

JOB ROLE – SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR

Sector – Apparel, Made-Ups and Home Furnishing
(Qualification Pack Code: AMH/Q 0301)



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UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO SEWING MACHINE

Session 2 (Part-1): Terminology Related to Sewing and Garments

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Session Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Describe the terminologies related to sewing and garments

Introduction

There are some special terms related to sewing and garments which a Sewing Machine Operator should know. Following are the terms related to sewing and garments.

Terminologies

Anchoring Stitches:

- To end of seam where one stitch backwards for some stitches to anchor the stitch.

Apex :

- The highest point on the bust for ladies' garment

Armhole:

- It is a hole for the arm where bodice joins the sleeve.

Armhole Scye :

- It is used to describe the scooped out curve of the armhole on a block or pattern.

Balance:

- It refers to the hang and proportion of the garment
- It is often difficult to judge correct balance until the garment is test-fitted.

Balance Point:

- It is a mark made on the various pieces of the garment to maintain a balance while stitching.

Baste:

- To stitch the pieces of a fabric together temporarily (long running stitches) created by hand or by machine.

Basting:

- Long, loose stitches made to hold two pieces of fabric together until they can be sewn firmly by hand or by machine.

Bell sleeve:

- A style of sleeve that is full and flared at the elbow or wrist level.

Bias:

- It is a diagonal line across the grain of the fabric.

Bias cut:

- Any diagonal cut that is not on the lengthwise or crosswise grain is a bias cut.

Binding:

- It is a strip of fabric used to cover a seam edge or enclose raw edges.
- It can be straight or bias.

Blind hemming (stitch):

- It is a hemming (stitch) that is not visible on the face of a fabric or garment.

Bobbin winder tension angle:

- It is a device situated near the bobbin winder which helps to wind the bobbin correctly.

Bodkin:

- A long, flat, needle-like tool used to thread elastic through a loop

Brocade:

- In textiles, woven fabric having a raised floral or figured design that is introduced during the weaving process.
- The design, appearing only on the fabric face, is usually made in a satin or twill weave.

Button:

- It is usually round in shape and is used to close an opening in the garments or any other article.
- They are functional as well as decorative.

Cambric:

- It is a soft, plain weave cotton or linen fabric closely woven, usually given a slight stiffening.

Canvas:

- It is general classification of strong, firm, closely woven fabrics usually made with cotton, originally made of hemp.

Carding:

- It is a mechanical process that disentangles, clean and intermixes fibres to produce a continuous web or sliver .

Centre point:

- The point that is equally distant from every point on the circumferences of a circle or sphere or place in the middle.

Chain stitch:

- It is a stitch formed by making connected loops that form a chain.

Cheesecloth:

- It is a plain weave, thin cotton fabric, loosely woven.
- It has a slight crepe texture

Chiffon:

- It is a very lightweight, sheer silk or manufactured filament fabric.
- A Plain weave with fine, hard spun yarn of approximately the same size in warp and filling and the same number of ends and picks per inch.

Clip:

- It is a small snip or cut made in the edge of fabric all curved edges must be clipped.

Combing:

- Fibres are passed through a series of straight, metal teeth in order to lay the fibres parallel to one another.

Cords:

- It is thin, flexible string or rope made from several twisted strands.

Corduroy:

- It is a strong durable fabric with a rounded cord, rib or wale surface formed by cut pile yarn.
- The back of the fabric has a plain or a twill weave.

Couching:

- A method of embroidering in which a design is made by various threads or cords laid upon the surface of a material.
- Couching is either raised or flat.

Crepe:

- Fabrics that may be made of silk, rayon, acetate, cotton, wool, manufactured fibres, or blends.
- It is characterised by a broad range of crinkled or grained surface effects.

Cross grain:

- It refers to the yarn direction that is perpendicular to selvedge.

Crotch point:

- Where the inside leg seams meet the crotch seams in a trouser.
- It should be towards the front of the body.

Cutting board:

- It is a specially constructed, folded, corrugated board provide a surface on which the pattern is cut out or made.

Dart:

- It is wedge or diamond-shaped section removed from the surface area of a garment part by stitching.

Dart intake:

- The intake is the extra quantity of fabric taken while making the dart.

Denim:

- A well-known basic cotton or blended fabric usually woven in a 2/1 or 3/1 warp-faced right hand twill.

Dobby weave:

- It is a style of patterned weave consisting of small frequently repeated geometric designs.

Double-fold hem:

- It is a hem that is folded once for the hem allowance and a second time to enclose the raw edge.

Double needle:

- Two machine needles attached to a single shaft that sews two parallel rows of stitches. It is known as twin needle.

Drafting:

- It is a step/system for pattern making that depends on the measurements.

Ease:

- It is the amount of space added to the measurements.

Easing:

- This is needed when joining two edges that are of different lengths and shape .
- For e.g. easing include sleeve heads into armhole, back shoulder on to front shoulder.

Edge stitch:

- It is a kind of straight stitching very close to the edge of a seam, trim, or outer edge.
- It secures seam allowances, prevents the edge from stretching, and support the fabric.

Eye:

- It is the part on the needle that carries the thread to keep forming stitches.

Eyelets:

- It is a small hole, usually round and finished along the edge.
- Generally used in cloth or leather for the passage of a lace or cord.

Fabric weight:

- The weight of a fabric depends on the thickness of the threads it is made of, the density of the weave or knit, as well as its composition.
- The weight will be measured in grams per square metre (g/m^2 or gsm) or in ounce per square yard (oz/y^2 , often abbreviated to oz.)

Fabric width:

- It is the fabric cut from one selvedge edge to the other selvedge.

Feeding devices:

- It is used to advance and raise the fabric while stitching.

Felt:

- It is a non-woven sheet of matted material made from wool, hair, fur, or certain manufactured fibres.

Filament:

- It is a fibre of indefinite or extreme length.
- This length permits the use of filament in yarn without twist or with very low twist.

Flare:

- It is a shaped fullness added to the different parts of a garment .
- Flare, spreading the pieces at one edge only.

Floss:

- It is a soft thread of silk or mercerised cotton for use to clean between tension discs, feed dog, etc.

Flounce:

- It is a full circular edging for the neckline, sleeves and hems.

Forearm seam:

- It is the seam nearest to the front of a two piece sleeve.

Frill:

- It is a strip of fabric of any width gathered and attached to a garment as an edging.

Fringe:

- It is a decorative edge made of hanging strings of thread or fabric.
- These may be produced by the constituent threads or by thread added to a fabric after weaving or knitting.

Fullness:

- It is an extension on one of two sections of a garment joined by a seam.
- It is used to create volume or shape in the garment.

Fusible:

- It is a type of fabric or material that has heat-sensitive adhesive on one side that enables it to bind to another fabric.

Fusible interfacing tape:

- On heating this tapes fuses to fabric to stabilise a seam or edge.
- It is available in a variety of narrow widths.

Fuzz:

- It refers to the fibre ends that protrude from a yarn or fabric.

Gather:

- It means becoming contracted into wrinkles/small folds, creases, etc. , as cloth/fabric.

Gathering:

- It allows for making a long piece of fabric to fit with a shorter piece of fabric.

Gingham:

- It is a medium weight cotton fabric, plain weave and yarn died; made with carded or combed yarns.

Godet:

- It is a flared or triangular insert in the hemline of any garment.

Grain:

- It is the direction of yarns in a woven fabric along the length to across the width.
- An on grain garment hangs evenly and appears symmetrical.

Grain line:

- It is a line drawn from end to end on the pattern piece to show how the pattern should align with the lengthwise grain of the fabric.

Gusset:

- It is a small piece of fabric inserted in the seam to allow room for movement.

Halter:

- It is a style of neckline
- A strap or an extension of fabric running from the front armhole to around the back of the neck edge.

Ham:

- A tailor's ham or dressmaker's ham is tightly stuffed and used for ironing curved areas such as sleeves, darts, waistlines, collars , or cuffs.

Hand overcast:

- A hand stitch that wraps around an edge like a spiral

Handle:

- It is attached to the handle attachment of the machine and helps to drive it with hand.

Hem:

- It is an edge finish used to finish the bottom edge of a garment or any other article.

Hem allowance:

- It is the distance between the cutting line and the hemline.

Hemline:

- It is the lowest edge of the garment once the hem is sewn.

Hemp:

- It is a fine, light-coloured, lustrous, and strong bast fibre, obtained from the hemp plant.

Hook:

- A piece of metal or other hard material curved or bent back at an angle, for catching hold of or hanging.

Interfacing:

- It refers to a sew-in or fusible fabric used to stabilise the fashion fabrics.
- It can also add body, reinforce, or shape.

Interlacing:

- During stitching, when one thread passes over or around another thread or loop of another thread, it is called interlacing .

Interlooping:

- It is the passing of a loop of thread through another loop formed by a different thread.

Intralooping:

- When a loop of one thread passes through the loop of the same thread during sewing.

Jacquard weave:

- It is a decorative weave which is manufactured on a jacquard loom.
- In this weave, detailed and intricate designs are made.
- For e.g. Brocade

Lawn:

- A fine, plain weave, relatively sheer cotton fabric made in close construction s.

Linen:

- This fibre is obtained from the stem of the flax plant.
- It is a strong and durable fabric.

Lining:

- A fabric (usually lightweight) which helps to cover the stitching details on the inside of the garment.

Loop stitches:

- Stitches formed by the loop section of a serge or over locker.

Marking chalk:

- Made from coloured powder
- Used to transfer markings on to the fabric

Mending:

- It is a finishing process in fabric manufacture in which irregularities such as weaving imperfections, tears, and broken yarns are repaired after the cloth is taken from the loom.

Mercerised thread:

- A plied, corded cotton thread which has been treated with caustic soda, to give it more strength, lusture and affinity for dyes.

Mercerising:

- It is a treatment of cotton yarn or fabric by swelling in strong alkali which helps to increase its lusture, strength, and affinity for dyes.

Muslin:

- It is basically an unbleached plain woven cotton fabric used for making test fits.
- It is used by the designers to check the feel and look of the design before the construction of a garment.

Nap:

- It is a layer of fibre ends raised from the ground weave of the fabric by a mechanical brushing action.
- The fabric can be napped on either one or both sides.

Needle Clamp:

- It is a screw that is tightened to hold the needle in position.

Notch:

- A small 'V' cut shape, that is made on an edge or a surface.

Summary

In this session, you have learnt about the terminology related to sewing and garments.

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