

# HANDYMENDER™

**Top Innovations, Inc.  
Innovative Products to Make Your Life Easier**

## **HANDYMENDER™ Model SP-400 Owner's Manual**



- Sews Durable Chain Stitch
- Compact Size for Emergency Repairs
- Pre-Threaded and Ready to Use

Top Innovations, Inc.  
400 NW Platte Valley Drive Riverside, MO 64150  
(800) 711-6617 (816) 584-9700 Fax:(816) 584-9066  
[www.mitcoproducts.com](http://www.mitcoproducts.com)

# HANDYMENDER™

Dear Valued Customer:

Thank you purchasing your HandyMender Hand Held Stitching Machine from our rapidly growing Sew Pro line. Our firm takes pride in providing you products with quality and value while offering excellent service.

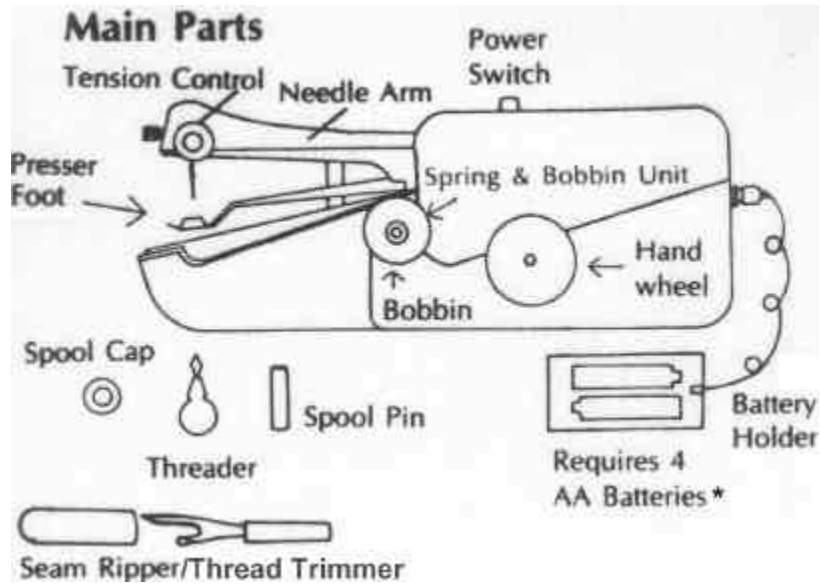
The HandyMender Mending Machine will become a valuable tool that will keep your family's wardrobe in shape. Although not designed to make complicated clothing from scratch, it provides durable chain stitching for your basic mending jobs quickly and with a quality stitch. This machine was specifically designed to be lightweight for easy portability. We are confident you will enjoy the time you spend using our product.

Top Innovations, Inc. would like to invite you to take advantage of our customer support web site at [www.mitcoproducts.com](http://www.mitcoproducts.com). Here you will find additional information about the many other exciting Sew Pro and Steam Fast products that are available. We take pride in our quality line-up of garment care and steam cleaning products and hope you will visit our web site to review our product line.

Benny Lee

Chairman and CEO, Top Innovations, Inc.

# HANDYMENDER™ PARTS AND ACCESSORIES



**NOTE:**

Even if you have sewn before, these instructions will make your first use much easier!

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**Includes the Following Accessories:**

- 5 Mini Spools of Thread in Assorted Colors
- Seam Ripper/Thread Trimmer
- Needle Threader
- Extra #14 Needle

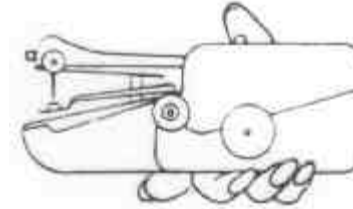
\* Batteries Not Included

## IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

- When Threading or changing a needle, always unplug the power supply
- Work carefully and watch the sewing area to avoid the needle during operation
- Do not pull the fabric while mending as the needle may bend and break or cause other damage
- Insure that the machine is threaded carefully before mending
- Never press or pull on the needle arm directly - always use the hand wheel to move the needle

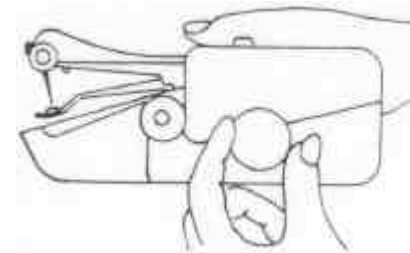
## GETTING READY TO MEND

Hold the HandyMender with right hand and operate power switch with thumb.



## How to Sew

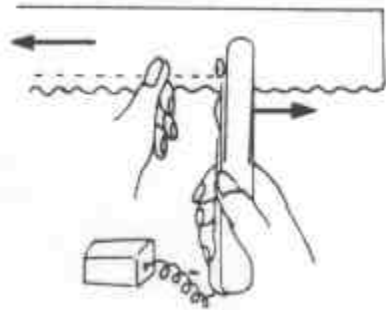
1. First, raise the Needle Arm to the highest position by turning the Hand Wheel. Note: Hand Wheel may be turned in either direction.



2. Lift the Presser Foot making sure not to push down on the Needle Arm. Place fabric under Presser Foot.



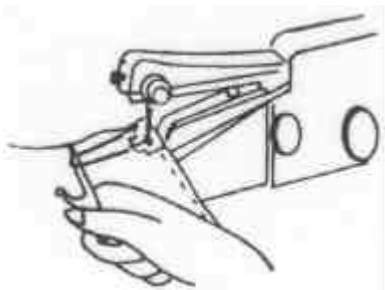
3. Pull at least 2 inches of thread tail through the needle prior to starting to sew.
4. Hold HandyMender in right hand; press power switch with your thumb; use your left hand to guide the fabric.



5. When pivoting or turning a corner, the needle must be lowered into the fabric.

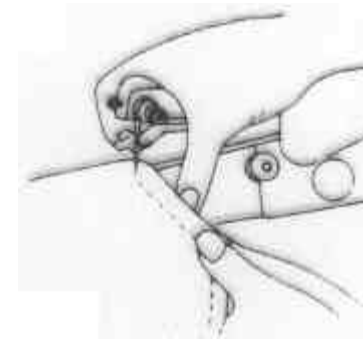
### How to Finish the Seam

1. When finished sewing a seam, raise the Needle Arm by turning Hand Wheel. Then, use the back of the Seam Ripper to pull the thread out about 3 inches; cut leaving about a 3 inches tail.

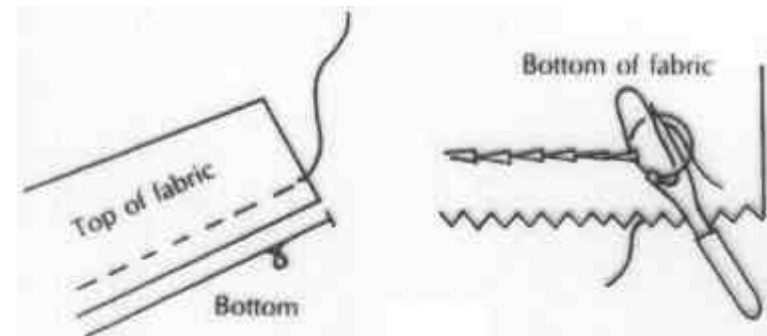


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2. Turn the Hand Wheel, lowering the needle into the fabric. Continue to turn the Hand Wheel until Needle Arm is again at its highest position.
3. Lift up the Presser Foot and take off the fabric to the left. Be careful not to pull the thread or the seam will ravel.



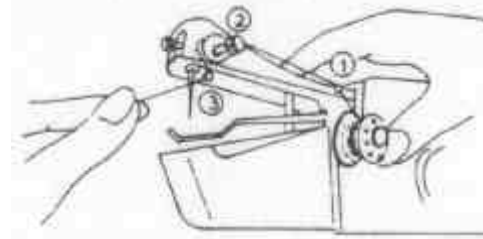
4. The top of the fabric will have a 3 inches thread tail and the bottom will have a small loop.
5. Turn to the bottom side of the fabric and with the backside of the Seam Ripper inserted into the loop; pull the thread through the fabric to the bottom side.



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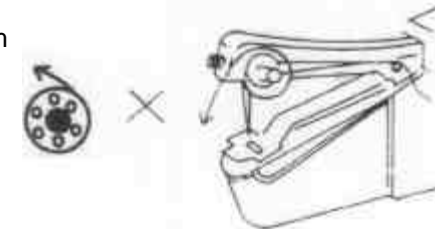
## How to Thread the HandyMender

Thread the HandyMender following the numbers as shown below.

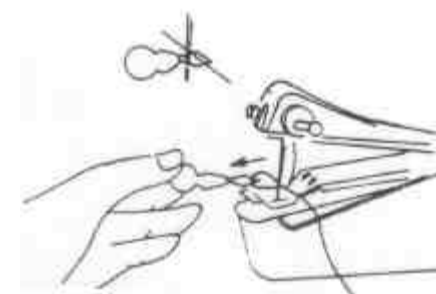


**Don't Wind  
Around Tension  
Control**

NOTE: Thread should flow from the bobbin or spool as shown: (The spring must be in place before installing bobbin.)



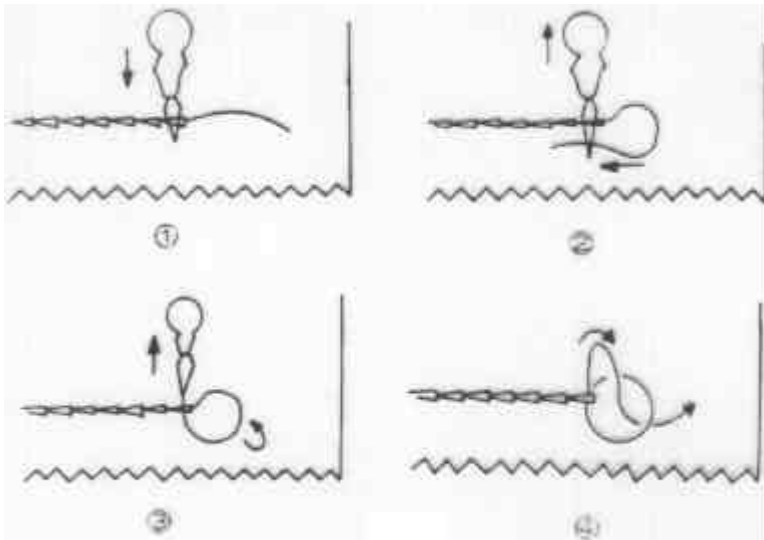
Use threader to pass the thread through needle eye from rear to front.



## Adjusting the Thread Tension

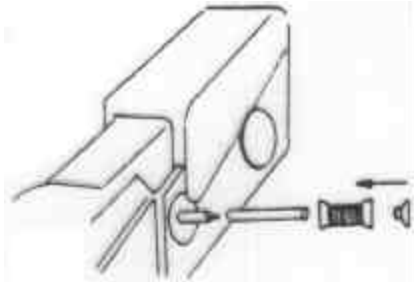
- If stitching is too tight, turn the tension control nut slightly to the left
- If stitching is too loose, turn the tension control nut slightly to the right

6. Tie off the seam as follows:
  - a. Pass Threader through the last stitch.
  - b. Place the thread into Threader.
  - c. Pull out about 1 inch.
  - d. Slip the thread through the loop and pull it tight to finish the seam.



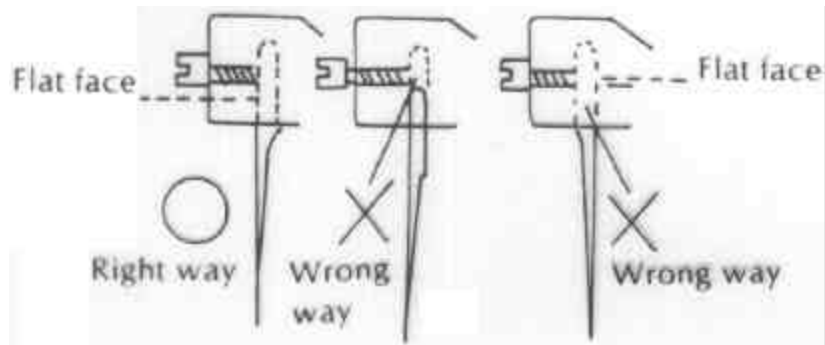
## To Install the Normal Thread Spool

1. Loosen the Bobbin Nut and take off Bobbin.
2. Connect the Spool Pin on Bobbin Shaft.
3. Slip thread spool on spool pin.
4. Put the white Spool Cap on the Spool Pin to secure the thread spool.



## Replacing the Needle

1. Always use a size 14 needle
2. Loosen the set screw with a screw driver and take out the old needle
3. The needle must be installed with the flat side of the needle shank facing the front of the HandyMender



## PERFORMANCE CHECKLIST

### Needle Unthreads When Starting Seam

Check to see that there are at least 2 inches of thread tail through needle before starting to sew.

### HandyMender Will Not Sew Stitches

- (1) Check threading path.
- (2) Check for tangled thread.
- (3) Check position of fabric under Presser Foot.
- (4) Check needle to verify if it **has** bent, broken, or installed incorrectly.
- (5) Check to make sure thread is not too thick. Always use #40 to #60 thread

### Thread Becomes Very Loose While Sewing

Check if thread has slipped out of the tension control. (See page 3)

### Thread Breaks During Sewing

Check for tangled thread.

### HandyMender Skips Stitches

- (1) Check for bent or dull needle
- (2) Check threading path
- (3) Check tension is not too loose

## **Thread Comes Out Of Tension Control While Sewing**

Check that flow of thread from bobbin or spool is correct. (See page 10)

## **HandyMender Does Not Run Or Runs Slowly After Pressing Power Switch**

- (1) Check power connection.
- (2) Check if batteries are installed correctly.
- (3) Check for weak batteries.
- (4) Check if normal thread spool is being squeezed by spool cap.
- (5) NOTE: Thicker fabric will be slower.

## **QUESTIONS?**

If you have questions about any aspect of threading or mending with the HANDYMENDER call:

### **Customer Support**

Contact our Customer Support Team at Top Innovations, Inc. at 1-800-711-6617 or 1-816-584-9700. E-mail us at [mail@mitcoproducts.com](mailto:mail@mitcoproducts.com) or visit our web site at [www.mitcoproducts.com](http://www.mitcoproducts.com)

## LIMITED WARRANTY

Top Innovations, Inc. will repair or replace, at its option, without charge to the consumer any SEW PRO® product that fails due to a defect in material or workmanship within 90 days following the initial consumer purchase. This warranty does not cover damage caused by commercial use, misuse, alteration, or modification.

**Performance of any obligation under this warranty may be obtained by returning the warranted product, freight prepaid, with dated proof of the purchase to:**

<p>TOP INNOVATIONS, INC. Warranty Service Department 400 NW Platte Valley Drive Riverside, MO 64150</p>
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If you have any questions about coverage under this warranty, you may contact the Warranty Service Department by telephone at (800) -711- 6617 or email: [mail@mitcoproducts.com](mailto:mail@mitcoproducts.com).

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have others rights which vary from state to state.

## Notes

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