how to use it saves you heaps on alteration bills too!



Gathering / Shirring Foot

The gathering foot will allow you to **gently ease or slightly gather** fabric to add soft, slight fullness for various garment and home decorating projects.

Best results with light-weight fabrics, you can also attach the gathered edge to a flat base fabric – quickly and easily. For shirring, simply use an elastic thread in the bobbin and you'll have some stretch in the gathers!

However, if you want to create deeper fuller gathers, make true ruffles & pleats, or intend to use heavier fabrics, then it is best to try a “ruffler”.



Ruffler / Pleating Foot

This Ruffler Foot is ideal for creating fullness - whether you're making a tutu, a bed valance or even a wedding dress!

Rufflers have been around for a very long time and have changed very little over the years; they have however remained very popular.

Don't let the look of a ruffler fool you - as intricate and complicated as it appear to be, its unique design actually makes it very easy to use.

Instead of gathering by hand the traditional way, a ruffler gets it done faster & easier!

The "cogs and wheels" are moving parts on your ruffler that allow your fabric to be ruffled or pleated to the desired fullness, and also has the capability to vary the sizes of ruffles by adjust the settings.

See this article on [how to use the ruffler](#).

You will find that different fabric weight give very different end results, so it is definitely worth your while experimenting a few settings to find just the perfect setting for your particular project.

Once you've tried it, you will NEVER go back to making gathering by hand ever again!



Pintuck Foot

Pin tuck foot uses a twin needle to help you create small tucks effortlessly - to help you create that vintage heirloom look.

Pintuck feet come in several different sizes (most commonly 3, 5, 7 and 9 grooves). Feet with a few grooves are appropriate for heavier weight fabric, and those with 7 or 9 grooves are best for very lightweight fabrics.

If you've done pin tucks the tradition way, this method take only a fraction of the time, and much much easier!



Roller Foot

For **Denim**, Velvet, Leather, Corduroy, Canvas etc

Designed to prevent difficult fabric from slipping, puckering or jamming up under the foot, because the roller rotates instead of getting stuck.

It works like the track on a bulldozer for sewing up and over heavy seams and uneven surfaces, yet gentle enough to glide over the most delicate silk velvet or fine suede without leaving a mark.

Simply snap it on, and let it **roll over bulky, lumpy seams** in denim. A **must-have** if you need help taking up jeans!

If you love denim - Read [this article](#) for **tips & tricks with denim**.



Foot Holder / Adapter

See the lever? That's your quick release for your snap-on feet. Sometimes you might see a red button instead of a lever.

Also known simply as the **"Foot Ankle"**, these adapters may look different depending on your machine, but they ALL serve the same purpose: helping you change feet quickly, without using a screw driver.


We stock foot adapters that are made to take universal feet for Japanese makes - such as **Janome, Brother, Singer, Elna** etc. European makes such as **Pfaff** and **Husqvarna Viking**

generally come with a wider foot ankles - so using one of our adapters **will allow your machine to take universal feet**, free up your options, and make more feet available for these machines.

Berninas are totally different - though some models may be able to take one of these on the top right corner to fit universal feet.

In case you lose yours (say, after taking it off to use the walking foot or darning foot) you won't be able to use any snap-on feet.

So keep it safe!

A collection of sewing tools is arranged on a white background. At the top, a pair of gold-handled scissors is partially visible. Below them, a spool of bright orange thread sits next to a white measuring tape with black markings. The measuring tape is coiled in several places, showing numbers like 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 29, and 30. The text "Will this Fit MY Sewing Machine?" is centered in a light blue box with a white border.

**“Will this Fit
MY
Sewing
Machine?”**



Will This Foot Fit?

First, Get to Know the **Three Things** About Your Machine...

1. Shank Type of Your Sewing Machine
2. Shank Height of Your Sewing Machine
3. Maximum Stitch Width of Your Machine

More on the Next Pages....

So You'll Discover **How to Choose the RIGHT Foot** for your machine :-)

Read More Here...

www.sewmucheasier.com/will-presser-foot-fit-sewing-machine



Shank Types

Most of the presser feet that come with your sewing machine are fairly flat, and they simply **snap-on** to the “ankle” thing called foot holder / adapter.

Some of the most popular specialty feet -Walking Foot and Darning Foot, for example - are **screw-on**, which means you need to take off the ankle and fasten these feet on, by screwing them in place.

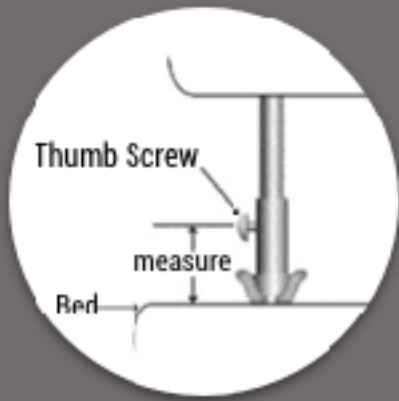
With the screw-on feet, the height of shank matters so that the foot fits correctly.

The diagram on the next page shows you how to measure your shank height, so that you can find the right foot for your machine.

For more details, see my blog article:

“Will This Foot Fit My Sewing Machine?”

www.sewmucheasier.com/will-presser-foot-fit-sewing-machine



MEASURE

from Flat Bed to the
Centre of Thumb Screw



Low Shank



High Shank



Slant Shank

How to Measure Your Shank Height

Here's how to figure out whether your machine is low shank or high shank:

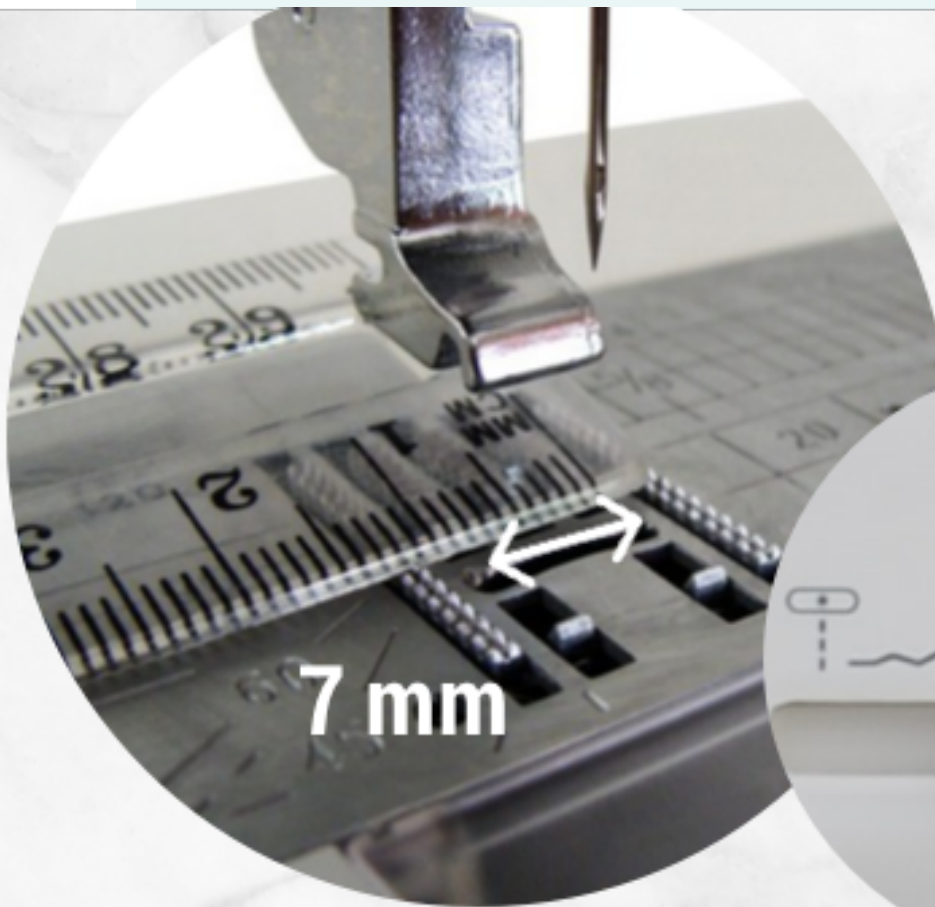
With the presser foot in the down position, measure from the flat bed of the machine to the centre of thumb screw.

Low Shank machine measures about 1/2" inch.

High Shank machine measures 1" inch.

Slant Shank measures 1" inch too, but they are found in old Singer slant needle machines only. These are rare and they are tricky to fit, though you won't have to worry about it (unless you have one).

Most domestic machines have LOW shanks. That means **if you don't know** what sort of shank your machine has, chances are it **has LOW shank**. Easy!



Maximum Zigzag Width



Stitch Width

What's your machine's **Maximum Stitch Width** for Zigzag? That measurement determines whether your sewing machine is 7mm, 5mm or 9mm if you have a high-end model like Janome Horizon.

Generally speaking, **most machines are 7mm** - that covers mid to better range. Janome DC series belong in this category. 5mm models tend to be in the budget range - JR1012 & RE1306 for example.

To measure yours, simply set your zigzag stitch to the maximum and run a row. Now measure the width of your zigzag. You can also measure the needle slot with a ruler to get a fair idea.

Why is the maximum stitch width important? Because the **needle alignment** may be different - especially for the high-end 9mm machines. Most feet are interchangeable between 7mm & 5mm, but not 9mm - because needle alignment is the deciding factor.

Also, if the foot is design to allow up to 5mm stitch width, and you have a 7mm machine, then your needle may well hit the foot. So **check before you sew....**

Need These For Quilting?



You're going to find these feet useful...

- [Walking Foot](#) - for quilting straight lines, in the ditch, or geometric patterns.
- [Free-Motion Darning Foot](#) - for free-hand meandering stitches also known as "stippling"
- [Quarter Inch Foot](#) - for piecing your quilt top with a precise 1/4 " inch seam

See next page for better value...

Get The Set for Half Price!



Why not get ALL the presser feet you need for patchwork quilting in [one](#) complete set?

Simply use this code **FEETSET50** at checkout so you can enjoy 50% Off...

[View Details](#)



Love Denim, But Hate Sewing it?

Each week, I get a phone call or email from someone who wants to "upgrade" their machine to one that can handle denim.

Because they are fed up with their current sewing machine that fails such simple task as taking up jeans...

Do I sell them a new sewing machine? NO.

I always ask what kind of machine they have, then this is what I say:

"You don't need a new sewing machine. Instead - just try a few of these tricks..."

Continue Reading Here...

www.sewmucheasier.com/handling-denim-with-your-sewing-machine/

Need These For Denim / Dressmaking?



You're going to find these feet useful...

- [Walking Foot](#) - for going over thick layers, and matching stripe / checks.
- [Super Slim Zipper Foot](#) - the best foot for zipper (concealed zips too)
- [Roller Foot](#) - to roll over bulky seams and also great for velvet / silk
- [Teflon Foot](#) - for leather, vinyl, suede etc. Gets you out of sticky situations

See next page for better value...

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Secret Behind the Scene

Come along & **Discover the Truth** that *No one* talks about...

"I just don't understand how people spend so much on sewing machines, then use cheap inferior feet!" Said K, somewhat exasperated.

"If only they knew the risks..."

"Risks? There are risks?" I asked. This was how it all began...

Continue Reading Here...

www.sewmucheasier.com/not-all-presser-feet-made-equal

Want the Best of Everything?



The Ultimate Set give you ALL the presser feet you'll ever need for EVERYTHING - in [one](#) convenient box set...

Simply use this code **FEETSET50** at checkout so you can enjoy 50% Off...

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Hello, I'm Shelley

I confess that I'm a **fabric** addict. I love nothing more than geeking out over the ins-and-outs of **sewing machines** - and all the bits that come with it. **Presser Feet** are my specialty :-)

I've been sharing my passion of sewing all my life - with a career in fashion design and patchwork teaching. Now **I serve fellow sewist** everywhere. We deliver curated sewing goodies to your door and help **celebrate your joy** in the simple act of making something by hand.

Because **We're Here for YOU** and your sewing needs.

• Here's a quick tour Behind the Scene at Sew Much Easier:

www.sewmucheasier.com/behind-the-scene-tour

• Here's a story about how sewing help get my life back:

www.sewmucheasier.com/good-bye-career-hello-life

• If you're ready to treat yourself with some sewing goodies, take a look here:

www.sewmucheasier.com/products

Or, simply pick up the phone and call **1300 88 11 59** (we're in Australia).

Let's be friends, and **Happy Sewing!**

Shelley

XOXOX



Thank You.

At **Sew Much Easier**, we have ONE intention - **to help you SEW... much easier!**

We stock only a handful of curated sewing goodies - hand picked and tested ourselves - before we decide whether or not they make it on the website. Because we're only interested in handing over what YOU would be happy with. **I'm here to make YOUR day :-)**

So, How can I Help You Sew Easier Today?

CONNECT WITH ME



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