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| **Preventive maintenance, embroidery, how to schedule** Contributed by Wayne Benton - SewTech International

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| Chapter 4 - Lubrication**I am often asked how to schedule the necessary maintenance on machines in order to make it easier to understand, or at least easier to follow. The best way is to make a calendar with all pertinent information scheduled as per your instruction manual recommends**.**When scheduling preventive maintenance be sure to remember that it’s not all oil and grease, quite a bit of cleaning is needed as well. This is often overlooked and can turn out to be the culprit when problems do appear.** **What works well is to designate the last 30 minutes of a shift as clean up time. This gives the operator plenty of time to blow out the machine and do the oiling as needed. If you take the time to clean at day’s end, your mornings will be surprisingly free of thread breaks. When the accumulated dust-lint-oil is allowed to dry overnight, it causes sewing problems for the first part of the day until it softens enough to allow the machine to work it loose from the hook race.** **I strongly recommend an air hose close to every machine, if an operator must first pull an air compressor over to the machine, then put it away, well, let’s just say they tend to cut corners and the job does not often get accomplished. Providing the proper tools as well as training will help alleviate these discrepancies.****Sample Preventive Maintenance Schedule**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1Oil Hook ATH Clean | 2Oil Hook ATH Clean | 3Oil Hook ATH Clean | 4Oil Hook ATH Clean | 5Oil HookClean FiltersOil red spots | Grease gearsGrease color changeGrease Take –up camGrease every 3 monthsBlow X and Y rails |
| 8Oil Hook ATH Clean | 9Oil Hook ATH Clean | 10Oil Hook ATH Clean | 11Oil Hook ATH Clean | 12Oil Hook ATH CleanOil RedClean filters | **Inspect Main shaft drive belts**Inspect X and Y beltsInspect friction points Inspect every 3 weeks |
| 15Oil Hook ATH Clean | 16Oil Hook ATH Clean | 17Oil Hook ATH Clean | 18Oil Hook ATH Clean | 19Oil Hook ATH CleanOil RedClean filters | **Oil Trimmer connection points ( 2 weeks)**Check for thread behind hooks, cut away as needed. |
| 22Oil HookATH Clean | 23Oil HookATH Clean | 24Oil HookATH Clean | 25Oil HookATH Clean | 26Oil HookATH CleanOil Red Clean Filters | Inspect bobbin cases, cleanClean tension assembly’sInspect thread path-clean |
| 29Oil HookATH Clean | 30Oil HookATH Clean | 31Oil HookATH Clean | **Preventive Maintenance Schedule****Sample Provided by SewTech International, Inc.**(Please consult your manual and/or distributor for proper procedures for individual machines) |

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**Use a calendar to schedule, and post it in several places around the machine. Post it at the employee time clock, and review it with your employee’s frequently, never assume that they understand it, or are following it. Remember it is YOUR investment.****Preventive Maintenance Calendar** **Sample**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Periodic** | **Sign****Off** |
| **Oil Hook****Oil all red spots****Clean fan****Clean Trimmers** | **Oil Hook** | **Oil Hook****Oil needle bars** | **Oil Hook** | **Oil Hook****Clean hook and bobbin case** | **Grease gears (6mos)****Clean needle clamps monthly** |  |
| **Oil Hook****Oil all red spots****Clean fan****Clean Trimmers** | **Oil Hook****Oil Connecting rod** | **Oil Hook****Oil Connecting Rods** | **Oil Hook****Oil Slide rail and needle driver** | **Oil Hook****Clean hook and bobbin case** | **Grease trimmer cam (6mos)** |  |
| **Oil Hook****Oil all red spots****Clean fan****Clean Trimmers** | **Oil Hook** | **Oil Hook****Oil needle bars** | **Oil Hook** | **Oil Hook****Clean hook and bobbin case** | **Grease color cam (3mos)****Replace Tension Felts****(annually)** |  |
| **Oil Hook****Oil all red spots****Clean fan****Clean Trimmers** | **Oil Hook****Clean thread break sensors** | **Oil Hook****Oil Connecting Rods** | **Oil Hook****Oil Slide rail and needle driver** | **Oil Hook****Clean hook and bobbin case** | **Clean and lube x and Y Axis****Every month** |  |

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