

BERNINA L 890 Overlocker – Usage & Safety Policy
Tom Green County Library System – STEAM Central Makerspace

1. Eligibility & Requirements

- **Library Card:** Patrons must possess a valid Tom Green County Library System card in good standing.
- **Age Requirement:** Users must be 13 years of age or older. All patrons must have a liability waiver signed and on file. Patrons under 18 must have a signed Safety & Liability Waiver on file completed by a parent or legal guardian.
- **Online Certification:** Patrons must complete the BERNINA L 890 Overlocker Certification Course on Niche Academy prior to making a machine reservation or using the equipment.

2. First Appointment Preparation

- **Practice Fabric:** For your first appointment, you must bring clean scrap fabric (knits or wovens matching your project type) to practice test stitching and verify stitch formation before sewing your primary project.
- **Materials & Consumables:** Patrons are responsible for bringing their own fabric. STEAM Central provides black or white appropriate serger thread. If you would like to provide your own alternative color, visit with staff about what thread will be allowed. We require a quality serger thread (Mettler Seracor or equivalent high-quality polyester serger thread). Heavy waxed threads are strictly prohibited.

3. Machine Threading & Setup Policy

- **Staff Threading:** To protect the internal air-threading mechanism and guarantee correct thread tension setup, Makerspace staff will thread and mechanically configure the BERNINA L 890 for you.
- **Stitch Request:** If you haven't already provided your stitch selection request, when you arrive for your reservation, inform staff which stitch number or stitch category your project requires, and staff will configure the machine.

4. Reservation & Station Rules

- **Scheduling:** Equipment reservations may be made up to 14 days in advance online via the STEAM Central Reservations page or by calling (325) 655-7321.
- **Arrival & Grace Period:** Please arrive on time. Reservations may be canceled if the patron fails to arrive within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time.
- **Cancellations:** Please provide at least 24 hours' notice if you need to cancel or reschedule. Repeated no-shows or late cancellations may result in temporary suspension of reservation privileges.
- **Session Cleanup:** Sewing must conclude 15 minutes prior to the end of your reservation block so you can clean up scrap threads, wipe down your workspace, and return accessories.

5. Critical Safety Rules

-  **NO SEWING OVER PINS:** Never sew over pins or allow pins near the presser foot or cutting knife.
- **Do Not Pivot:** Never attempt to pivot fabric on the needle. Always sew straight off the edge of the fabric or guide smooth, wide curves.
- **Power Off (0):** Switch the power switch OFF (0) whenever working near the needles or changing presser feet.
- **Keep Covers Closed:** Ensure looper doors and side protective covers are fully closed before stepping on the foot control.
- **Follow Staff Instructions:** Patrons must follow all safety directions given by Makerspace staff. Staff reserves the right to halt equipment operation if safety procedures are not followed.

