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DEPARTMENT OF FASHION DESIGN
TECHNOLOGY

BASIC CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT

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With the listed types, it can be seen that the difference in domestic and industrial machines is mostly with functioning.

While domestic machines are expected to work for a small duration of time, the industrial machines have to be a workhorse to run smoothly throughout the day. This becomes the driving reason to make the industrial machines less complicated in working and thus have limited functions. Due to this, the number of industrial machines is huge compared to domestic machines as each machine has to perform different operations unique to that machine.

1. Domestic sewing machine

1.1 Manual sewing machine

These are considered the godfather of sewing machines as all the sewing machines now are derived from this machine. These can still be found in local tailor shops, homes, and several other places all indicating its durability. These are made of metal and controlled with the handwheel as there is no motor to drive the machine. For the machine to work the handwheel has to be rotated all the time which helps control the machine, thus can be very helpful for beginners. But this lacks the speed for commercialized products since the machine is powered by human and one of the operator's hand is also involved resulting to decreases productivity. This machine can mostly be used for small mending or DIYs for personal use



Fig 1.1 Manual sewing machine

1.2 Treadle Sewing machines

Unlike the above, the main control over the machine has been shifted towards the leg with the help of a treadle where the operator has to power the machine by continuously paddling the treadle. Apart from that everything is similar, this is much faster and efficient as the now unoccupied hand can be used for material handling. Also, the machine speed can be controlled by the paddling movement. These are mostly found in local tailor shops.



Fig 1.2 Treadle Sewing machines

1.3 Mechanical domestic sewing machine

These are the upgraded version of such machines. These are inspired by the industrial machines and thus became mechanized. Powered by electrical motor these are much faster than the previous machines. But the use of less durable parts to favor portability limited its durability and can be used for only a few hours at a stretch. But these are loaded with functionality compared with traditional industrial machines which include different settings for different types of stitches, needle positioning etc. This served the need for a wide variety of Hobbies and DIYs for domestic use. To access those setting the user only has to move knobs, twist them, move lever manually and such mechanical work, thus the name. Unlike the above, it is controlled by a pedal and pressing with different pressure to adjust the machine speed.



Fig 1.3 Mechanical domestic sewing machine

1.4 Electronic domestic sewing machine

These are the even more advanced version of the above mechanical machines as the mechanical knobs and lever has now been replaced with the LCD screens and buttons. From the screen, all the machine features can be adjusted electronically by moving through the settings menu and pressing buttons. The functions included are selecting between stitch types, adjusting stitch length, altering the width of the zig-zag stitch, decorative stitch, etc. But these came with its problem at the beginning as the machines were not reliable and durable, with the use of electronic components. This has since been diverted at the cost of getting more expensive.



Fig 1.4 Electronic domestic sewing machine

2. Computerized domestic sewing machine

It is the same as that of the electrical sewing machine but unlike the above, all the controls have been shifted from dials and buttons to LCD touchscreens on the machines. All it is needed is to maneuver through the options on the screen to get the desired sewing feature. These machines also come with USB port, WiFi, Bluetooth, NFC for connectivity with mobile devices so that settings can be applied directly through the mobile system, transferred from one machine to another or downloaded from online databases. These machines also come with several automated features best of which being automatic needle threader with others like tension adjuster, thread cutter, bobbin winder, locking straight stitch functions for reinforced seams, auto tying of loose ends, and much more. Computerized machines are known for their versatility as these machines can work with quilting, embroidery, heavy-duty sewing and even certain specialized sewing. The machines are also precise in sewing and can adjust to the different types of fabric. For assistance, these machines sometimes also provide on-screen tutorials of sewing different stitches for an effortless experience. All the above features add to endless possibilities for domestic sewing with the downside being durability of such machines is comparable to the above electronic machines and are also priced higher than the above machines.



Fig 2. Computerized domestic sewing machine

2.1 Embroidery machines

As the name, these are used for designing different embroidery patterns for domestic projects and DIYs. These machines have a substantial amount of in-built embroidery designs and functionality to add more designs with the in-built memory facility and USB stick. Upon requirement, these machines can also be used for basic sewing with numerous options as well as allows for decorative stitches. To switch between these modes only an embroidery hoop has to attach or removed making the process very easy. With all the functionality these machines are expensive compared to any mechanical or electrical sewing machines but are very versatile in functioning.



Fig 2.1 Embroidery machines

2.2 Quilting machines

These machines are used for quilting operations. Its longer arm allows for larger fabrics to be operated through the machine. Most of the machine has programmable needle up/down feature which comes handy for patchworks. These also include few basic and decorative stitches for versatility.



Fig 2.2 Quilting machines

2.3 Mini/Portable sewing machine

These machines are fairly available in the market and are cheap compared to all the other machines. This is because these are destined to be used for minimal applications such as basic mending, sewing, alters and other similar projects. These are small, lightweight and thus are easily portable. These portable machines can perform straight sewing by lock stitch with the occasional function of zig-zag stitching also. Considering the price these are not that much durable and can work at a stretch for a small amount of time.



Fig 2.3 Mini/Portable sewing machine

3. Industrial sewing machines:

Industrial sewing machines are made for making mass consumer products and are thus used in the industries. This includes apparel, footwear, home furnishing and similar industries which depend on sewing their products for its manufacturing. These machines are aimed to stitch a wide variety of fabrics ranging from muslin to canvas to that of leather, plastics and thus are very versatile. Unlike domestic machines these are made from durable materials, construction of metals and thus can work for hours at a stretch without the motor heating up or any need for maintenance.

Being mechanical with few or no computerised parts, these are much faster, accurate and efficient than their domestic counterpart. Industrial machines are of different types most of which are designed to be used for primary functions only which add to its durability. The machines are costly but only because of their build material, durability, easy maintenance which can last for years. This allows for good resale value and most often these second-hand machines boost various small-scale industries.

3.1 Single needle lock stitch machine

These are the most common sewing machines that are available and can be seen in all the industries related to sewing and also tailor shops all around. It stitches mostly in a straight line with 301 stitch type and often the addition of zig-zag stitch (304 stitch type). This can work with all the types of fabric available including heavy fabrics such as canvas or denim. Attachments available are in the types of pressure foot, needle types, feed dogs, UBT etc. It requires two threads, one for the needle and other for the bobbin. Operations like seaming, hemming, attachments are perfect for SNLS machines. These machines are now being upgraded with electronics to make it sync with the upcoming IoT solutions.



Fig 3.1 Single needle lock stitch machine

3.2 Double needle lock stitch machine

The functioning is the same as above but instead of one needle, it has two needles thus two-needle thread, bobbin thread, tensioner, take up, thread guide, spool pin and needle holder. The stitch runs parallel to each other and is used in different seaming operations in shirts, jeans, overcoat or similar clothing.



Fig 3.2 Double needle lock stitch machine

3.3 Overlock/Serger Machine

The overlock machines are used to sew sturdy seams, well-finished hems and fabric edges or two pieces of fabric. These machines are of two types, one for basic overlock and the other with a safety stitch of chain stitch running along with the overlock stitch. These are also equipped with a cutter that trims the

fabric edge on feeding to provide a neat finishing edge. Unlike lockstitch machines, overlock machine uses loopers fed by multiple thread cones instead of the bobbin. It runs at a much higher speed than any other sewing machine with speed reaching up to 9000rpm but domestic overlock machines are much slower to make them user friendly and versatile. These machines come with the option for two to five thread and are used for finishing edges, hemming and seaming for knits in sportswear, intimates, fleece fabrics etc.



Fig-3.3 Overlock Machine

3.4 Flatlock/Cover stitch Machine

These machines are specialised for sewing cover stitches. This functions by interloping of the looper threads with that of needle threads at the underside of the seam. For the top spreader, another thread is interlaced on the top side of the seam between the two needle threads. By changing the number of threads different types of stitch formation can be achieved like 2 needle bottom cover stitch, 2 needle cover stitch with cover thread, 2 needle 4 thread cover stitch etc. Stitch class of 400 and 600 are possible with this machine. With such a wide variety of stitching these machines can be used for binding, flat seaming, hemming in knit garments, attaching elastic, attaching pocket facing in jeans etc.



Fig-3.4 Flatlock Machine

3.5 Single needle chain stitch machine

This machine is used to create chain stitch which unlike lockstitch used one thread and interloping it to stitch into the fabric. Due to this, the stitch is much more stretchable and is used for stretch fabrics. The machine can stitch both straight stitched seam as well as a zig-zag stitch. Apart from sewing seams, this can also be used for decorative sewing or bindings. There are different variants of this machine with double-needle and multiple needle configuration. Multiple needle chain stitch machine is known as Kansai Machine and is used for smocking and pin-tuck operations.



Fig-3.5 Single needle chain stitch machine



Fig: Double needle chain stitch machine



Fig: Kansai Special Machine |Multineedle chain stitch machine

3.6 Feed of the arm machine

This machine is designed to be used for lapped seams. It is most commonly used in jeans for sewing the inseam, attaching the yoke to the back and the front and back raise. It can also be used for shirts and other light to medium weight fabric.



Fig: FOA

3.7 Blind stitch machine

This machine specialized in creating an invisible stitch which is used for hemming in trousers, skirts, shorts. It replaced the age-old blind stitching by hand for commercial production.



Fig 3.7 Blind stitch machine

3.8 Button attaching machine

This machine is used to attach buttons by sewing it using lock stitch. The machine is programmable to change its setting according to two holes, four holes or shank buttons by simply adjusting the button clamp and spacing mechanism. Some machines also come with an automatic button feeding mechanism eliminating the operator's work of button placement.



Fig 3.8 Button attaching machine

3.9 Buttonhole Machine

This machine is used to create neat buttonholes using a lock stitch or chain stitch. Out of both the lockstitch are most common because of its strength and security but chain stitch gives much neat finish with lacks in strength. The machine is programmable to make several types of buttonholes and with a knife attached to cut through the buttonhole.



Fig 3.9 Button hole machine

3.10 Bartack sewing machine

This is a specialized machine only to be used for bar tacks. Bar tack is used to reinforce specific areas of the garments and accessories like that on the back pocket on jeans, securing the bottom of flies, attaching the belt loops, etc.



Fig 3.10 Bar tack machine

3.11 Longarm quilting sewing machine

This machine is specially used for quilting and is equipped with long arms to allow room for material handling. These machines are available both in mechanical as well as computerised for easy quilting.



Fig 3.11 Long arm quilting machine

3.12 Computer-controlled cycle machine

These machines are pre-programmed to move on a certain pattern automatically and are used for stitching labels, emblems, decorative stitches on pockets etc. The fabric is laid on a template and from there the machine recognises the placement and start with the sewing. These are most useful for small complicated operations to nullify the human factor and provide accurate stitch every time.



Fig 3.12 Computer-controlled cycle machine

Conclusion:

With such, it can be concluded with the fact that industrial machines can be used for domestic use provided the need but domestic machines will be a nightmare to be used in industries.

Here's the categorization of the types of sewing machines into semi-automatic, automatic, and reprogrammable automation machines:

Semi-Automatic Machines:

- Manual sewing machine

These machines require full manual operation.

- Treadle Sewing machines

These are operated using a foot pedal and are considered semi-automatic as they do not have electric components.

- Mechanical domestic sewing machine

These machines are powered by electricity but require manual adjustment and operation.

Automatic Machines:

- Electronic domestic sewing machine

These have electronic components and can perform some tasks automatically but require user input.

- Mini/Portable sewing machine

These machines are compact and typically have some automatic functions but limited capabilities.

- Industrial sewing machines:

Single needle lock stitch machine

Can perform specific stitches automatically but are not programmable.

- Double needle lock stitch machine

Similar to the single needle version, with automatic functions for stitching.

- Overlock/Serger Machine

Performs edge finishing and stitching automatically.

- Flatlock/Cover stitch Machine

Specialized for hemming and seaming with automatic functions.

- Single needle chain stitch machine

Performs chain stitches automatically.

- Feed of the arm machine

Specialized for circular stitching with automatic functions.

- Blind stitch machine

Performs blind stitches automatically.

- Button attaching machine

Attaches buttons automatically.

- Buttonhole Machine

Creates buttonholes automatically.

- Bartack sewing machine

Performs bartack stitches automatically.

- Longarm quilting sewing machine

Designed for quilting with automatic functions.

Reprogrammable Automation Machines:

- Computerized domestic sewing machine

These machines can be programmed to perform various stitches and patterns.

- Embroidery machines

Specialized for embroidery and can be programmed with different designs.

- Quilting machines

High-end models can be programmed for different quilting patterns.

Industrial sewing machines:

- Computer-controlled cycle machine

Can be programmed for different sewing cycles and patterns.

This classification is based on the level of automation and programmability of each type of machine.

THANK YOU!