

More to the point

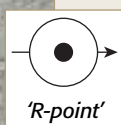
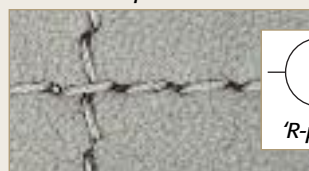
The possible combinations of point shape, angle and size of sewing needles is in fact immense and selecting the best option depends on the materials to be sewn, their thickness and the nature of the finished product. For this reason, many manufacturers understandably prefer things to remain simple and so tend to keep to basic

shapes and sizes. However, by looking at alternatives they might, in some instances, obtain improved seam quality and appearance by using alternatives.

When using a needle with a standard cloth point such as R-point, the appearance of the stitch will differ. The degree to which this happens depends on the sewing direction and the

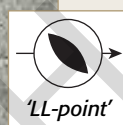
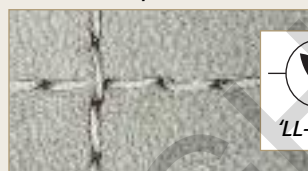
properties of the leather. For a constant seam appearance in all directions, it is necessary to use a needle with a cutting point. Where a perfectly straight stitch formation is required in all directions, S-, LL-, D- or DH-points are best. When a seam with an offset stitch formation is called for, the best choice is either Lr-, Vr- or P-point.

Seam with R-point needle.



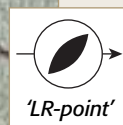
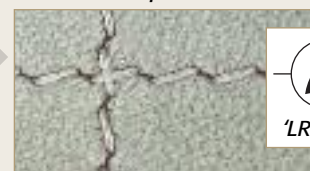
'R-point'

Seam with LL-point needle.



'LL-point'

Seam with LR-point needle.

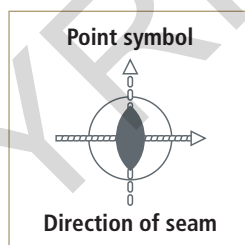


'LR-point'

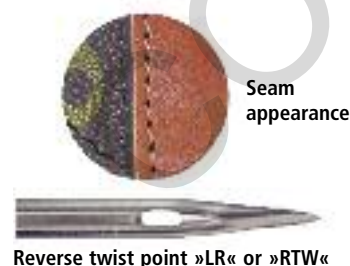
CUTTING POINTS



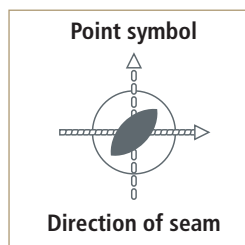
Narrow cross point »S« or »NCR«



Narrow cross point – lens-shaped cross section. Incision follows seam direction to produce a very straight seam. Suitable for all upper leathers.



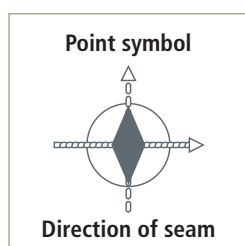
Reverse twist point »LR« or »RTW«



Reverse twist point – lens-shaped cross section. Incision at 45° to seam direction produces a decorative seam slightly inclined to the left. The best needle for decorative seams and also suitable for all upper leathers.



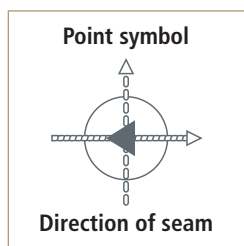
Diamond point »DI« or »DIA«



Diamond point – rhombic cross section. Centred incision in seam direction produces a similar seam to an S point. The four cutting edges pierce hard materials more easily resulting in a very straight recessed seam. Suitable for tougher materials, it also produces a precise and tidy seam with no needle deflection.



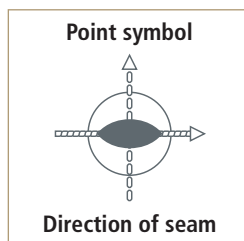
Round point with small triangular tip »SD1« or »TRI TIP«



Round point with small triangular tip – triangular tip cuts 10% of the stitch hole and the rest is displaced by the conical R point. Ideal for multi-directional stitching on computer stitchers as the stitch looks the same regardless of direction.



Narrow wedge point »P« or »NW«



Narrow wedge point – lens-shaped cross section. Incision at 90° to seam direction produces a very strong seam and is again suitable for all upper leathers. The twist ensures that when the needle emerges from the material, the thread is held in the twist groove and not drawn over the edge of the groove, needle eye or cutting edge and is thus not damaged. CL has a left twist groove below the eye for hooks turning clockwise; CR has a right twist groove for hooks turning anticlockwise and is ideal as the left hand needle on twin lockstitch machines.



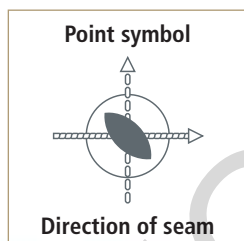
Narrow wedge point »PCL«



Narrow wedge point »PCR«



Twist point »LL« or »TW«



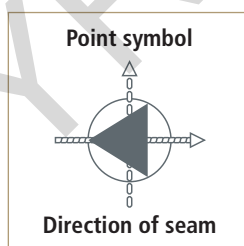
Twist points – lens-shaped cross section. Incision at 135° to seam direction produces a slightly recessed straight seam and is again suitable for all upper leathers. LL is particularly useful for shoe repairs. LLCR gives the same appearance on hooks turning anti-clockwise as LR on those turning clockwise.



Twist point »LLCR«



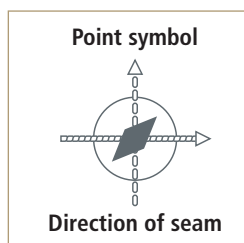
Triangular point »D« or »TRI«



Triangular point – triangular cross section produces a straight seam. The best cutting effect of all points, it is most suitable for heavy boots in hard, dry leathers.



Reverse twist spear point »VR« or »R TW SP«



Reverse twist spear point – rhombic cross section. Incision at 45° to seam direction produces a seam inclined slightly towards the left. Better cutting than a comparable reverse twist LR point, it is also suitable for hard dry upper leathers. The four cutting edges give a good stitch appearance with no needle deflection.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT POINT

There are a few basic facts that are important to remember:

- The correct point is determined by stitching technique and desired seam appearance
- Needle size is dictated by stitching technique, choice and thread thickness, and required seam appearance
- The harder and thicker the material, the thicker the needle must be.

To be absolutely sure the correct combination of needle to thread and intended application is made, it is best to seek advice from the technical staff of both suppliers. Strong, attractive and well-formed seams are essential for a sound and well finished shoe.