

# HOW TO REFURBISH SEWING MACHINES



A step-by-step  
guide

*for*

Singer Models  
66, 99, 15K,  
and 201

**TOOLS  
FOR SELF  
RELIANCE**

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Thank you for helping Tools for Self Reliance. Each year we send hundreds of sewing machines to people in Africa, mainly women's groups, who are trying to make life a little easier for themselves and for their community.

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*“This is your step-by-step guide on how to refurbish sewing machines to an acceptable standard”*

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These people are able to make school and work uniforms, clothes for church and special occasions, and to alter and mend everyday items at prices affordable by others in their community.

This manual is designed to be a step-by-step guide on how to refurbish sewing machines to an acceptable standard. It is not intended that you read every word, but rather dip into it at appropriate places.

*“We want people to be delighted when they see their sewing machines.”*

The very first thing to think about is that the sewing machine you are preparing or fixing is going to be used much more frequently than it has previously been.

It is likely to be used in dusty conditions and the person using it cannot just 'pop down to the shop' to get a replacement part or to have a fault fixed.

For these reasons we don't just send any sewing machine. We want to send machines that are safe, will do the job needed, which will last, and for which spares are available.

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*“Bear in mind that the new owner of the machine cannot just 'pop down to the shop' for a spare part.”*

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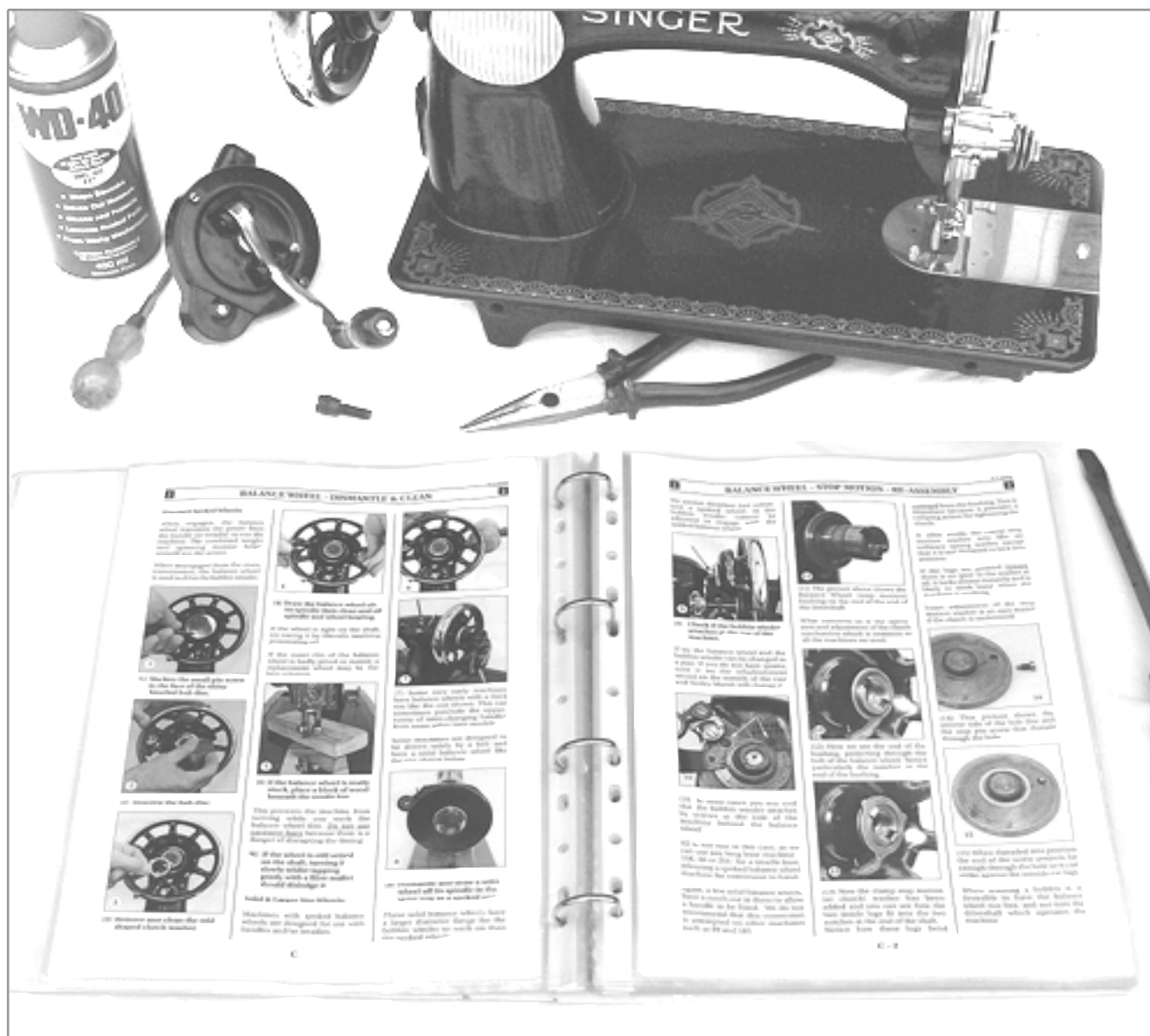


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We want people to be delighted when they see their sewing machines, not dismayed that the machine is scruffy and not working.

We only send certain makes and models and we have a rigorous refurbishing procedure - along the lines of a quality full service, valeting and MOT.





The best way to file the loose leaves of your manual is in plastic sleeves in a binder - both readily available at W.H.Smith and most stationers.

This ensures the pages will be preserved and you can flip through them with dirty or oily hands without a problem.

The main sections of the manual give comprehensive descriptions of each part of the machine with illustrations showing the work to be done.

The manual is comprehensive but don't try to absorb all the information - just dip into it as you need it.

And remember, it is more accessible when you use it alongside the machine you are working on.

If you are just beginning to refurbish machines please read Section 1 - Getting Started. This outlines the procedures and the paperwork, explains simply how a Sewing Machine works and describes the Singer models we are concerned with.

From time-to-time we expect to issue updates of pages if policy changes or if we learn of a better way to tackle a task. For this reason we have included an issue date at the top right hand corner of every page.

### STEP BY STEP

The manual is written in sections which correspond to the sections of the Sewing Machine Checklist.

We suggest you work through a machine - section by section - in the same order as the list.

Using the manual in this way you will find you have all the information you need to fully refurbish machines and correct common faults.

*We welcome tips and feed-back from you, if you think there is something else we should include that will be of benefit to other refurbishers.*

At Netley Marsh we are sending hundreds of refurbished machines to Africa whilst dealing with hundreds of other unrefurbished machines, so it is important that we are able to distinguish machines easily.

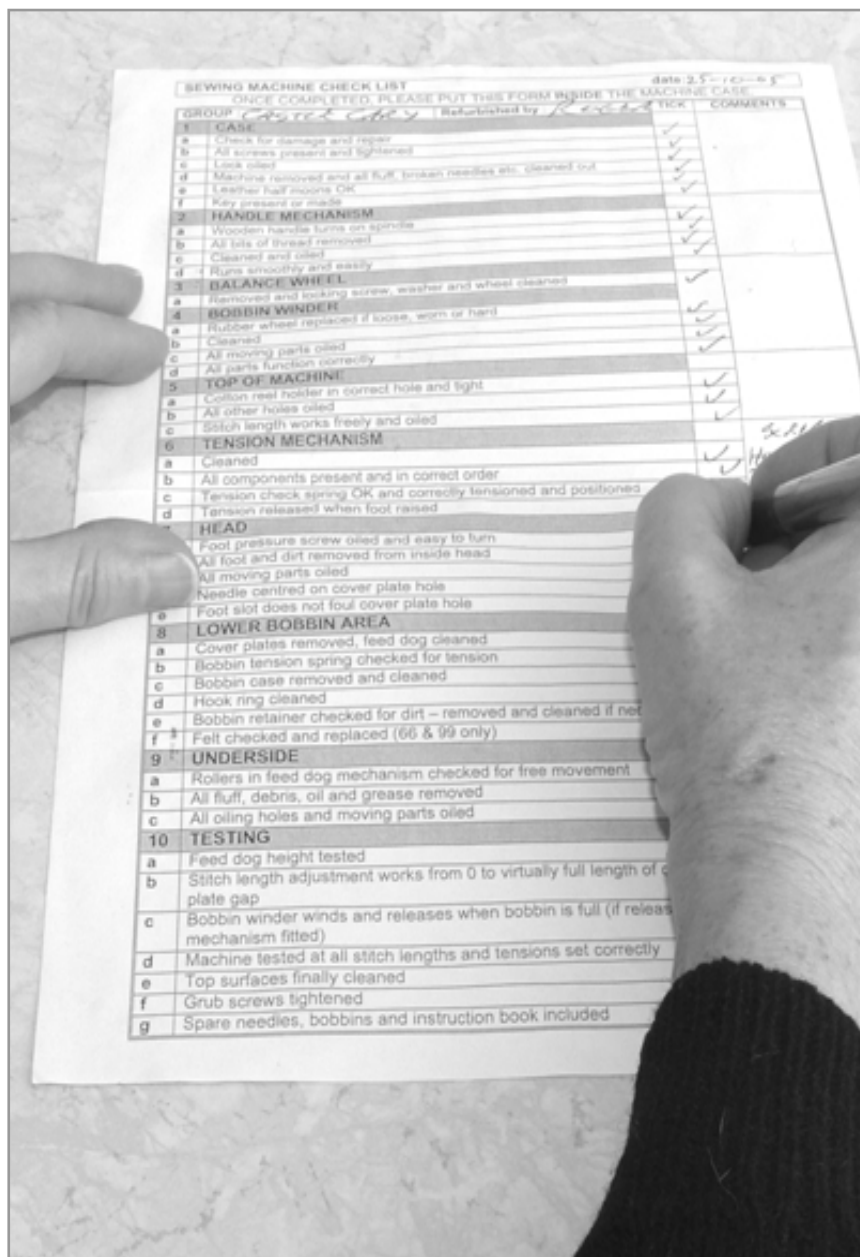
For this reason we have various stages of paperwork which need to be completed properly.

### Sewing machine check list.

This is intended as a prompt list for the tasks to be done as you are refurbishing a machine - not as a list to be ticked off after the machine is finished.

If you have problems, they should be noted here. (Use the back of the sheet if it is needed as a continuation).

The list should be put inside the case with the machine. Please note any problems or deficiencies on the refurbishment record on the outside of the case.



### The sewing machine refurbishing record.

This is a summary of the check list and should be stuck on an end face outside the sewing machine case.

In this way, without having to open the machine, the checker can see:

- if there are any problems with the machine that need attending to or...
- if any spares need adding.

