

## FINAL SUGGESTIONS

When I first worked on button machines, I had great advice from a legendary mechanic, Jack Kostielney. He told me if I followed the book very carefully the machine would work 50% of the time. I asked,

What about the other 50%. Jack K. told me:

“Start over, you messed up.”

The information in this book will solve most of your Model 373 button machine problems.

If not, start over and try again.

If using this booklet does not get your machine working, then you can call someone to fix your machine, or, even sometimes, talk you through the problem.

**Another thing you can do is attempt to adjust the machine— adjust the looper timing, yoke slide , finger positioning, needle bar height, button clamp, adjust the cams and cam timing, work on the tension release level, etc. If you do any or all of these operations, you will NOT get the machine to work, but you will make it more difficult but also more profitable for the mechanic who does eventually have to fix the machine. He or she will have to charge more to re-adjust the parts you messed up.**

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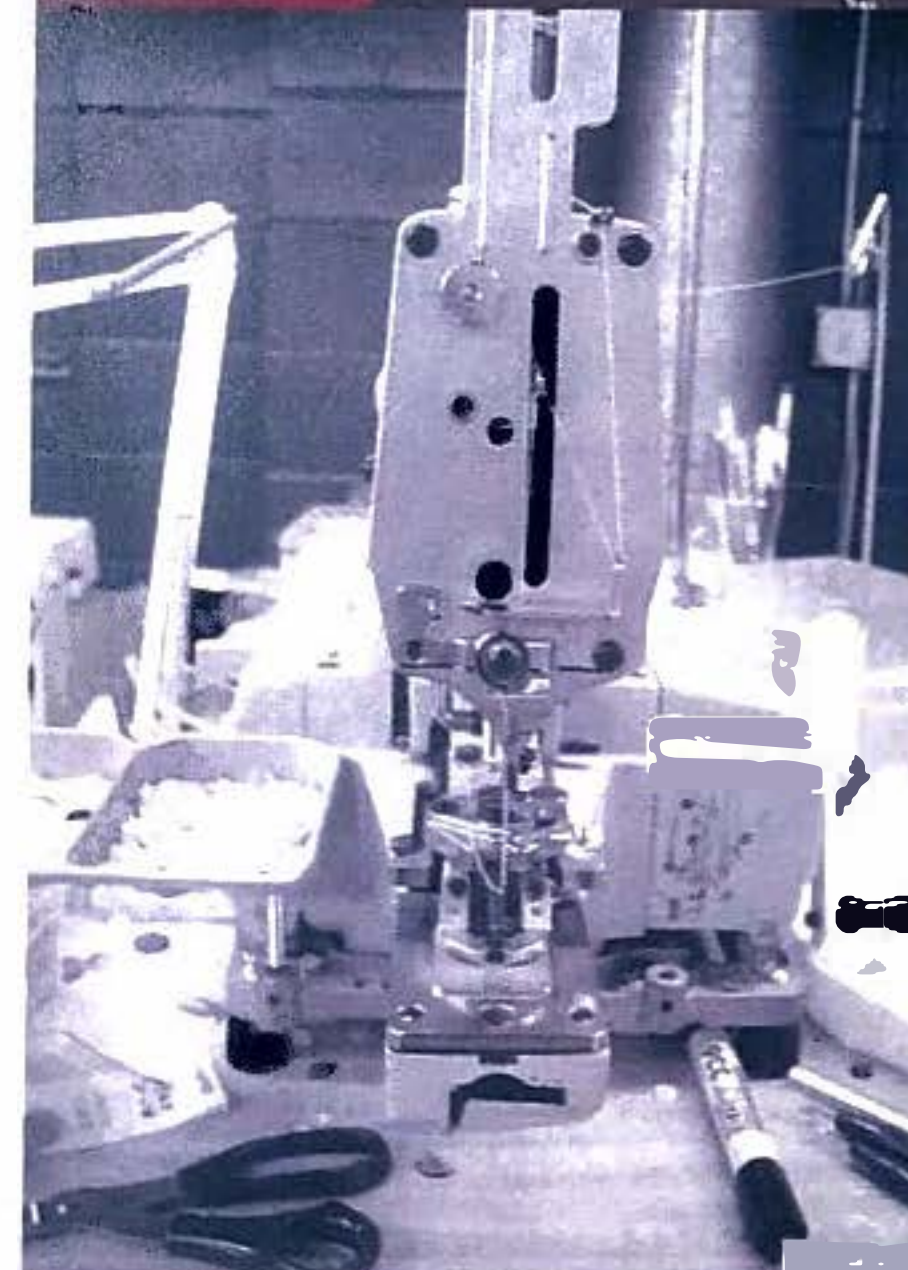
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## Liebersew 373/1377 ButtonSewing Machine



This booklet is a brief look at some simple steps to make this machine work well. There are two or three minor mistakes that will cause the machine to appear to be really messed up. This small booklet addresses these and shows how to make the machine work well most of the time.

**THIS IS NOT ROCKET SCIENCE!**



**Most Common Mistake:**  
**Needle is NOT RIGHT!**

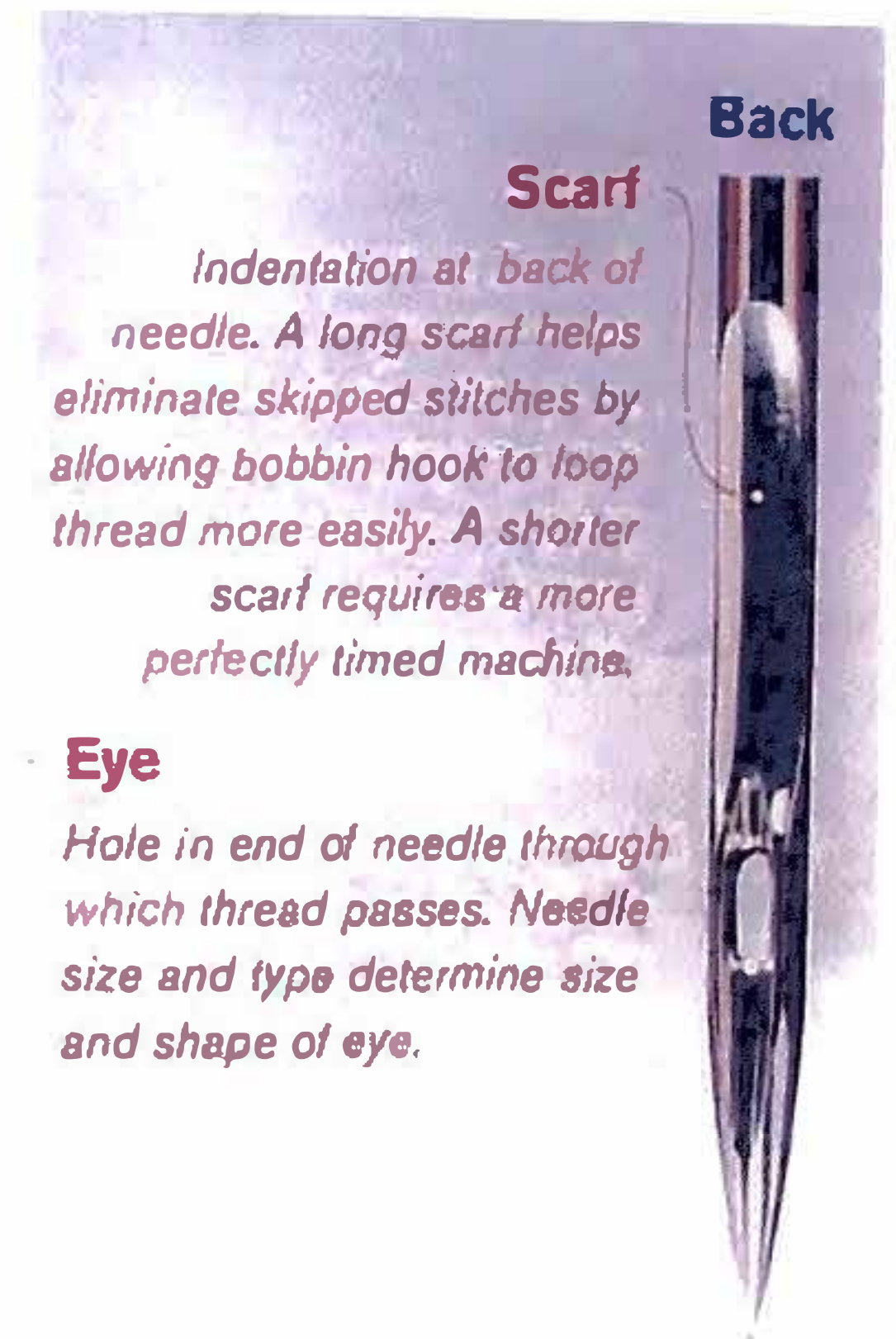
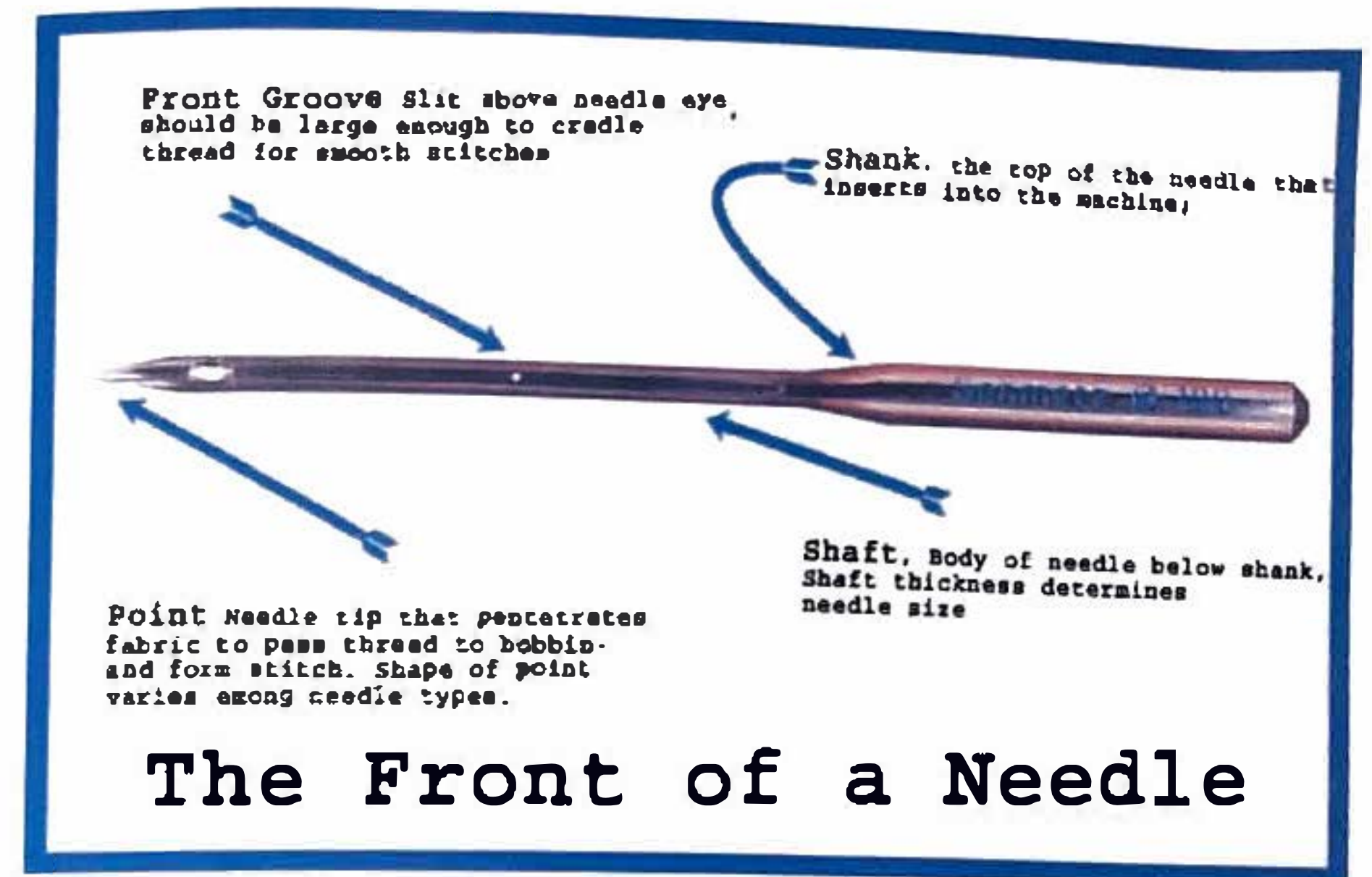
**First and essential step:**

**Change the needle at the**  
**First sign of a problem**

**Put in a NEW needle before doing**  
**anything else!**

**DON'T ASK WHY—JUST DO IT!**

1. Use the proper needle—the needle for a 373 Button machine will have system numbers that are either 175x1 or TQx1. The recommended size for dry cleaners is 16.
2. The top of the needle is perfectly round. The FRONT of the needle has a groove that goes up the needle all the way to the shank. The thread lies in this groove when the needle is in the shirt. GROOVE IS IN THE FRONT!
3. The back of the needle has a indentation called a scarf—it is a dent that the point of the looper uses to pick up the thread on each stitch.
4. It is ESSENTIAL THAT THE THREAD GROOVE FACES THE FRONT. The needle hole is facing the operator and is straight out: in other words: it is parallel with the machine head.
5. This puts the scarf directly in the back so the looper can hook the thread on each stitch.
6. USE A SOFT THREAD— Polyspum serger thread is an excellent choice. “Button machine thread” is NOT the best choice for today’s shirts. Because “button machine thread” is stiff, it leaves a hard lump on the shirt.





## Second Mistake:

### Threading is not Correct!

#### This Mistake Is Easily Corrected

Threading the Liebersew Button Machine is very easy.

There are two pictures of the path of the thread on the machine. One picture shows the thread across the top of the machine. The other picture shows the thread path on the front of the machine.

There is only one part of the path that is not clear from the picture—a clamp on top of the machine that is close to the front.

This strange looking clamp is locked when the machine is in the stop position. This holds the thread tightly at the end of the cycle. This enables the knife under the needle plate to cleanly CUT the thread and not just push it and/or have it break.

Once someone is shown how the thread goes in this strange clamp, the threading is very easy.

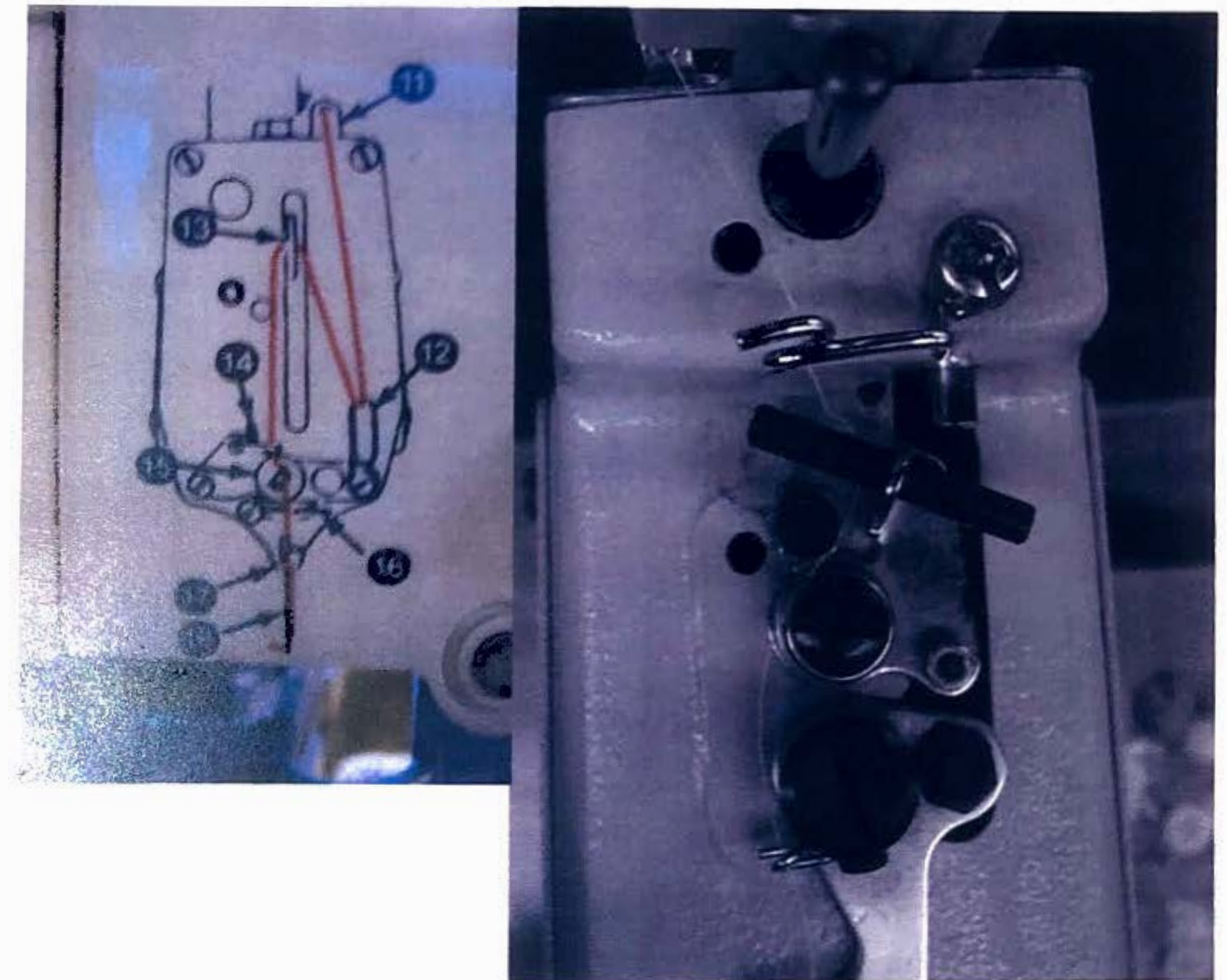
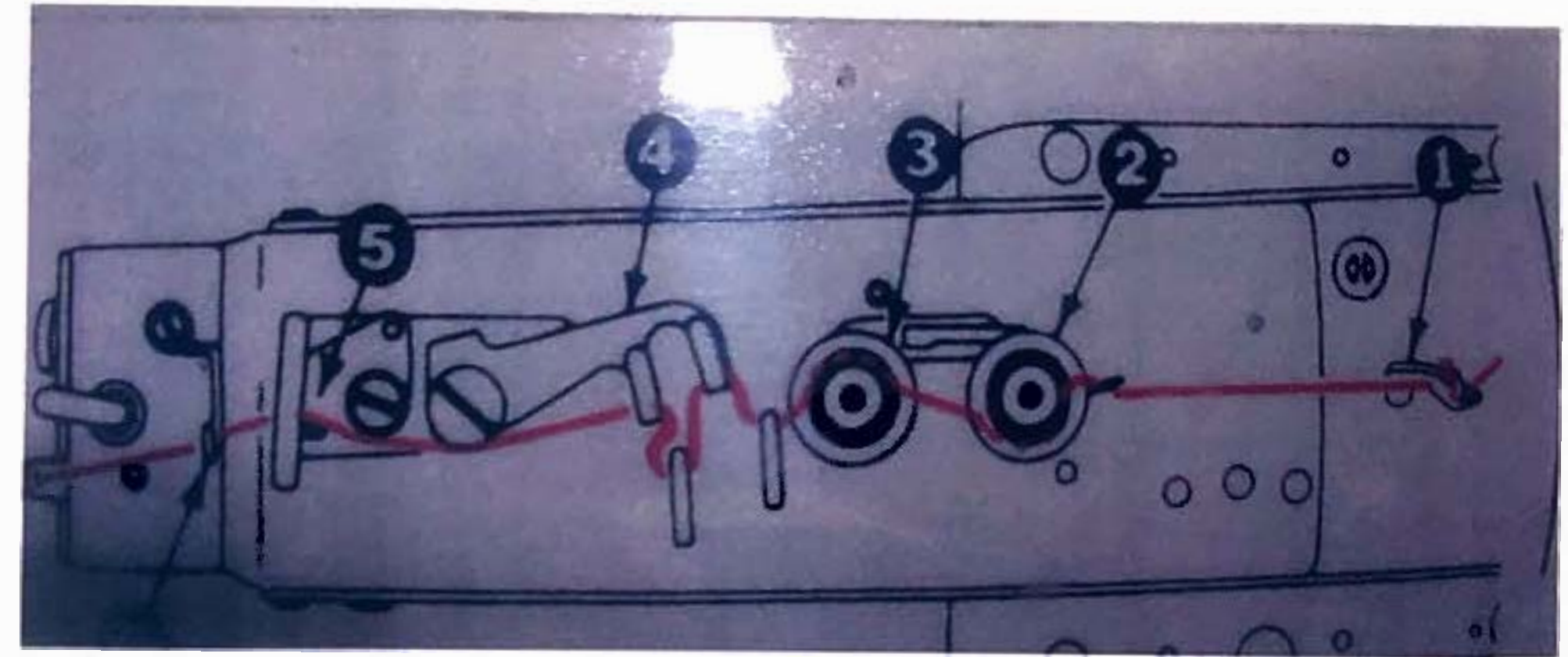
It is essential that the thread is in-between the two chrome disks that are in each tension.

It is easy for the thread to LOOK right, but not be in-between the quarter size disks.

Look for places where the thread might be getting stuck or twisted around something if the tension seems wrong.

**DON'T ADJUST THE TENSION-**  
**it's OK 99% of the time.**

A Rule of thumb: Tension nuts should be even with the top of the threaded tension post.





## OTHER HELPFUL HINTS

1. There is a lever in the back of the machine that Has 2-hole and 4-hole settings (picture in future books) Two hole is all the way to the outside (2 hole) and four hole for **ALL buttons** is with the pointer at the 2 1/2 mark. Any other setting will not be in the center of the holes and will result in missed stitches and broken needles.

2. Do NOT run the machine without a button and a shirt or material in the machine: The thread will be snarl up around the looper and the machine will NOT sew buttons.

Open the cover of the bottom of the machine by **SWINGING** the cover to the outside. Don't pull the cover down. Look for thread caught on the looper and remove every strand with a seam ripper, scissors and tweezers.

3. Use thread that is soft—a good serging thread is ideal for today's shirts and for pant buttons.



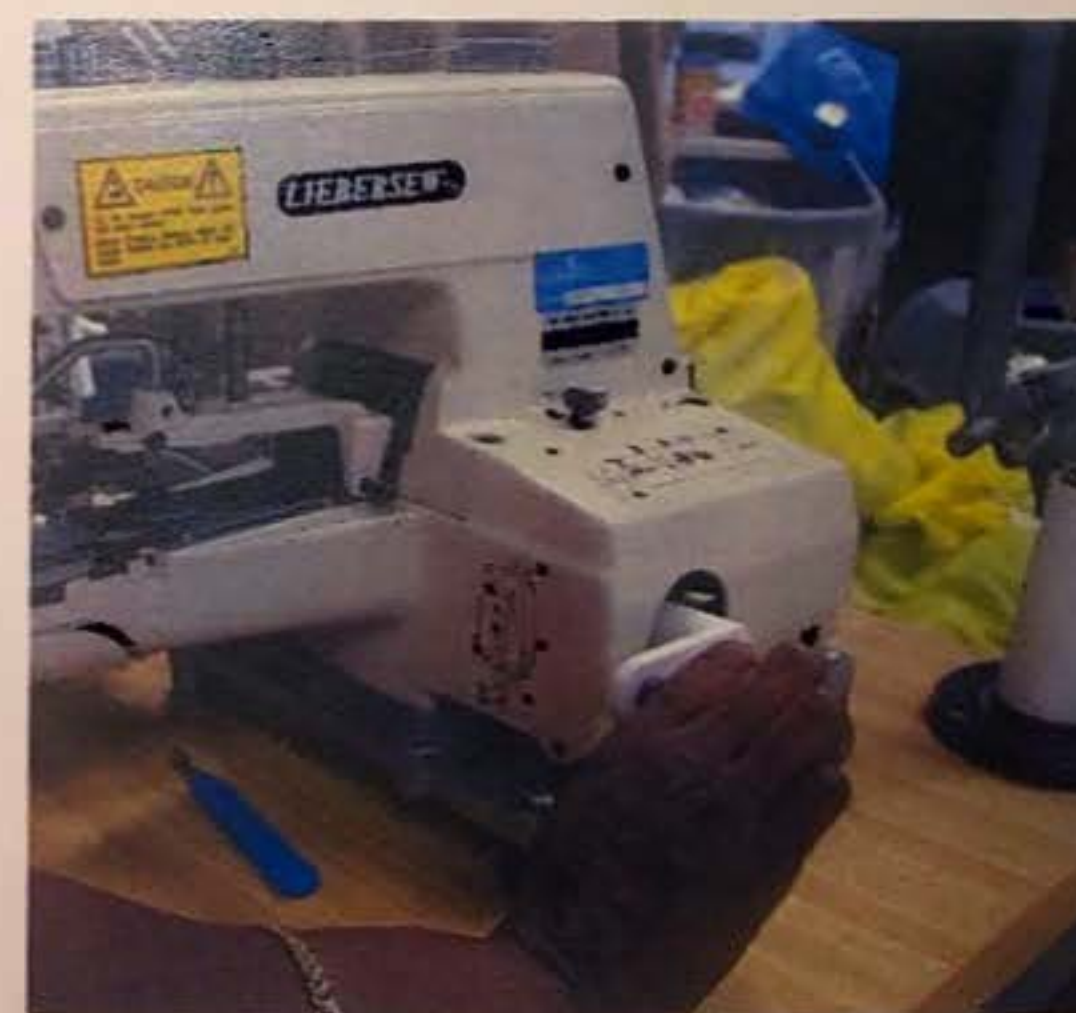
1. Put the button in the clamp—the holes are squared off with the machine.
2. Put the shirt under the clamp—align the button with the place it goes on the shirt.



3. Press the pedal with your foot to start the cycle. (An electric machine will now automatically sew the button and stop)

4. For HAND operation, keeping your foot on the pedal for the first revolution makes it easier to turn.

You have to take your foot off the pedal for the machine to stop properly!



- .5. Turn the crank clockwise (away from you) until it stops and locks the mechanism in the up position—( 12 revolutions).
6. When the clamp lifts, the thread is cut and you just take the shirt out and trim any excess thread from the shirt.

