

# GENERAL TIPS

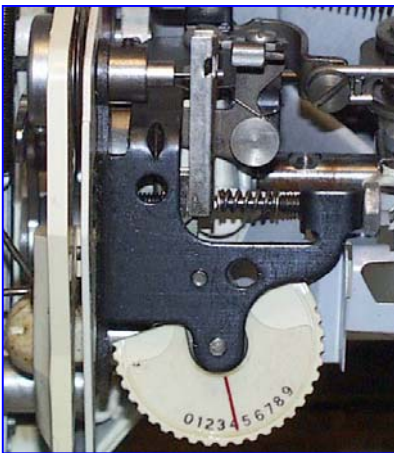
## TOP TENSION ISSUES

The general purpose of this document is to help trouble shoot some basic problems. I do expect one to be somewhat familiar with their machine, and at the same time be a somewhat handy with a screwdriver. If you are not, then see if you can locate a buddy that is.

### Threads Loop, Or Bird Nest, Underneath The Fabric:

- Generally due to an upper tension problem
  - a. Always ensure the machine is threaded correctly
  - b. Best way to check if a machine is threaded properly, and that the top tension is working as it should
  - c. With the presser foot up
  - d. Thread the machine as far as the take-up lever and stop
  - e. Set the presser foot down
  - f. Set the tension dial to zero (0)
  - g. Pull on the thread and start turning the dial to 3 & then 5
  - h. The thread should begin to tighten in resistance as you pull on it
  - i. If it doesn't, then you more than likely have an issue with the top tension
  - j. Repeat the steps, just to ensure you have it threaded correctly
- Models like the Futura, Athena, and Touch Tronic – they have concealed tension units
- Models like the Touch & Sew (T&S) 700 series – they have little round units on the top lid
- Stylist Models came with two types of tension units, one that is on the front of the machine, and one like the above T&S series

Futura/Athena/Touch Tronic



T&S – Some Stylist 500 Series



Touch & Sew 600 & Slant-O-Matics  
Stylist 400 – 500, Fashion Mate  
Older model Singers



I have repair guides available for each type, and they are located on the machines specific web page:

- Futura/Athena/Touch Tronic: <http://www.tandtrepair.com/Futura.html>
- T&S 700 & 500 Stylist Type: [http://www.tandtrepair.com/700\\_TanS\\_Items.html](http://www.tandtrepair.com/700_TanS_Items.html) (Stylist 500, use the T&S guide)
- T&S 600 – Stylist 400 – 500 – Fashion Mate: <http://www.tandtrepair.com/StylistLine.html>