Two-Thread Serger Stitches

Two-thread stitches are flatter and lighter weight than three- or more thread stitches and they have the greatest stretch. They’re best suited to lightweight, sheer and knit fabrics.

- **Overedge**: edge-finishing only
- **Flatlock**: seaming knits or to use decoratively on woven fabrics
- **Rolled Hem**: finish single fabric layers
- **Chainstitch**: a stable stitch that appears as a standard straight stitch on the right side and a decorative chain on the underside. This can be used decoratively, or as a construction stitch. Note: If the chain is pulled, the seamline will pull out.

Three-Thread Serger Stitches / Four-Thread Serger Stitches

Three-thread stitches use one needle and two loopers and are the most popular option for seam finishing. These are good for medium- to heavyweight fabrics. Depending on whether the needle is in the right or left-hand needle position, the stitch width can be wide or narrow.

On four-thread sergers, two needles and two loopers create more secure stitches for seaming/finishing. The stitches perform the same functions as three-threads, only with extra durability.

- **Overlock**: seaming and finishing, especially on knits
- **Flatlock**: decorative stitch for medium- to heavyweight fabrics; also used for seaming
- **Rolled Hem**: decorative edge finish on medium- to heavyweight fabrics
- **Coverstitch**: decorative topstitch formed with the cutting blades disengaged. The four-thread stitch looks like two rows of topstitching on the right side and a decorative stitch on the underside.
Five-Thread Serger Stitches
These secure stitches are a combination of three-thread overlock and two-thread chainstitching. They’re suitable for seaming knits and wovens, as well as edge finishing medium- to heavyweight fabrics.

- **Overlock**: finishing and seaming knits and wovens
- **Safety Stitch**: very secure stitch combining a three-thread overlock and two-thread chainstitch for seaming wovens
- **Coverstitch**: three parallel rows of topstitching on the right side; decorative stitching on the underside

Five-plus Serger Stitches
Newer sergers offer up to 10 threads, combining stitch configurations from two-, three- and four-thread models.

For more information, see SEW-lutions Guideline 2.150 What to Look for in a Serger.