

Sharp Needle vs Ballpoint Needle

Sharp vs Ballpoint

A sharp needle is a needle with sharp edges. The needle is designed to penetrate the fabric by cutting the fibers. The needle cuts a tiny hole in the fabric to put the thread into the garment. Many times this type of needle will be fine, however I have had many bad experiences with sharp needle embroidery. I have had many items returned to me after laundering due to small holes in the fabric around the embroidery. This may not take place after the first wash but may after several washings.

The reason is that the needle when penetrating the fabric is cutting a tiny holes. After the garment was laundered the fiber in the garment began to unravel, thus leaving a hole.

A ballpoint needle is a needle with a ball on the point. This needle is designed to penetrate the garment by pushing the fiber out of the way. This does not cut the fiber. After laundering the fiber usually goes back into the normal position. I have never had an item returned after laundering using ballpoint needles. This needle is great for stretchy or knit type fabrics especially Baby Onesies and T-Shirts.

Please remember this is only my opinion but I personally use ballpoint needles on all embroidery. I do not like to send a product out that may eventually ravel. I want my embroidery to stay very nice.