TOP STITCH

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When Small is BIG



There was a time when the idea of a large capacity bobbin in a smaller sized sewing machine was believed impossible, but the engineers at **BERNINA** in Switzerland have cracked the code. The team has been working with what is now called the **BERNINA Bobbin** since introducing the extra large **7 Series** machines with a 10" arm length in 2012. They followed that success by incorporating it into the comfortable midsize **5 Series**, offering a 8 ½" opening that has been impressing all since late 2017. And now **BERNINA** is bringing to market a series of simple to learn, entry priced machines which pack big machine features in a nicely portable 7" space. Time to introduce the **NEWest 4 Series**.

Besides the massive bobbin (holds about twice as much as others) the new 4's offer touch sensitive screen functionality and the ability to save your personalized settings. The two more deluxe models – the 480 and 475 - can use the famous BSR (BERNINA Stitch Regulator) and feature everyone's favorite push button thread cutter. That bears repeating...you can now have a portable (class-sized) machine that uses the BSR!!! There will also be the little sister - the 435 - which will not be BSR compatible, and does not have a push button cutter (though personally I'm always more concerned about the stitching than the cutting...).

Something to keep in mind, since all these numbers can get confusing, is if the model number ends in 5 (as in **435** and **475**) then the maximum stitch width will be 5.5mm (the standard for **BERNINA**'s original **CB** bobbin). All the other models have a stitch width nearly twice that, at 9 mm. The larger width is especially helpful if you want to show off decorative stitching like on crazy quilts or if you like giving garment projects a professional edge stitching (using the #10C foot).

It is typical that we will have some inventory issues when these machines first start arriving on our shores and in stores. **BERNINA of America** is often overwhelmed by demand for supply with their popular new releases. But buying right is worth the wait. At the time I write this, we have the **480** on display to demonstrate, and also have a couple ready to go home. We are expecting the first allotment of the **475** later this month, and the **435** will probably be closer to spring. If you'd like to reserve, a *small* deposit will put you in line for the next BIG thing.

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PLEASE NOTE we are now CLOSED ON MONDAYS

We will be checking emails periodically. Please use our direct email for quickest response: Topstitch @qwestoffice.net

Harr

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In the Works: Being More PBS

Many of you probably know we've been sponsoring **SOPTV** - our local **PBS** station - for many years now. We have committed to whatever quilting show they air on Saturdays (varies) and the high quality stories of **Masterpiece Theatre**. Our favorite was **Downton Abbey**; we did a preview airing and sewn goods trunk show in conjunction with the station back in the day, though a blizzard sadly kept most of you home. Because of this association I was asked in 2018 to step in as a Board member, as the station works to expand its local presence and commitment to a diverse public.

I bring this up now, because at a recent **SOPTV** gathering I met Joy, a woman on a mission that sounded particularly suited to the people who might read this article. A few years back, her friend Linda recognized that young families are extremely stressed when they don't have the help and assistance that comes naturally from *Grandmas*. These vulnerable families are separated from their true grandparents either by distance...or dysfunction. Meanwhile the infants and toddlers don't get the type of interaction a 'wise woman' can offer, and in relevant cases, the dysfunction repeats.

With that premise, Linda came up with the idea of Grandmas2Go, an organization that vets, trains and provides volunteer Grandmas, or what they call Family Coaches. I asked Joy if these families would like donated quilts and she said of course, "...but we'd really like Grandmas!" By their definition that's women over 50 with their own life experience who want to stay active and give to families in ways that matter. She's clear this isn't a baby sitting service; volunteers are interacting with the entire family while giving some R & R in the child's home. From changing diapers to reading books, to offering advice and helping interview daycare; the many varied skills loving Grandmas are likely to possess. Maybe you can even teach someone to sew! (wink, wink)

If this sounds of interest to you, you can go their website for further information: www.grandmas2go.org They share touching stories of keeping families together, and children out of the beleaguered foster system. You can also donate financially if that makes more sense in your time of life.

And - if you'd like to donate a quilt or two - you can bring them to the store and I'll get them to the organization for the families to use during their bonding 'tummy time'...or maybe while watching supportive children's programming on **PBS**.

Where you buy your machine has a great deal to do with the long-term happiness with that purchase. You should expect to receive whatever services are included at the store where you paid for them.

When you Buy a BERNINA at TOP 5TITCII the following are ALWAYS included:

- 1. Complete Class Instruction for use of your new machine at no additional cost.
 - 2. Free, unlimited trouble-shooting assistance by phone, e-mail or in-store.
 - 3. Full warranty coverage performed on our premises by a BERNINA specialist.

Plus our exclusive BERNINA BUYERS' BONUS Discounts:

- ▶ 15% off regular priced fabrics, notions, books, machine accessories, embroidery designs, etc.
- ➤ **Discounted*** maintenance & service on purchased machine saves you up to \$110. each time. (*only applicable when our authorized technician was the last to work on the machine)

Your 15% discount is good for one full year after purchase and will be renewed automatically for another 12 months whenever you pay for maintenance on the machine.

These New Owner classes are <u>complimentary with your</u> <u>purchase of a machine from TOP STITCH</u>.

- Taught by master technician, experienced tailor and all around sewing guru, Jonathan Hanken, these classes surpass the information usually provided and greatly enhance your success and enjoyment with BERNINA.
- Choose <u>one</u> of the options listed below for your model, then call, email or come in to **reserve your space** (<u>pre-registration is required</u>). The Embroidery segment can be taken before OR after your basic sewing class.
- If you purchased your machine here (new, demo or USED) you can take your New Owner's Guide classes additional times at no additional charge.

Class Policies:

Space is limited; as a courtesy to others, please inform us immediately if you need to cancel (there may be others on a waiting list)

We will cancel a class three days in advance if we do not have the minimum number of students.

You are expected to put a reservation on your calendar; we do not make reminder calls.

Your BERNINA SEWING MACHINE - \$200.00 (Free with machine purchase)

- Saturday, January 26, 10:00 am 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, January 30 and Thursday, January 31, 10:00 am 1:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, February 23, 10:00 am 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, February 27 and Thursday, February 28, 1:00 4:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, March 23, 10:00 am 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, April 3 and Thursday, April 4, 10:00 am 1:00 pm (both days)
- Saturday, April 13, 10:00 am 4:00 pm

Your BERNINA EMBROIDERY USAGE - \$100.00 (Free with machine purchase)

- Saturday, February 2, 10:00 am 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, February 6, 10:00 am 1:00 pm
- Saturday, March 2, 10:00 am 1:00 pm
- Thursday, March 7, 1:00 4:00 pm
- Saturday, April 6, 10:00 am 1:00 pm

Your BERNINA SERGER - \$200.00 (Free with machine purchase)

- Saturday, February 9, 10:00 am 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21, 1:00 4:00 pm (both days)
- Wednesday, April 24 and Thursday April 25, 10:00 am 1:00 pm (both days)

TOP STITCH BERNINA

made to create

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Tuesday—Friday 10:00 - 5:00 Saturdays 10:00 - 4:00 CLOSED Sunday & Monday

NEW HOURS:

NOW CLOSED MONDAYS Annual
"In With the New"

SALE

20%-60% Off
ALL FABRICS*

January 11-24

*one half yard minimum, muslin and solids excluded