TECHTIPS
For HAPPY Embroidery Machines
Checking & Tensioning Bobbin Thread

These directions illustrate proper loading of the bobbin into the bobbin case and how to check for proper tension before inserting it into the machine. NOTE: It is preferable...

1. Insert bobbin and pull thread through slit at side above the metal tension flap.
2. Ensure that it turns clockwise in the bobbin case as it feeds out (as shown above). If not, remove the bobbin, flip it over and re-insert. (EXCEPTION: if using magnetic bobbins, insert the bobbin so that the magnetic hub is facing inwards against the inner metal wall of the bobbin case, regardless of what direction it turns.)
3. Slide thread along tension flap until it feeds out of the “eye” at the end of the tension flap.
4. Perform a quick “drop” test to check tension: like releasing a yo-yo, hold the loaded bobbin case by the free end of the thread - allowing it to hang approximately 6-12 inches from finger tips - and dip hand downwards and bring to a quick stop (but not so suddenly that bobbin falls out of bobbin case). If properly tensioned, the downward momentum of the loaded bobbin case should cause the bobbin to unspool downwards a few inches, then stop. If the tension is too tight, the bobbin will not unspool at all. If the tension is too loose, the bobbin will unspool continuously and not stop. Loosen or tighten the large screw on the tension flap until you achieve this result. This test consistently sets the bobbin to around 23-27 grams, as long as it is performed with a full bobbin. (results will be different if performed with a less-than-full bobbin.)
5. Pass bobbin thread through the wire loop (shaped like an inverted “U” at the front of the bobbin case) and allow 4-6 inches to hang from it, down across the front of the bobbin case.