

BERNINA 485 SEWING MACHINE

- Computerized all-rounder sewing machine
- Variety of stitches from straight and zigzag all the way to decorative ones
- Suitable for most fabrics given correct settings



SAFETY

- Keep fingers away from needle while sewing
- Remove your foot from the foot pedal or briefly turn the machine off while threading or changing the needle

TERMINOLOGY

Needle

- Literally the needle that goes through your fabric as you're sewing it
- To choose the **correct needle** for your fabric is important. Some needles are good for many uses, whereas some fabrics prefer a specialized needle. Mainly two things are important about needles: the thickness/strength and the shape of the tip
- Generally, **needle strengths** range from 60/8 to 110/16, with most fabrics requiring something in the 70/10 to 90/14 range, the higher the numbers, the stronger/thicker it is and thus the thicker/tougher the fabric you'll be sewing through.
- Some special fabrics profit from needles made for that application specifically and sometimes have a different **shape of the tip**.
- Fabrics to consider **special needles** for include: ultra stretchy fabrics, microfiber fabrics (e.g. neoprene, softshell), denim and leather(y) fabrics



TERMINOLOGY

Top thread

- The top thread is your main thread and will be on the side facing you (a.k.a. on the top) as you sew



Bottom (bobbin) thread

- The thread that will show up on the bottom of your fabric as you're sewing it
- normally matches your top thread but you can choose a different thread for special effect
- For different threads the quality (thickness and material) of the bottom thread should be close to the top thread, it's best to vary colors from the same brand of thread

Bobbin

- The thing you wind the bottom thread around
- this machine uses special jumbo bobbins from Bernina and is not compatible with standard bobbins!



Foot

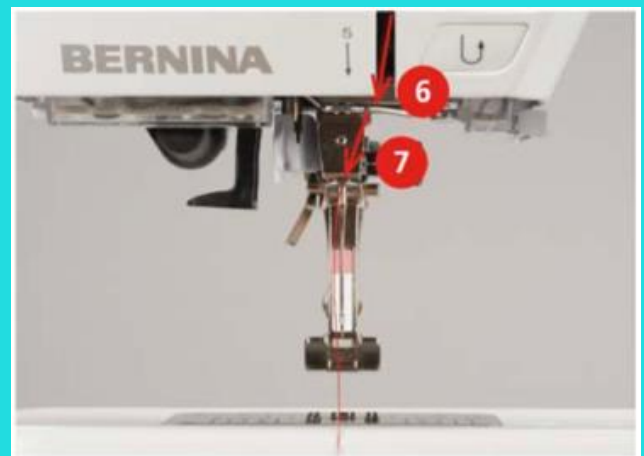
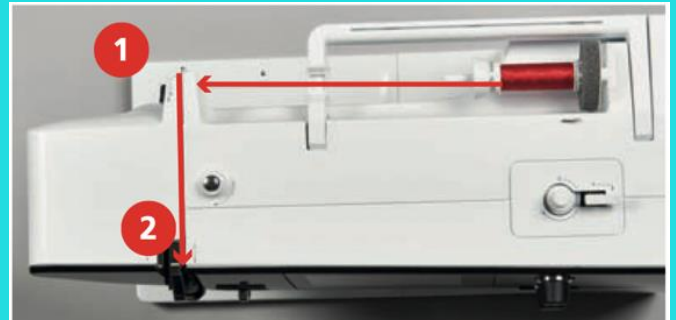
- The foot holds your fabric in place while you sew, and different ones are suited for different fabrics
- the generic feet (Nr. 0 & 1) are good for almost anything
- the zipper foot (Nr. 4) is the default choice for sewing a zipper.



THE TOP THREAD

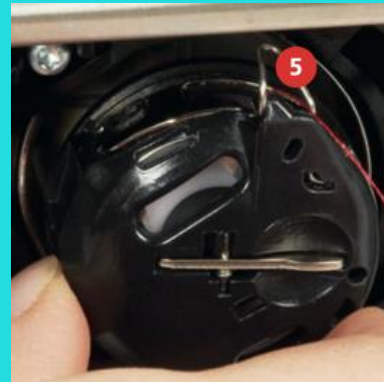
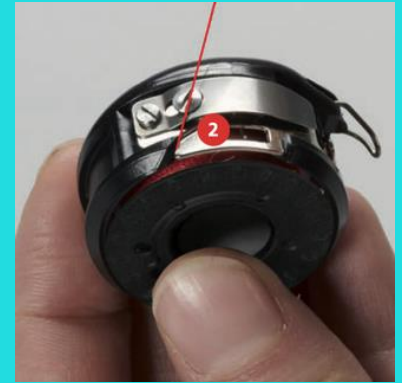
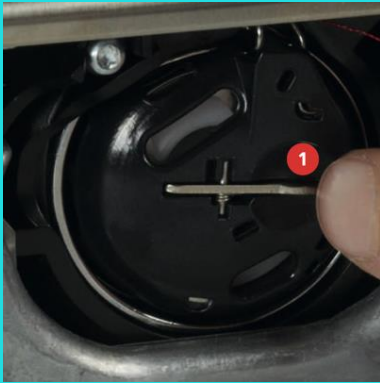
Steps

- Follow the numbered marks on the machine and thread through the machine and needle as follows

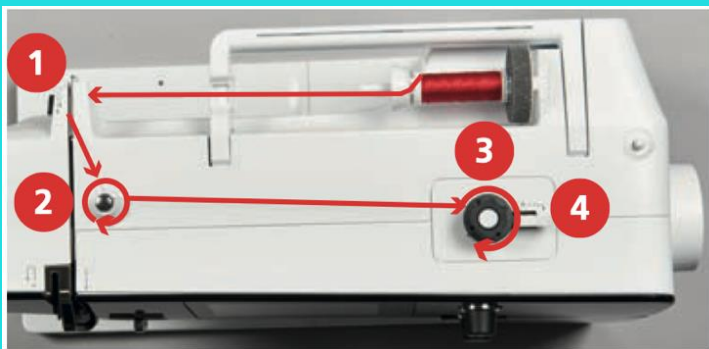


THE BOTTOM THREAD

Threading



Winding a new bobbin



FUNCTIONS

Changing the needle

- Turn the screw to loosen the needle
- Remove the old needle
- Stash it in the correct needle box
- Insert the new needle
- Tighten the screw



Changing stitches

- Select a stitch using the touchscreen menu

- 1 – basic stitches
- 2 – decorative stitches
- 3 – letters
- 4 – buttonhole stitches
- 5 – quilt stitches



- To change the length/width of the stitch as well as the position of the needle (more left or right) you can use the knobs and buttons on the front of the machine

- Width of the stitch
- Length of the stitch
- 1/2 – position of the needle



FUNCTIONS

Sewing backwards

- To sew backwards, push the backwards button while sewing



Changing needle positions (up or down)

- There is a manual needle control wheel on the right side of the machine but as this is a computerized machine, it is generally recommended to not use it and use the button instead
- Press **quickly** the button to change the current needle stopping position from up to down or vice versa
- Press **long** to change the **default needle position** from up to down or vice versa



Changing the foot

- 1 - push the foot lever up and 2 - pull the old foot down
- Hold the new foot into position and secure by pulling the lever down



STEP-BY-STEP AT THE MACHINE

Before sewing

- Turn on the machine using the ACOS terminal
- Inspect the machine: is the electrical cable and the foot pedal plugged in? does it already have the color thread you want on top and bottom? right needle? right foot?
- Change any parameters mentioned above.

IMPORTANT: pay special attention when doing this to not hurt yourself with the needle and either make sure you don't have your foot on the pedal or turn the machine off briefly with the switch on the right side of the machine

While sewing

- **Watch your fingers** and keep them out of the needle's way
- Make sure the **foot is down** on the fabric while sewing
- Sew with the "nice" sides of the fabric facing each other. The **seam** will be hidden inside your work this way
- Use **seam allowance** (= distance between seam and edge of fabric). 0.5-1 cm is a good distance if you're unsure.
- Secure (**vernähe**) your stitches at the beginning and the end by making three stitches each forward and backwards (vice versa for the end) before starting and/or tying knots into the threads after you're done
- **Never** pull or push the fabric. The fabric will move on its own, all you need to do is guide it, so it doesn't tangle or shift to the side
- For **sharp corners**: lift the foot with the needle positioned down in the fabric and turn the fabric to the desired angle
- Normally the bottom thread matches your top thread, but you can choose a different color for special effect. When using **different threads**, the quality (thickness and material) of the bottom thread should be close to the top thread, it's best to vary colors from the same brand of thread.

STEP-BY-STEP AT THE MACHINE

After sewing

- Clean up after yourself
 - Put the thread into the correct place inside the drawers.
 - Leave the machine with the foot up
-
- Not enough information for you?
 - Find the **Bernina B485 manual** online for much more information on use, handling, accessories and more