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I am ready to buy an overlocker, which is the best choice?

The Overlocker machine

Just like the sewing machine, there are a lot of manufacturers that produce the overlocking machine. The Overlocker used to be a relatively rare machine to have in the home, but now because of the demand, they have risen ten fold in the last 15 years. Because there are so many different makes and models available, the Overlocker can be purchased at a very reasonable price and the quality of the stitch compared to an industrial overlocking machine can be excellent.

An excellent companion

The overlocking machine is an excellent companion to have alongside the sewing machine and when you have one, the scope of your projects can increase dramatically. There are so many garments that you can produce professionally when you have an Overlocker, like for instance a pair of trousers as the entire panels are overlocked reducing the need for lining. Other garments that require an Overlocker are shirts, skirts, dresses and half lined casual jackets.

The best overlocker for me

When choosing an Overlocker machine, like your sewing machine choose the model that appeals to you and try it out to see if the machine feels right. In most cases manufacturers produce an overlocker and a sewing machine so if you are very happy with the way that your sewing machine is performing, then try the same make for your new overlocking machine purchase. Most overlocking stitches are made up of a three thread chain stitch and a four thread chain, some Overlockers can produce a two thread chain, usually used for a fine rolled edge and some even a cover stitch which is used for finishing the edge of t shirt sleeves. The stitch functions to look for on the Overlocker machine are the three thread and four thread chain stitch combinations as these are the most common stitches used for your every day sewing projects. Also look out for a differential feed as this functions reduces the wave effect that you might get on certain fabrics and when adjusted keeps the fabric, when overlocked flat.

The accessories with an overlocker machine

The domestic overlocker machine will use the same sewing needles as your sewing machine does, so this makes the process very easy when buying spare machine needles. Most Overlockers will come with an array of accessories included with the machine, like a small brush to clean the build up of fluff and lint, screwdrivers, small tweezers and a needle threader. Again the Overlocker will use the same cleaning oil as your sewing machine to keep all the workings lubricated. There are also attachments such as presser feet that can be purchased later if needed but the foot that comes with the machine will cope with all the tasks that you will be undertaking within your sewing projects.

The tailors last word

If you are going to treat yourself to an Overlocking machine, remember to purchase the machine that appeals to you and the one that you feel most comfortable using. Your overlocker will last you many years producing some beautiful garments and will become a great companion to have.

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