



JOYCE JAGGER

# THE EMBROIDERY COACH

## Daily Maintenance Guide

The daily maintenance is very important to keep your machine running trouble free. There is nothing more annoying than constant thread breaks.

### Oil Rotary Hook Every Three to Four Hours

The first thing you should remember to do is oil the Rotary hook every three to four hours of actual sewing time. This does not mean you can go every four hours if your machine requires three hours. To find out for sure how often your rotary hook needs to be oiled, do a test. Oil the hook. This is done by placing one drop of oil, and I do mean one drop, (I use the small needle point applicator for this) on the rail of the hook just outside the bobbin case. As it spins, the oil will automatically be dispensed on the entire rail of the hook. Check the time that you oiled the hook.

Run your garments until you start to get thread breaks. I don't mean one thread break; I mean excessive thread breaks. Check the time when the breaks start to occur. I do not wait any longer than three thread breaks. How long was it? This is the time when you need to oil your hook again. The hook dries out and as soon as it does, you start to get a lot of thread breaks.

Speed is another factor in how fast the hook will dry out. If you are running your machine at a high rate such as 850 or 900 stitches per minute, then your hook is going to need oiling much quicker than a machine that runs at 600 stitches per minute.

### Cleaning

The first thing that you should do every morning before you get started is to remove the needle plate and the bobbin case. You do not need to remove the side plates on the bottom of the arm.

Brush or blow out the Rotary Hook and Knife area. You must be very careful if you are brushing out the knife area that you don't apply pressure on those knives and bend them. I usually brush it out slightly and then blow out the remainder. This will really keep the area clean. Make sure that you get all of

the lint and threads out of the entire area. After you are finished, perform a manual thread trim. This will help to push out any remaining threads if they are caught in the trimming mechanism. A wad of thread caught in the trimmers can keep your trimmers from working and knock them out of time. It is **extremely** important to keep them clean. If you will do this every morning, your knives should last a long time.

If you are embroidering a fabric that creates a lot of lint like a fleece or sweatshirt fabric, then you may want to do this blowing out in the middle of the workday in addition to the beginning of the day.

Next you want to clean out your bobbin case. Remove your bobbin, brush out all of the lint and dirt with a small brush. Make sure that you remove every bit of the lint from inside the bobbin case. Take a business card or some heavy paper and run it up under the tension spring. You may have to push the paper in more than once to remove all of the lint. Lint and dirt collect in that spot and will really cause havoc with your tensions. Even the tiniest speck of dirt will do this and no amount of adjusting on your top thread will make up the difference. This may have to be done a couple of times a day when you change your bobbin especially if you are working on a fabric that creates a lot of lint. Cotton bobbins create a lot of lint. Each time you put in a new bobbin, inspect your bobbin case.

## Oiling

On my Tajima Embroidery machine, I place one drop of oil in the hole in the Needle Bar Drive shaft. It is marked with a red circle.

Place another drop of oil in the Drive shaft of the presser foot reciprocator.

Check your manufacturer's literature for the correct oiling locations on your machine; they may be in a different location.

Remember to always do the maintenance that is specified in your manual for your machine to get the maximum performance that you are looking for.