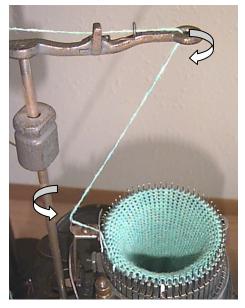
Threading the Circular Sock Machine Back Lesson Prepared by Bonnie Smola Page 1 of 3

A. Thread top of machine as shown in picture.





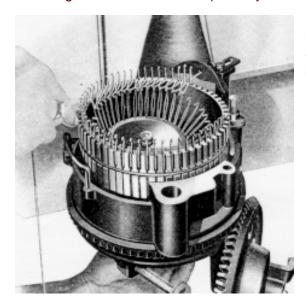
Close-up picture showing heel spring elevating yarn before it is threaded into top forward hole in yarn stand.

B. Thread needles as shown in the pictures using a metal, knitted, or emergency set up.

1. Metal set up

The wire cage or umbrella shaped tool





Using waste yarn, use one hand to hold the umbrella from the bottom. Hold it close to the top, but allow some area for the thread. Work the yarn over the needle hooks to the hooks on the umbrella tool and back again.

2. Knitted set PROVIDED BY HELEN "HALLA" FLEISCHER

Halla Fleischer says:

For those who have a flat bed machine, this is a great thing to make for themselves. It is a bias-knit cast-on set up. The directions are: Using a smooth carpet warp cotton and working on main bed, cast on (in waste) at one end of your KM bed 60 stitches or enough stitches to give you a piece long enough to go through your circular machine and hang the weight buckle. Your goal is to knit a bias rag with a loop edge. Knit a row of ravel cord. Increase one stitch on one side and decrease on the other, every other row. The **increase should be on the side toward the carriage** to form the loop on the edge of the work. Your work will progress across the bed of your machine. When you have as many loops as you have needles in the cylinder of your sock machine, remove the knitted work on waste and kirchener stitch/graft the beginning to the end to form a seamless tube with loops on one end. That is your knitted set up. To use it on your sock machine, hang those loops over the cylinder needles, same as you would to hang a sock for re-footing. Use dividing cotton to knit a few rows before beginning your sock; you can remove the dividing cotton the same way as you remove it from between socks. These loops are a lot bigger and easier to hang than using a scrap tube of knitting,

Moreover, they do not try to pull out as you grab them with a tool. Once you have the knitted set up, you will wonder how you ever put up with that set-up cage.

3. Emergency set up

If you forget your set-up, metal or knitted rag set up when invited to demonstrate the CSM, here is a solution. Secure the end of the waste yarn over a needle (I used a wooden cloths pin) and then go back and forth across the cylinder with the yarn, being sure to go across the front of





many needles. You do not have to catch each needle. Hang the weight from the center

Once you examine the knitted set-up you will see that any open weave will probably serve as a cloth set up. You might even try the open plastic weave bag used to package onions. Whatever set-up you use, be sure to START WITH WASTE YARN, or your set-up will be part of your sock! Back to top





There is a video showing how to use the metal set-up, this video takes a while to download and you must have Quick Time installed on your computer to download Quick time (free) go to http://www.apple.com/quicktime/ and download quicktime movie.

The video is on another page of this lesson.