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Where is the model number on a kenmore sewing machine

You've likely encountered Kenmore sewing machine models whether you're a home sewer or an antique collector interested in their history. Kenmore machines were introduced by Sears Roebuck in 1913 and sold under the brand until 2013. Various manufacturers created these affordable, sturdy machines that could complete basic sewing tasks. The history of Kenmore sewing machines is deeply connected to Sears' impact on American shopping habits in the late 1800s-early 1900s. Sears designed a massive mail-order catalog that reached rural America, making it possible for consumers nationwide to see and purchase items from the catalog. This led to the Kenmore brand becoming very popular. Sears carried its first Kenmore sewing machine model from 1913-1919, priced at \$6.75, which is equivalent to about \$180 today. However, World War I interrupted the manufacturing of domestic items like sewing machines, causing Sears to temporarily halt production. The company resumed business in the 1930s and introduced some of its most popular electric-powered Kenmore brands in 1933. During this time, Sears sold machines made by White, with some models branded as White sewing machines and others bearing the Kenmore brand. World War II caused another break in production, and Sears didn't sell any machines from 1942-1948. Following the war, the company continued to sell White models, some branded with the Kenmore brand, until 1958. In the 1950s, White lost its contract with Sears, which led the company to apply the Kenmore brand to a new batch of machines manufactured overseas in Japan. These models featured advanced capabilities like buttonhole making and zig-zagging but are sometimes criticized for lacking the sturdy quality of earlier Kenmores. Singer briefly made a couple of Sears Kenmore sewing machine models in the 1970s, while Janome was one of the Japanese companies that quickly grew to global prominence during this era. They manufactured Kenmore models for Sears until 2013, when following bankruptcy, Sears stopped selling sewing machines under the Kenmore brand. Today, you may struggle to find Kenmore machines due to the company's decision to discontinue the brand in favor of other products, Sears stopped manufacturing and selling sewing machines around 2013-2019. It once sold Janome models under the Kenmore brand but discontinued it after a bankruptcy filing in 2013. You can't buy new Kenmore-branded sewing machines as they're no longer produced. The term "Kenmore" was actually a Sears-owned brand that licensed manufacturing to companies like Janome and Whirlpool. The oldest Kenmore models, made in the 1940s, are still sought after by sewers who appreciate their simplicity. The "30 stitch" Kenmore sewing machine was sold in the 1980s, performing an impressive number of stitches for a pre-computer-era model, with users also appreciating the zigzag stitch feature. As for the value of old Kenmore machines, they usually sell for \$100-\$500, depending on their collectability level. Most antique and vintage sewing machines aren't worth much money, but some newer models made by Janome may fetch around \$400. Kenmore machines were a budget-friendly option for home sewers, not claiming to be high-class or the best machine ever made. However, many of their models from the 1970s were constructed with metal parts, making them sturdy and often still usable today. Each Sears Kenmore sewing machine model has its pros and cons, making it tricky to determine whether they're good sewing machines. Many home sewers love their vintage Kenmore models and still use them today. The Kenmore was often described as a budget machine due to Sears' focus on accessibility and wide distribution rather than creating an artisanal one-of-a-kind item. Some Kenmore sewing machine models feature a uniquely high presser foot, allowing the sewer to easily insert thick fabrics like denim. Few old sewing machines are very valuable, with some rare models becoming expensive collector's items. Typically, antique machines run from \$100-\$500, with more machines available on the lower end of the spectrum. A sewing machine is considered a collector's item if it was made before 1900 or is in mint condition and still runs. A couple of examples of vintage Kenmore sewing machine models and their typical pricing include a vintage Sears Kenmore sewing machine in a cabinet, which can be found for sale on eBay for as little as \$100, and the Sears Kenmore sewing machine model 1120, also made from solid metal parts and going for around \$100. Etsy and antique stores offer various options for buying vintage or antique Kenmore sewing machines, but the prices can vary greatly depending on condition and provenance. To determine the value of an antique, it's essential to research the model number and examine the machine in person. Once you know the model, you can look up the decade it was built and find out its features. When buying for personal use, ensure the machine works properly before making a purchase. Conversely, if reselling is your intention, consider factors like overall condition, finish quality, and potential resale value. Some key questions to ask yourself when considering vintage vs new machines include: - Are you seeking durability and simplicity or modern functionality? - Do you prioritize portability over performance? - Are you willing to invest time in maintenance and repair? Ultimately, vintage Kenmore sewing machines can be a great find for those who appreciate their reliability and value. However, it's crucial to weigh the pros and cons before making a decision. The value of vintage sewing machines lies in their unique capabilities and the effort required to use them effectively. Unlike modern machines, these "workhorses" offer distinct advantages for specific tasks, such as quilting with multiple layers of fabric and batting. However, this comes with limitations, and proper setup, usage, and maintenance are crucial. Threading a vintage machine can be straightforward if you refer to the user manual or online resources, which often provide visual guides. If lost, manual copies from Sears' website can be obtained for free. Many communities share tutorials and videos on threading specific models, making it easier to navigate. Using a vintage machine's simplicity is both its strength and weakness. Some people appreciate its durability and lack of advanced features, while others find the limited functionality frustrating. The pros include the machines' metal construction, which differs from modern plastic components, providing a more rugged experience. Conversely, noise levels and repair costs are common concerns. Simple repairs can be made by those with mechanical aptitude, but regular adjustments may be necessary to maintain optimal performance. Machine Yourself! Before Repairing Your Vintage Kenmore Sewing Machine. Try These Simple Tasks: Clean and oil it according to the manual. Typically, moving parts require lubrication. Replace the needle as professionals recommend after each project. Re-thread everything, including the bobbin. Replace the lightbulb if your machine has one, which can save you up to \$100 in repair fees. Refer to the Kenmore Sewing Machine Manual for diagrams and instructions on cleaning, threading, and performing simple repairs. These tasks will extend your machine's lifespan. Kenmore Sewing Machine Manuals provide valuable information on features, maintenance, and troubleshooting. They're a great resource to seek out before purchasing or using your machine. Even expert home sewers refer to their manual regularly. Kenmore users are fortunate to have access to free manuals on the Sears website by registering and searching for their model number. Kenmore Parts, Sergers, and Accessories: Although Kenmore models were recently discontinued, Sears still provides access to various parts sellers on its website. You can also find parts on eBay or Etsy. Sears sold Kenmore for over a century and offered various accessories, including table cabinets, fancy feet, and buttonhole extensions. These must be paired with the correct model. For those looking into buying a vintage Kenmore machine or wanting to learn how to use one they already own, this article provides tips on using and repairing these machines. When scouring through vintage sewing machines, you may have stumbled upon the "Kenmore" brand. Perhaps you're looking to restore or refurbish one of these antique gems, or maybe you're interested in cashing in on their value. Whatever your reason, it's likely that Kenmore has crossed your path. But what exactly is this legendary brand? Well, Kenmore was a household name assigned by Sears Roebuck to its sewing machine units during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The brand's popularity soared due to its affordability, efficiency, and sturdiness compared to other machines on the market. Its success can be attributed in part to Sears' innovative marketing strategies, including a massive 500-page mail-order catalog that reached rural America. This catalog not only made Kenmore machines widely available but also positioned them as top-quality options for home sewing enthusiasts. With its rich history spanning over a century, the value of antique Kenmore sewing machines has become a sought-after commodity in the market today. Rarity and condition play a significant role in determining their worth, with some units selling for hundreds or even thousands of dollars. As we delve deeper into the world of vintage sewing machines, let's explore how to identify your Kenmore model and assign a value to it using our price guide. The partnership between Sears Roebuck and the manufacturer White was instrumental in Kenmore's success story. White began producing electric-powered sewing machines under the Kenmore brand name in the 1930s, marking a significant shift from earlier models that relied on hand or treadle power. However, this partnership came to an end in 1958 when White filed for bankruptcy due to its over-reliance on producing Kenmore units. This marked the beginning of a new era in the sewing machine industry, one that would be shaped by the ever-changing landscape of consumer demands and technological advancements. As we continue our journey through the history of vintage sewing machines, stay tuned for more insights into the world of antique Kenmore machines and their enduring allure. Sears had a partnership with Janome from 1913 to 2013 to manufacture sewing machines. However, Sears started losing customers due to the decrease in durability compared to earlier models. As a result, they began using Singer as well during the 1970s. But this partnership only lasted for a short period. Meanwhile, Janome continued to produce high-quality computers with increased efficiency until Sears filed for bankruptcy in the early 2000s. To identify the manufacturer of an old Kenmore sewing machine, look at the model number on the bottom base or side of the unit. The first three digits represent the manufacturer's number, which can be used to find out the company that produced it. Note that older models might have their numbers engraved in front of the bottom base. Determining the value of an old Kenmore Sewing Machine requires considering factors such as its condition, model, and time of manufacture. Since rarity is not always a reliable indicator, the actual value depends on the owner's perception and the customer's intentions to sell it at a higher price. If a sewing machine's condition is bad, its value will likely be low or non-existent. However, some parts like the bobbin case and belt might be overlooked if they're perishable. The model of the Kenmore Sewing machine can also determine its price, with different models having varying values depending on collector demand. Some collectors prefer antique and manual models over modern computerized ones made of plastic. Age is another factor in determining value, with older units generally costing more than new ones. For example, early Kenmore models like the handle-powered and treadle-powered vibrating shuttle hook system from the 1900s are highly valued for their durability and strong motors. In contrast, later models like the electrical units made in 1930 have more features but are less valuable. Here are some popular Kenmore sewing machine models from each era, along with their price ranges: 9. Vintage Sears Kenmore Sewing Machine Model 158-12310 - Price range: \$(150 - 250) This model was produced during the late 70s and is user-friendly due to its well-placed hooks, spindles, and bobbins. 8. Kenmore 30 - Price range: \$(100-150) A pre-computer age model that offers up to 30 types of stitching patterns, produced by Janome from the late 70s to 80s. 7. Kenmore Model 158.1941 - Price range: (no specified range) A free arm Kenmore sewing machine made during the 70s with a powerful motor and similar design to the Kenmore 30. Kenmore Sewing Machines: A Walk Down Memory Lane Ranging from the 1940s to the 2000s, Kenmore sewing machines have evolved significantly over the years. This article highlights some of the most popular and iconic models. 1. **Early Beginnings***: The Kenmore 117.959, manufactured in the 1940s, features a simple all-metal design built on a sturdy wooden cabinet. Although it has limited stitching patterns, it was one of the first electric sewing machines from Kenmore. 2. **Mid-Century Marvel***: The Kenmore Model 54 (158.542), produced in the 1950s, boasts a well-designed machine fixed on a large cabinet that runs on electricity via a foot pedal. It also offers multiple stitching patterns using cam discs. 3. **Heavy-Duty Heavyweight***: The Kenmore model 148-12181, from the mid-century era, is an electric-powered heavy-duty piece with an automatic foot pedal and a light bulb for improved visibility. 4. **Vintage Chic***: The Vintage Antique Kenmore Sewing Machine E-6354, made in 1942 during World War II, features a straightforward design with an external bobbin and functions that improve detailing. 5. **Modern Marvel***: The Kenmore 158.1340, from the 1980s, offers various stitches at the turn of a dial and pulls or pushes of a lever. Its sturdy design can handle heavy-duty work, but requires extracting the front load bobbin. 6. **Computerized Powerhouse***: The Kenmore 385, manufactured in the 2000s, is a completely computerized unit with loads of functions, although its bulky plastic design may not be as aesthetically pleasing as older vintage models. Some popular Kenmore machine models include: * Kenmore Long Shuttle (117.26) * Kenmore Model 83 (117.83) * Kenmore Zigzag Automatic (117.740) * Free Arm Kenmore (158.1941) For those looking to troubleshoot their old Kenmore sewing machines, there are plenty of DIY fixes and tips available to keep your classic devices running smoothly. Here are ten fixes or troubleshooting methods to keep your Kenmore sewing machine running smoothly from 1970 to 2013: oiling, threading, and maintenance issues that might cause loose stitches, reverse problems, and zigzag troubles. 1. Oil Problems - Metal rust is a common issue with vintage sewing machines like the Kenmore; regular oiling can prevent it. 2. Loose Stitches - Tighten up your thread path by monitoring bobbin threads, re-threading your machine, or adjusting upper tension to match workpiece material weight. 3. Reverse Problems - Fix stuck levers or buttons by loosening springs, and clean gears behind the reverse lever for proper function. 4. Zigzag Trouble - Check oil levels on hooks, replace worn-out gears, and adjust settings according to the manual for a smooth zigzag pattern. 5. Lack of Tension Control - Adjust upper tension or change thread weight to prevent loose stitching and ensure precise results. 6. Thread Path Issues - Monitor bobbin threads, re-thread your machine, or adjust upper tension to maintain tight stitches. 7. Metal Fatigue - Regularly clean and oil moving parts to avoid metal rust and damage. 8. Gear Wear and Tear - Replace worn-out gears and check settings according to the manual for optimal performance. 9. Oil Choice Matters - Use only recommended lubricants to prevent damage or malfunction. 10. Maintenance is Key - Follow the manual's instructions for oiling, threading, and other maintenance tasks to keep your Kenmore sewing machine running smoothly. Given text here Seeking professional help is advisable for tension repair issues, as improper threading can lead to uneven stitching and skipped threads. To address this issue, try adjusting the upper thread tension using a trial-and-error method. Test the machine's upper thread tension by sewing a straight stitch on a test piece of fabric. If you notice uneven stitches or skipped threads on top of the fabric, loosen the upper thread tension slightly. Conversely, if there are uneven stitches underneath the test fabric, tighten the upper thread tension. Repeat this process until both parts of the test fabric are uniform and free of skipped stitches. Feed dog issues can be resolved by addressing freezing, poor gripping, or timing problems. If teeth freeze due to lack of maintenance, clean and oil the movable parts around the feed dogs. For timing-related issues, it's best to consult a professional. However, if the problem lies with slippery or hard-to-grip materials like silk, manually adjust the cloth during stitching. Broken threads can be caused by faulty thread quality or excessive upper thread tension. To prevent thread breakage, adjust your sewing machine's upper thread tension. Incorrect threading can also cause problems, so ensure correct rethreading and inspect the needle plate or bobbin case for dents or scratches that may cut the thread. Loosening the screw on the bobbin case can resolve repeated bobbin thread breaks. Looking to fix your vintage sewing machine? Start by pulling out any old thread and gently cleaning the upper thread or bobbin area with a small brush. Once clear, rethread the machine with the presser foot up to access the tension disc easily. If your machine is struggling to sew, check that the bobbin thread isn't tangled. This can often be solved by unscrewing the needle plate and removing dirt from the bobbin area. Make sure you're using the correct bobbin for your machine, as an incorrect shape or size can cause issues. The most common reason your vintage sewing machine stops working is a lost power source. Check that the cord is securely attached and try reattaching it if necessary. Another issue might be a thread jam or damaged needle; these problems are easily solved by rethreading and replacing the needle. More complex issues may require professional repair, so always refer to your machine's manual for specific guidance. To find Kenmore sewing machine manuals, start by visiting Sears.com and navigating to the home manager column. You can also try websites like homeappliancesmanualsonline.com or managemylife.com, which offer free or paid access to manuals depending on the model number you enter. Looking for an antique Kenmore sewing machine? Your best bet is at local stores or thrift shops, but be prepared for higher prices. If not locally available, online retailers like eBay, Etsy, and Craigslist can provide cheaper options, although condition may vary. For a more comprehensive guide, research additional resources such as timelines of sewing machine styles or visit the "Kenmore sewing machine help" forum to connect with collectors.

What model is my kenmore sewing machine. Where to find model number on kenmore sewing machine. How do i know what model kenmore sewing machine i have. Where do i find the model number on my kenmore sewing machine. Kenmore model 1914 sewing machine.