

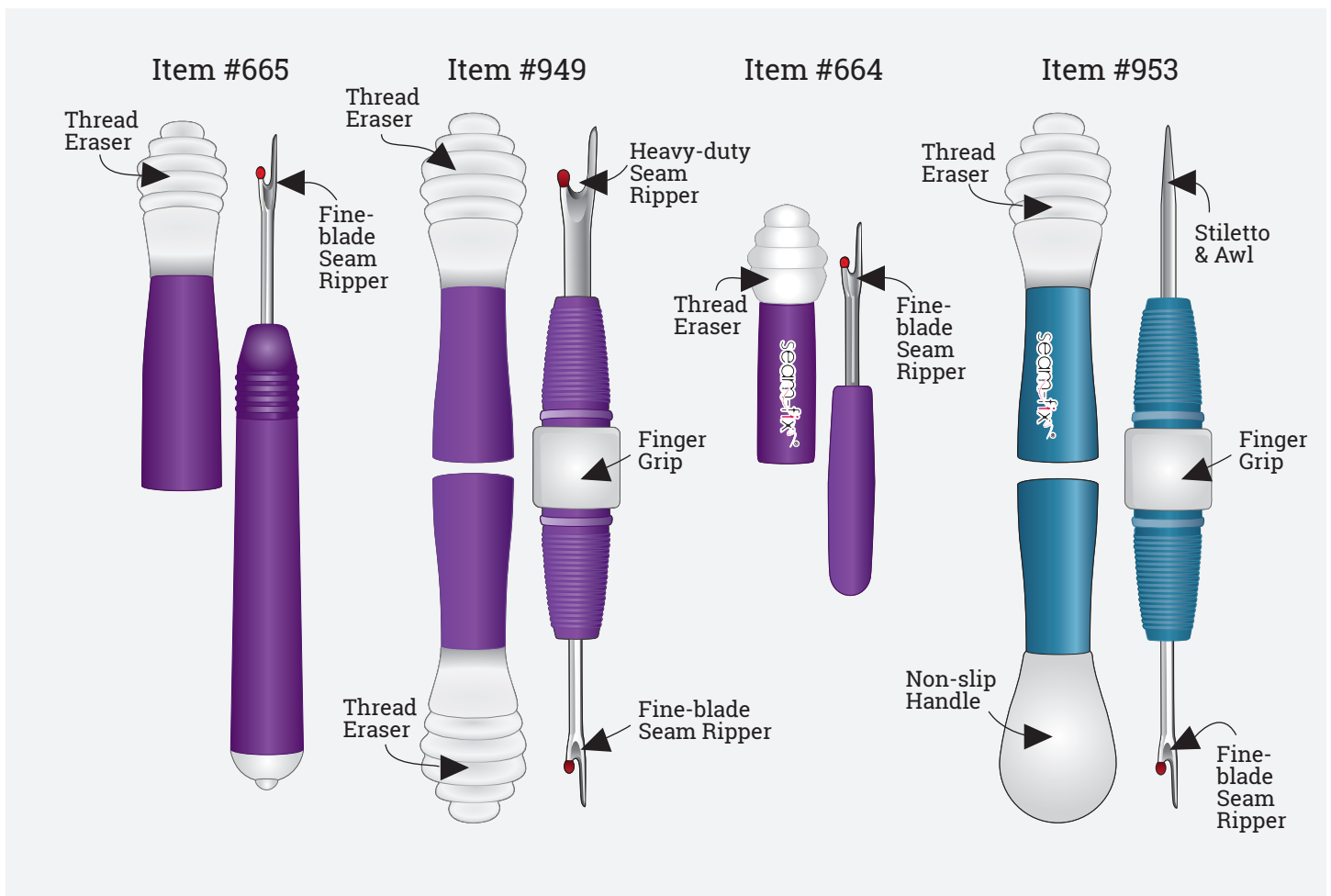
How to Use seam-fix™ Tools

What is a Seam-Fix Tool? Seam-Fix Tools all have a soft rubber cap that is designed to erase threads. Make a mistake? Use the ripper to slice the stitches and the ridged end to erase the loose threads. So easy! An essential tool for any sewing room.

You will need:

- Seam-Fix Tool or Seam-Fix Ripper
- Your project

There are several styles in this group of tools. A heavy-duty ripper (Item #665), a double-sided seam ripper with both heavy-duty and fine rippers (Item #949), a single mini-ripper (Item #664), and a 3-in-1 tool housing a fine-blade ripper as well as an awl/stiletto (Item #953). Of course each tool has the soft, non-slip eraser end.



How to Use seam-fix™ Tools

To use the tools, choose which operation you need. Ripping out a stitch can be done with any of the rippers. Erasing unwanted thread after ripping can also be done with the ridged end of any of the rippers. To create a hole or guide fabric you must use the stiletto/awl on style #953.

TIP: Always keep the cap on the opposite end of the tool you are using. The soft cap surface helps the tool stay in position and is easy on your hands!

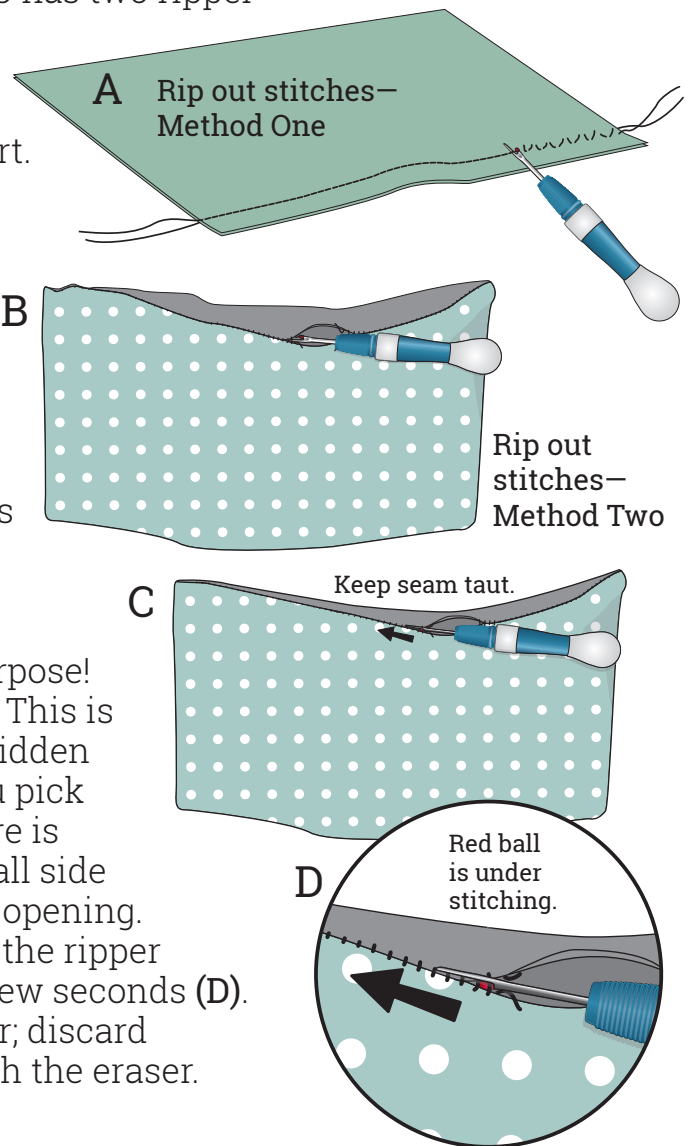
The seam ripper:

Each tool has a fine-blade seam ripper. Item #949 has two ripper sizes—a fine-bladed seam ripper and a heavy-duty seam ripper. Seam rippers do more than ripping seams; they easily slice open a button-hole and are perfect for ripping fringes in a t-shirt.

Rip out unwanted stitching. If you make a mistake, or if you are refashioning, you may need to remove a row of stitches. Any size ripper will work using method one or two.

Method One: Simply insert the sharp tip under an individual stitch within a row of stitching and slide it forward so the curved blade connects with the stitch (A). Always push the point away from your body.

Method Two: The little red ball actually has a purpose! It helps keep fabric away from the cutting blade. This is good for projects where the seam allowance is hidden inside, such as a pouch or pillow cover. After you pick your first stitch, gently pull seam apart until there is about a 1/2" opening (B). Turn the ripper so the ball side is down, under the stitching and slide it into the opening. Keep the fabric and stitched seam taut (C). Push the ripper away from you, ripping all the stitches in just a few seconds (D). Many of the cut stitches will collect on the ripper; discard these. Remaining stitches can be cleaned up with the eraser.

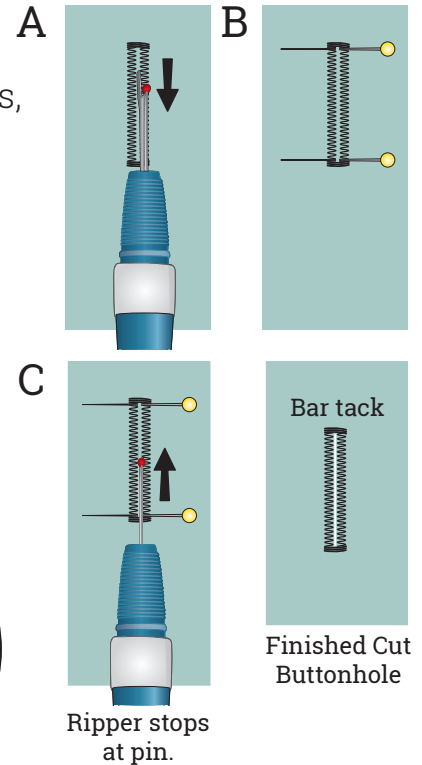


How to Use seam-fix™ Tools

Cut open a buttonhole. Buttonholes often have stitches that almost touch, and are easy to accidentally clip. To prevent this, run the back, smooth side of the seam ripper tip along the length of the inside of the buttonhole before slicing it open. This is just enough to help separate stitches (A).

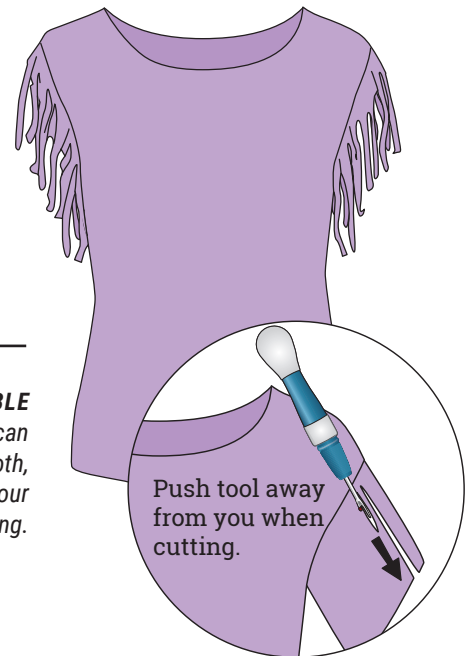
Place a straight pin at one end of the buttonhole, flush against the inside of the bar tack (B). This will prevent accidentally cutting through the bar tack at the end.

Then insert the tip of the ripper between rows of zigzag buttonhole stitching at the end closest to you; carefully push the blade away from you (C).



TIP: For the neatest buttonholes, cut through one layer of fabric at a time.

Creatively cut up a t-shirt! The sharp blade located in the inner curve can also create cuts in t-shirts for stylized fashion! We recommend using one of the larger rippers for this type of project, but any style will work. The center grip on style 953 and style 949 also gives you greater control of the cutting process.



LIDS ARE INTERCHANGEABLE on style #953, so that you can always keep the smooth, rounded end tucked into your palm while working.



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The thread eraser:

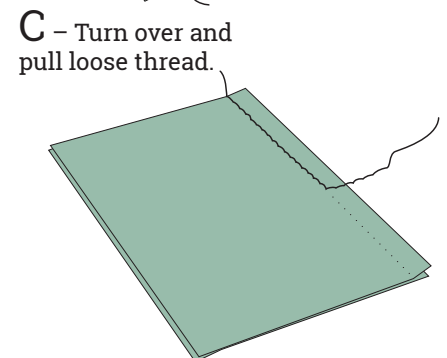
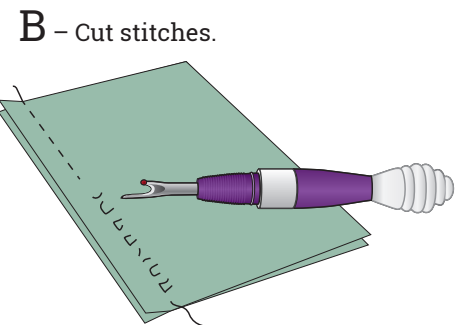
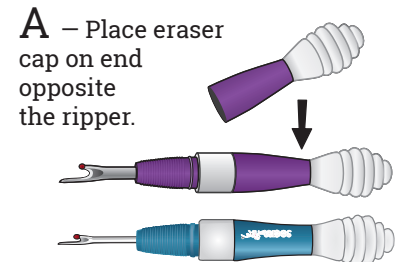
We all make mistakes. It seems that half of the time it takes to complete a project is taken up with undoing the stitches we placed! They have accidentally caught an adjacent area of fabric. The garment doesn't fit correctly, and the seam must be removed. Or perhaps removing the stitches is a creative intentional endeavor to refashion. Regardless, you have endless threads to clean up. Each tool has a thread eraser. The thread eraser speeds the clean up so you can complete your project.

Style #949 has two eraser caps. Either can be used. If there is only one eraser cap, remove cap and place on the end opposite the ripper (A).

Slide the pointed end of the ripper under stitches so interior curve contacts the thread. Gently push away from you to cut the thread. Cut every 2-3 stitches (B).

Turn fabric over and pull the long single thread remaining from the seam (C). This will further loosen the remaining stitches.

Turn fabric over again. Use the ridged cap of the tool to softly swish back and forth over the loose threads (D). It can even pick up a thread that is still slightly caught in the fabric. So easy!



How to Use seam-fix™ Tools

The stiletto/awl:

Item #953 has a ripper on one end and a stiletto/awl on the opposite end. The slim stiletto end of the tool is very useful.

Use tip of stiletto to guide and push fabric into desired position while machine sewing to keep intersecting seam allowances from flipping the wrong way (A). With stiletto in non-working hand, use it to hold down errant threads when doing decorative stitching.

The tip is perfect to turn under tiny edges when doing appliqué or to hold fabric in place when ironing to keep fingers from the hot iron's surface (B).

It also serves as a point turner to push out stubborn corners of collars and pillow covers. Doll makers use this tool to gently push stuffing into tiny spaces (C). Use caution to not push too hard, or you will create an undesired hole!

The stiletto holds piping in place so you can stitch closely and accurately along piping stitching (D).

Place the tip of the point down on fabric to create a hole for snaps, rivets, eyelets and grommets (E). You can gently separate the woven threads to create a hole for a small rivet. Or use tip to break through tough fabric to form a hole for larger snaps, eyelets, and grommets. To do this, hold the tool so that the non-slip handle is cradled against fingers and palm of your hand so you have full control (F). Place tip where desired and firmly push down.

TIP: Place a padded protective surface under your project when using the awl to prevent unwanted holes and scrapes in your work table.

