

## **Checklist**

# The Ultimate Seasonal Sewing Machine Maintenance

Keep this guide handy to ensure your machine is always ready for your next project.

#### **Quick Maintenance (After Every 10-12 Hours of Sewing)**

- Wipe down the exterior of the machine.
- Brush lint from the bobbin case and feed dogs.
- Change your needle.

#### **Spring Cleaning (Deep Clean & Prep)**

- Unplug the machine.
- Remove the needle plate and clean the feed dogs thoroughly.
- Fully clean bobbin area of all compacted lint.
- Wipe down all interior surfaces you can reach.
- Check your manual and oil the machine if required.
- Insert a new needle to start the season fresh.

# Summer Care (Heavy Use Season)

- Check for motor heat; give the machine rest breaks every 2 hours.
- Ensure the machine has proper ventilation.
- Wipe down the machine after each use to prevent dust buildup.
- Check oil levels more frequently if using the machine daily.
- Store the machine under a cover, away from direct sunlight or humidity.

# Fall Prep (Getting Ready for Holiday Sewing)

- Inspect wearable parts:
  - Needles: Stock up on various sizes for different fabrics.
  - o Motor Belt: Check for cracks or signs of wear.
  - Light: Ensure your light is bright and working. Consider an LED upgrade.



- Bobbins: Discard any that are cracked or damaged.
- Test stitch tension on scrap fabric similar to your planned projects (e.g., flannel, velvet).

## Winter Care (Storage & Long-Term)

- Perform a final, thorough cleaning before any long period of inactivity.
- Apply a fresh drop of oil at lubrication points before storage.
- Unplug all cords. Wrap them loosely and store them with the machine.
- Place the machine in a hard case or padded bag.
- Store in a climate-controlled room (avoid attics or basements).

## When to Call a Professional (Annual Check-Up Recommended)

- You hear grinding, clunking, or other unusual noises.
- You have persistent skipped stitches or thread shredding.
- The tension is uneven, and you can't fix it with standard adjustments.
- The machine is running sluggishly despite being clean.