

VINTAGE SINGER MACHINE EVALUATION KIT

The evaluation of vintage sewing machine often takes place at the owner's location under less than ideal conditions so I have found it helpful to bring my own equipment to help me assess the condition of the machine. Here is what I have in my evaluation kit.

- **Flashlight** - Important for seeing into the inner workings of the machine, especially the bobbin area, and to assess the overall condition of the machine.
- **Screwdriver** - A small flat-headed screwdriver is invaluable for removing metal plates to investigate the interior of the machine. It is also useful for opening the older bentwood cases when the key for the lock has been lost.
- **Sewing Machine Oil** - Oil is the key part of the evaluation kit. Many older machines will be so dry that they will be difficult to operate. A few drops of oil in the right locations should free up the mechanism enough for you to determine if the machine is functional or not.
- **Sewing Machine Needle (Size 90/14), Thread & Material** - I always bring a needle in case I need to install it in the machine when I am testing to see if it can make a stitch with the thread and material that I brought with me.
- **Scissors or Snips** - Small scissors or snips are useful for cutting out thread that may have become tangled in the machine, especially in the bobbin area.
- **Small Paintbrush** – I often use a small paintbrush to “tease” out material or thread that is stuck in the bobbin or needle areas.

