Gallant XL
Changing the Needle
Featuring Denise Applegate-Schober

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Changing the Needle

Presented By: Denise Applegate Schober

Instructional Video
Skill Level: Basic

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Machine Needle

Use only the recommended needle system for your Gallant XL quilting machine. The machine is timed to use this specific needle type (System 134) which is designed to work with the high quilting speeds and multi-directional stitching the Gallant XL offers.

The Gallant XL uses the 134 needle system. Note that the needle has a round shank rather than a shank with a flat side, like home stitching machines use.

If you use the recommended needle, you will experience:

- Fewer skipped stitches
- Less needle breakage
- Less thread breakage, especially at high speeds
- Less thread splicing or shredding
- Optimum fabric protection

➲ **IMPORTANT**: Change the needle regularly. We recommend you use a new needle for each new quilt and any time the needle becomes bent, dull, or burred.

△ **CAUTION**: A damaged needle may result in poor stitch quality or may even damage the machine or your quilt.

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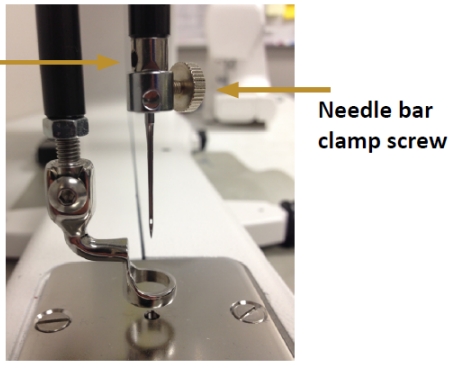
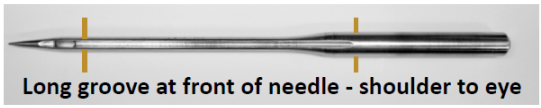
1. Move the needle bar to the UP position by pressing the Needle Up/Down control on the handlebar.
2. Turn the machine's power switch to the off position.
3. Loosen the needle bar clamp screw with the 2.5mm hex wrench.
4. Remove the old needle by pulling it down. Discard the old needle in a safe way.



5. With the scarf of the needle (indentation at the back of the needle just above the needle eye) facing the rear of the machine and the long groove down the front of the needle facing the front of the machine, push the needle all the way up into the needle bar until it stops. Check the sight hole to verify that the top of the needle can go up no farther.



△ **CAUTION**: Check the needle to confirm it is fully inserted. The needle bar has a sight hole above the needle bar clamp screw. Make sure the needle is touching the top of the sight hole. If it is not all the way up, the machine timing will be off and it may be possible for the needle to collide with internal parts, causing damage not covered by warranty.

6. Carefully tighten the needle bar clamp screw.

△ **CAUTION**: Although you can use your fingers to tighten the needle bar clamp screw, we recommend that after finger-tightening the screw, use the 2.5mm hex wrench to tighten it just a bit more. The Gallant XL runs at very high speeds and this ensures the needle will not loosen while quilting. However, do not over-tighten the needle clamp screw, as this may strip the threads of the screw. (Stripped threads are not covered under the warranty.) Once the screw no longer turns freely by hand, gently turn the hex tool until the screw is tightened snuggly.

Needle Size	Thread Size
12 and 14	monofilament, 100 wt. silk, 60 wt. polyester, mylar
16	monofilament, mylar, 100 wt., 80 wt., 60 wt., 50 wt., 40 wt. silk, polyester and cotton thread
18	40 wt. cotton and polyester, 30 wt. cotton and polyester
19 and 21	Any thread 30 wt. and heavier such as 12 wt., 19 wt., 30 wt.

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