

## Wing Needles

You will find that I often use a wing needle with some of my projects. I am always getting asked, “what is a wing needle and how is it used”.

A wing needle has a projection or flange that extend to the right and left of the needle, which gives the look of little wings. See photo. You will find wing needles in several different sizes (100, 120 and 130). The smaller the size, the smaller the hole.

Achieving a traditional heirloom look requires the use of a wing needle. Basically, what the wing needle does is separate the fibers to create holes in the fabric. As you sew, you will notice that the wing needle is creating holes as the needle goes in and out of the fabric.

When creating an heirloom look on clothing or home accessories, I select a hemstitch or an entredeux stitch from my sewing machine. If I am using cotton or a starched lightweight fabric, I like to use the 120 wing. For very light fabrics such as batiste or light weight linen, I prefer to use the size 100 wing needle.

It is best to refer to your sewing machine manual for heirloom stitches on your model of machine. Have fun and experiment with different fabrics and stitches to find your favorite heirloom look!



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