

RECOGNISING THE MODELS

The manual machines we send, both hand and treadle, must be Singer round bobbin models 66, 99, 15K or 201.

Start by measuring the length of the machine base and then uncovering the bobbin area.

If the base is 300 mm long your machine is a 99.

Caution: Some modern 99s have a solid balance wheel. There is also a 185 model, very similar to the 99, seen infrequently. Mostly these are electric with a solid balance wheel. We cannot convert either of these to hand machines unless the solid wheel has a notch to take a handle.

Apart from the size the 99 and 66 models are virtually the same and are known as *oscillating hook* machines.

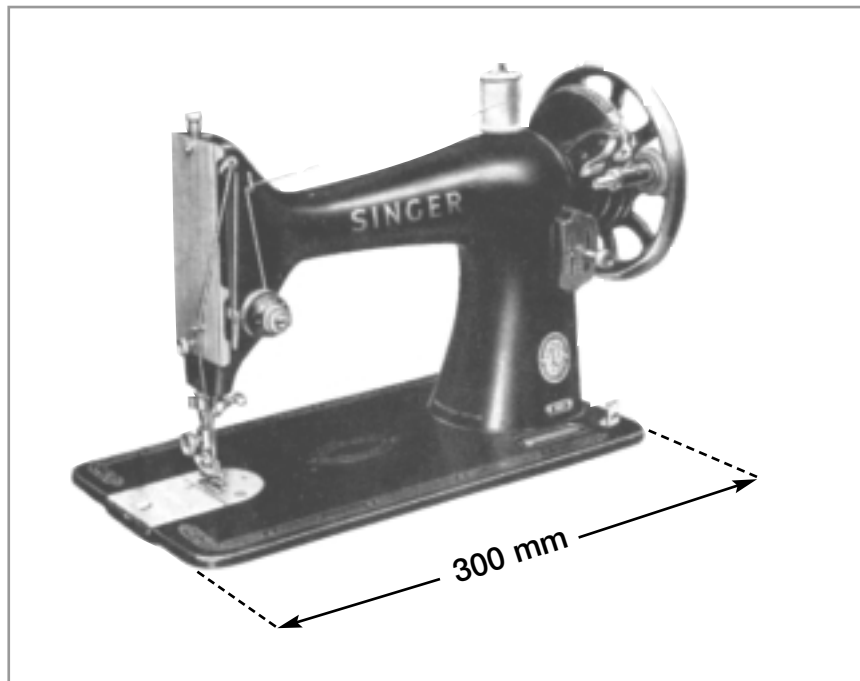
With *Oscillating hook* machines the stitch forming mechanism is underneath the machine bed and oscillates (turns backwards and forwards through 180 degrees for each stitch).

By slowly turning the balance wheel over whilst looking at the lower bobbin assembly you will see how the hook (which fits around the bobbin case) rotates in one direction and then back. It does not complete a full 360 degree rotation.

If the base measures 370 mm long and the bobbin is vertical - as a wheel - then it is a 15K.

It is distinctive because of the prominent tension mounting to the left of the face plate.

The 15K is also an *oscillating hook* machine.



99



15k

1**GETTING STARTED - THE MACHINES WE DO SEND****1**

If the base is 370 mm long, the bobbin is lying horizontally flat and the hook ring oscillates back and forward, this is a 66.

This is virtually a larger and heavier version of the 99.

Singer made various changes and modifications to these machines over the years.

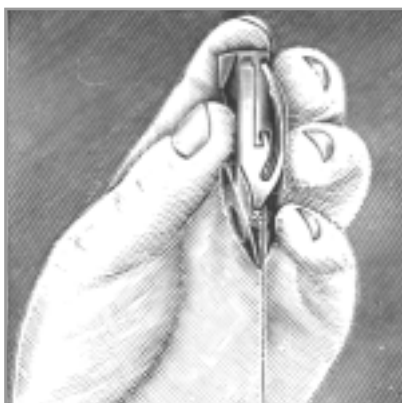
We later look in detail at the main changes which affect refurbishment. They include (among others) a major change to the lower bobbin latch assembly and changes to the upper tension mechanism.

**66**

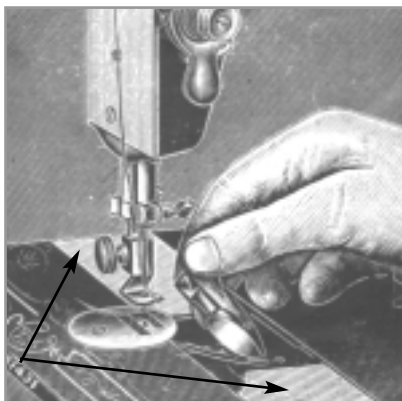
If the base is 370 mm long, the bobbin is lying horizontally flat and the hook ring rotates rather than oscillates then this is a 201.

The 201 has a distinctive stitch length regulator control (on the front near the balance wheel) with numbers for required settings.

**201**

(1) Long Bobbin

We do not send machines which use this type of long bobbin (or shuttle) because we are not confident that spares for them are readily available in African countries.

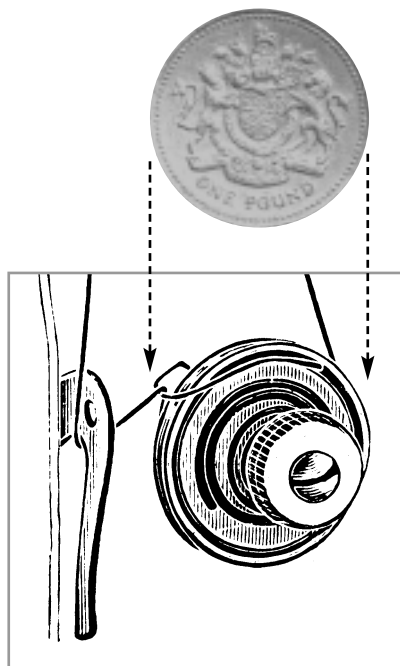


Shuttle bobbin machines are easily recognised because they have two long cover plates over the bobbin area (*round bobbin machines have a single cover plate over the bobbin area.*)

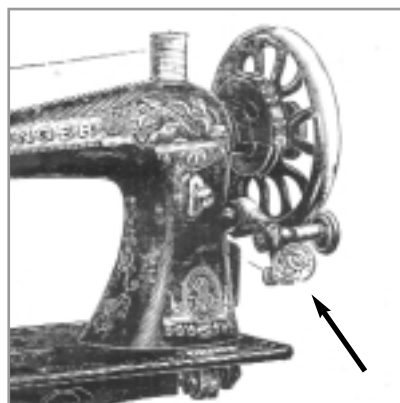
The round bobbin technology is used on present day machines, which guarantees its continued wide distribution.

Please do not waste your valuable time and effort on refurbishing any of these type of machines.

In general, if you get a machine which is not one of our 15K, 66, 99 or 201 specified models, please check with Netley before working on it.

(2) Small Tension

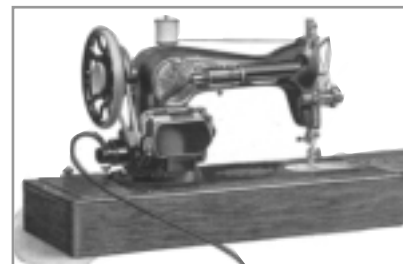
We do not send 66 or 99 machines if they have a small tension mechanism because we cannot get the replacement springs for them.

(3) Rim Bobbin Winders

We do not send any early models with the bobbin winders working on the rim of the balance wheel as shown here. We cannot get the rubber rings in this large size.

Neither do we sent early Model 15s (without the 'K' suffix) as the needle threads in the opposite direction, and would be confusing for the recipient.

(The 201 also threads in the opposite direction but we receive enough of these to supply all 201s in a group kit).

(4) Electric Conversions

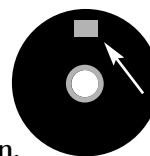
Over the years a number of 15K, 66, 99 and 201 manual machines were converted for use to electricity.

We do not send electrically converted machines in this form as we have a good supply of modern electrics which have greater versatility. We convert them back for manual use by removing the bolt-on motor and light and then we fit a handle.



Later machines, designed solely for use with electric motors, had no use of a spoked balance wheel and the solid wheel was introduced.

Some solid wheels have an indented slot cut into them and can be converted to hand operation.



Any 'long base' machines (mainly 201s) can be converted to treadle operation. There is a full explanation of when machines can be modified to hand operation on page [2] C-2.

Although they are rare, be aware that there are two models, the 201K2 and the 15K91 which have the electric motor built into the main pillar. This means that even if you attach a handle mechanism, the drag of the motor is substantial so use them for spares only.

Don't waste time on conversions.