



## SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE



# Overlocker



**DO NOT use this machine unless you have had instruction and training in its safe use and operation.**

**Teacher permission MUST be given to operate this machine.**

**The risk of injury when using this machine is LOW**

### IDENTIFIED RISKS AND HAZARDS

Hazards that may be encountered when operating the overlocker include:

- cuts and injuries from sharp edges, knife blades, scissors and pins
- electrocution
- finger injuries while sewing
- back injury from poor posture
- eye strain from poor lighting
- back injury from improper lifting procedure

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY

- Always unplug the overlocker from the electrical outlet immediately after using and before cleaning.
- Never operate the overlocker if it has a damaged cord or plug, if it is not working properly, if it has been dropped or damaged or dropped into water.
- Check all adjustments and settings carefully before commencing any sewing operation.
- Always use the proper needle plate. The wrong plate can cause the needle to break.
- The work area should be clean and free of equipment, rubbish and other obstacles.


### OPERATING SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Continuous operation of the machine can cause heat to build in the motor area, but not enough to adversely affect its performance.
- It is important to keep fabric and paper away from the ventilating holes on the back and sides of the machine so air can get to these holes.
- Turn the power off when making adjustments to the sewing machine.
- Examples include changing the presser foot and the needle.
- Do not pull or push fabric while stitching. It may deflect the needle causing it to break.
- Never race the sewing machine at high speed.
- Take care not to machine over pins.



This SOP does not necessarily cover all possible hazards associated with the use of this machine and should only be used with other safety instruction references. It is designed to be posted on the machine and act as a visual reminder to machine operators.

- **Low risk of injury** if the machine, equipment or procedures in the activity are employed correctly
- Operators must have received **teacher approval** to operate any equipment / machine
- Operators will need to be under the **general supervision** of the teacher
- Generally the operator will not be impeded or hindered while engaged in an activity at this level.




**Risk of Injury**  
is  
**LOW**  
Level  
**1**

**To operate this machine/equipment you MUST have:**

1. Read and understood the Instruction Sheets
2. Completed the Safety Test with a 100% score
3. Demonstrated competent and safe use

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**Risk of Injury**  
is  
**LOW**  
Level  
**1**

**To operate this machine/equipment you MUST have:**

- Read and understood the Safe Working Procedure
- Completed the Safe Work Test with a 100% score
- Demonstrated competent and safe use