

6. CHAINSTITCHING

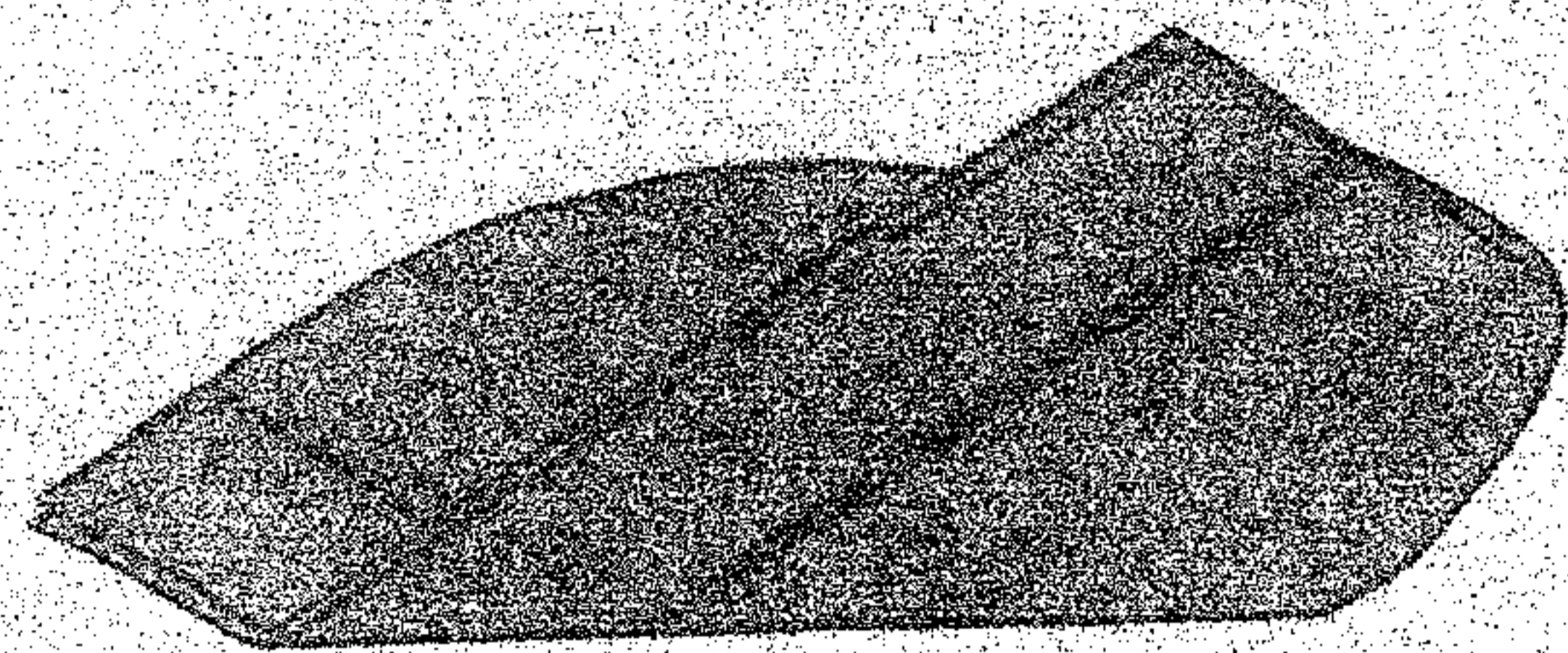
a word about single-thread chainstitching

Single-thread chainstitching looks like regular straight stitching on top, but is a series of interlocking loops on the underside of the fabric. The stitches are produced by the needle thread alone — so you do not need a bobbin thread or a bobbin. Because the stitches are formed by a single thread, the interlocked loops unravel easily. The entire line of stitching can be removed with just a pull on the thread end. Also, the loop formation of the stitches makes them less taut than regular straight stitches. That's what makes chainstitching flexible.

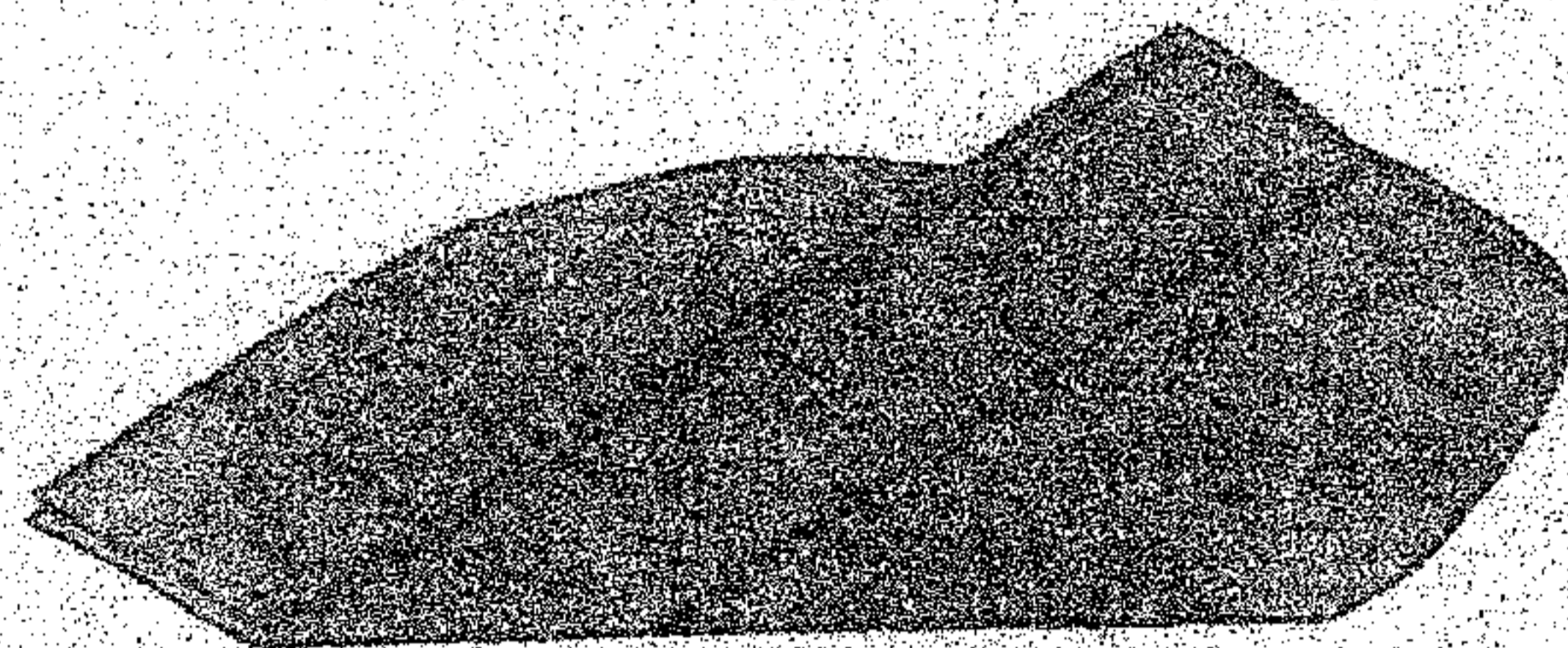
where to use chainstitching

Here are a few of the many sewing jobs for which you will find chainstitching useful. (For further information on some of these chainstitching applications, see pages 42 and 70.)

- **Basting** —
 - Trial seams for fitting
 - Construction guidelines
 - Zipper openings, linings, and interfacings
- Stay-stitching to preserve garment shape during assembly
- Fastening removable trimming —
 - Fur collars
 - White collars and cuffs
- Hemming curtains and draperies that may need to be altered
- Sewing temporary tucks to extend the life of —
 - Children's clothes
 - Curtains and linings that might shrink
- Making welting for corded seams, and making tubular cording for trimming and button loops
- Attaching hem tape
- Making stay chains to anchor linings, or to hold belts or shoulder pads in place

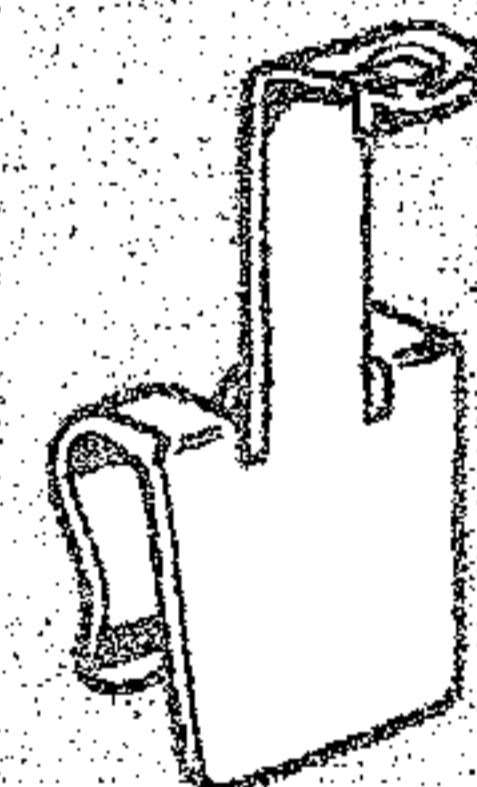


Chainstitch

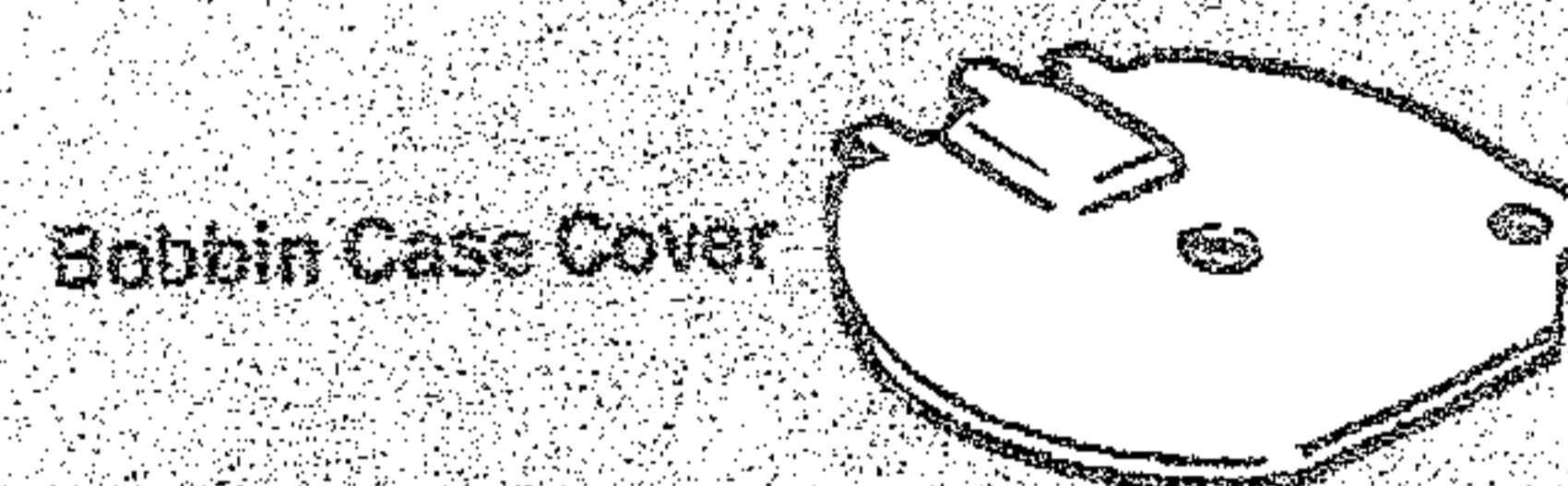


Regular Straight Stitch

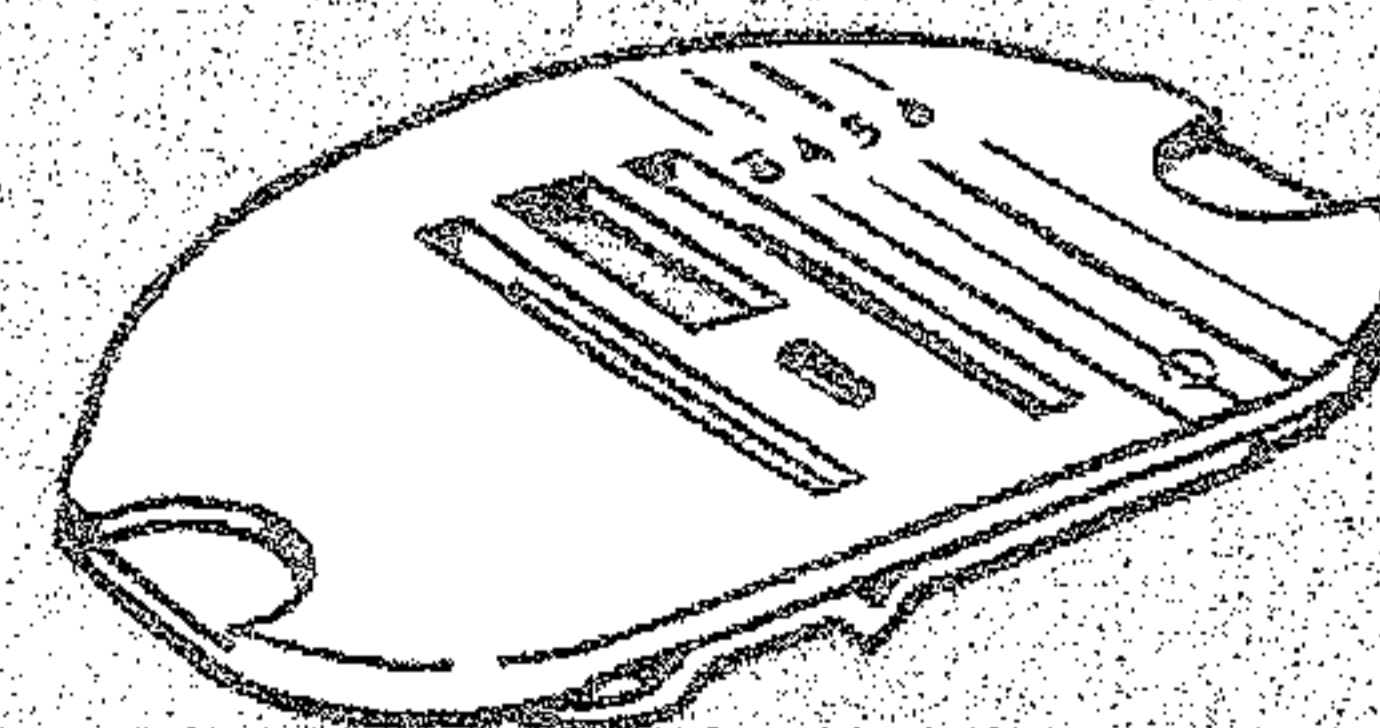
Chainstitch Fittings



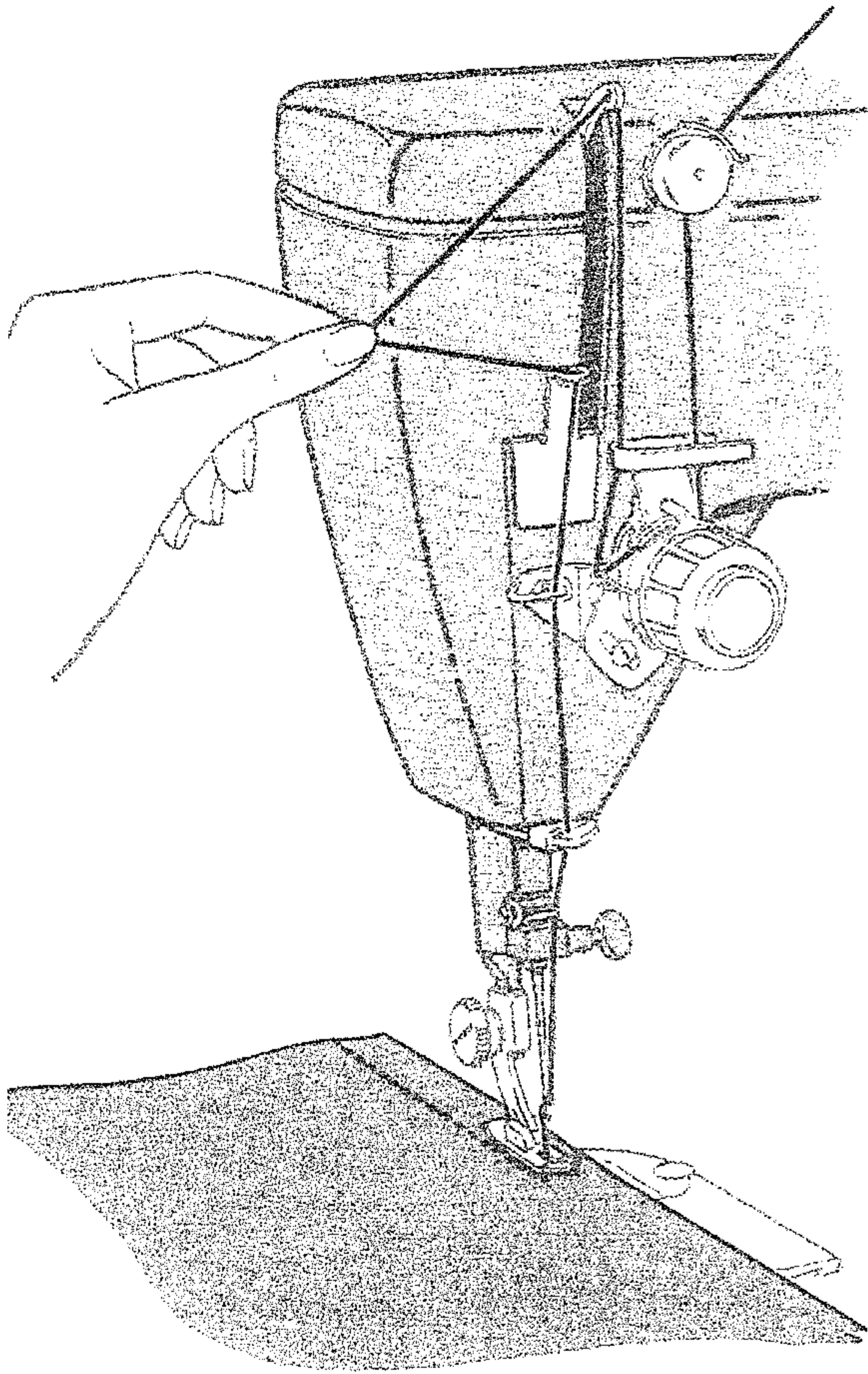
Thread Guide



Bobbin Case Cover



Chainstitch Throat Plate

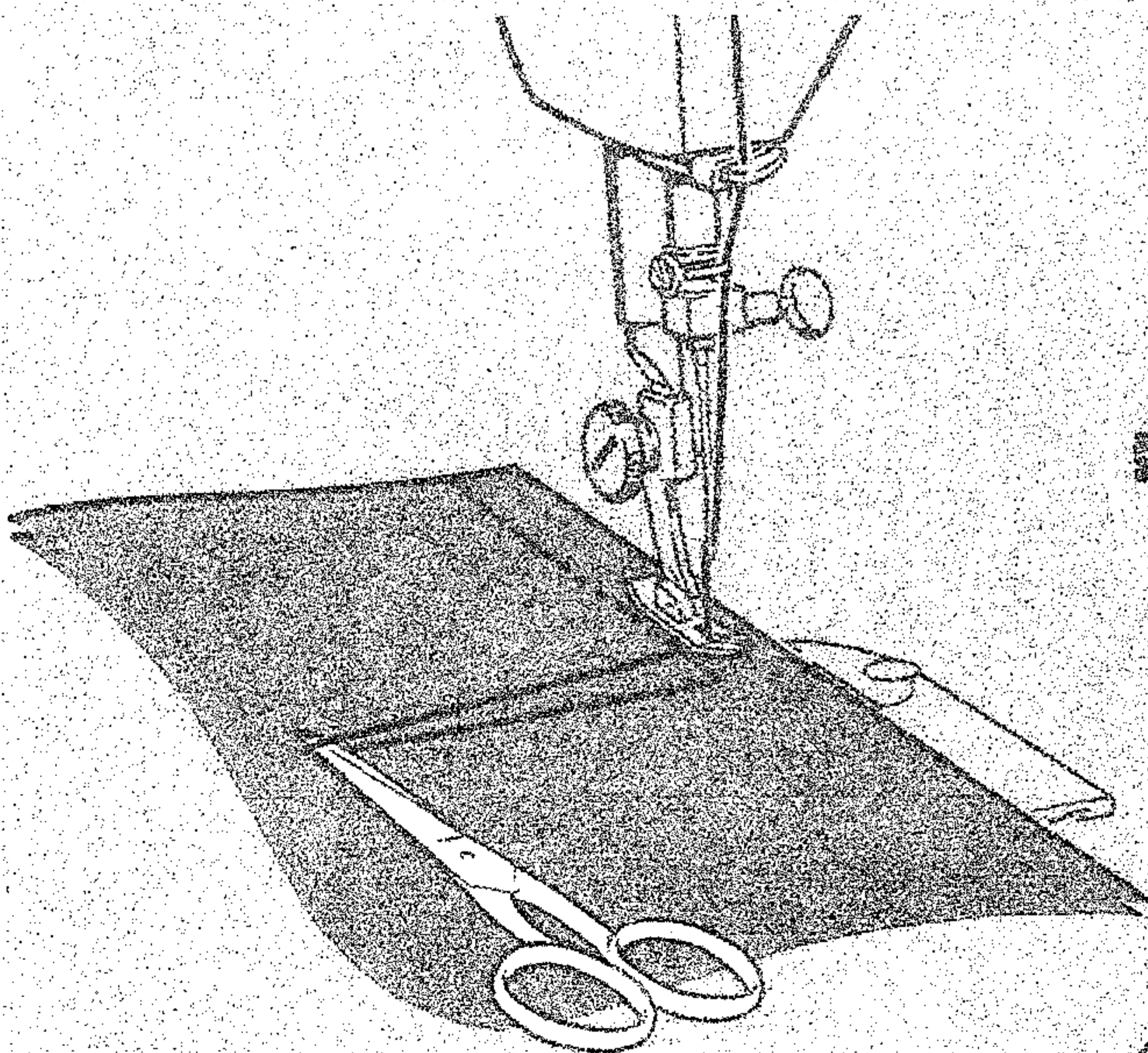


Form a Loop between Take-up Lever and Chainstitch Thread Guide

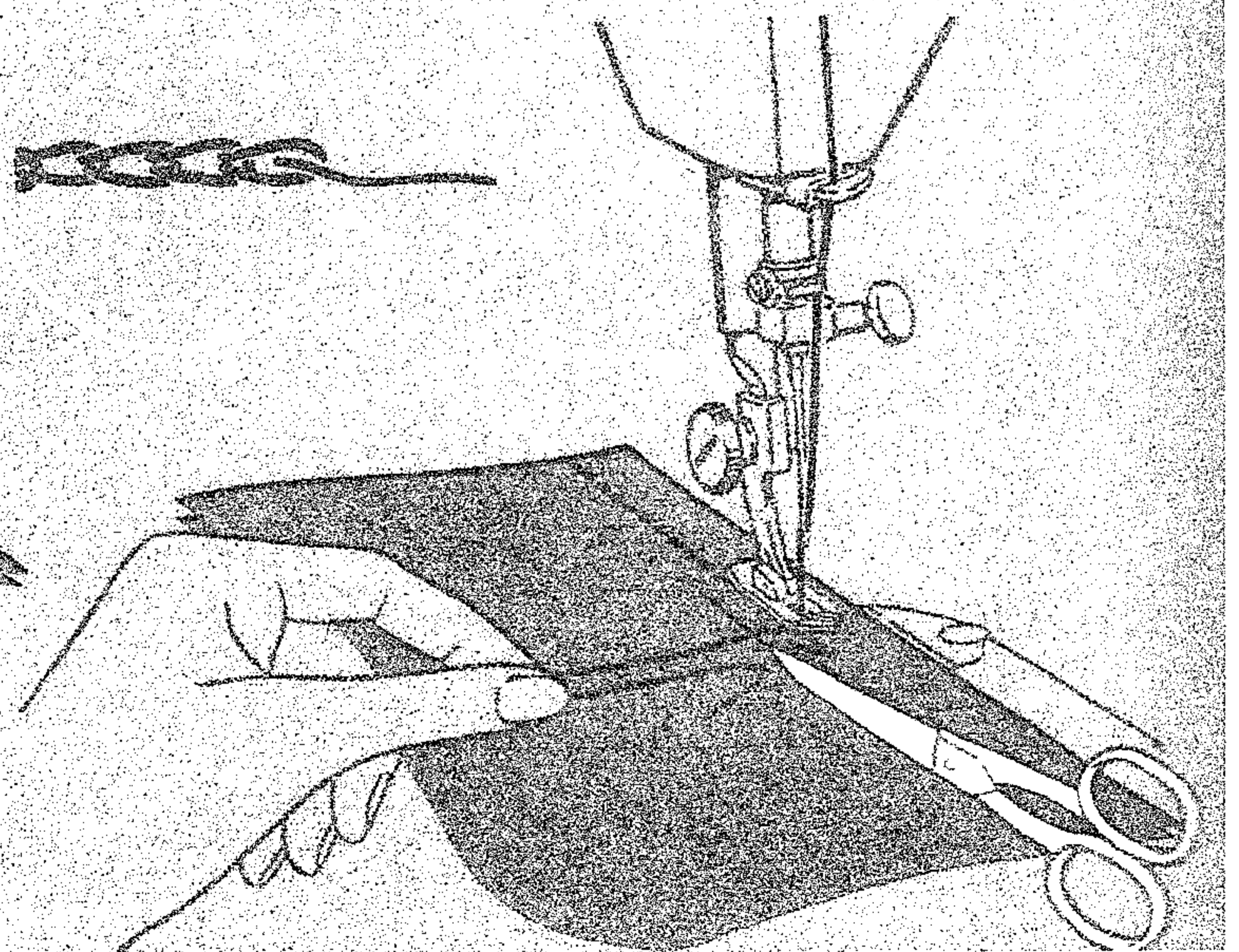
ENDING THE STITCHING IN THE FABRIC

Occasionally you may need to end your stitching in the fabric. Basted hems and temporary tucks, for example, as well as partially stitched-down pleats can be completed in this way:

1. Stop stitching at desired point. Make sure take-up lever is in its highest position.
2. Raise presser foot.
3. With your finger, pull the thread through the take-up lever, forming a loop between the take-up lever and chainstitch thread guide.
4. Pass scissors under presser foot so as to draw the loop down to the left of the foot.
5. Hold the loop and cut the thread close to the end of the stitching.
6. Remove fabric from machine by pulling it straight back, away from you. This will cause the thread end to pull through the fabric to the underside and form a temporary lock.
7. If you wish to secure this temporary lock, fold the thread end back over the chain and fasten with hand stitching.



Draw the Loop Down to Left of Foot



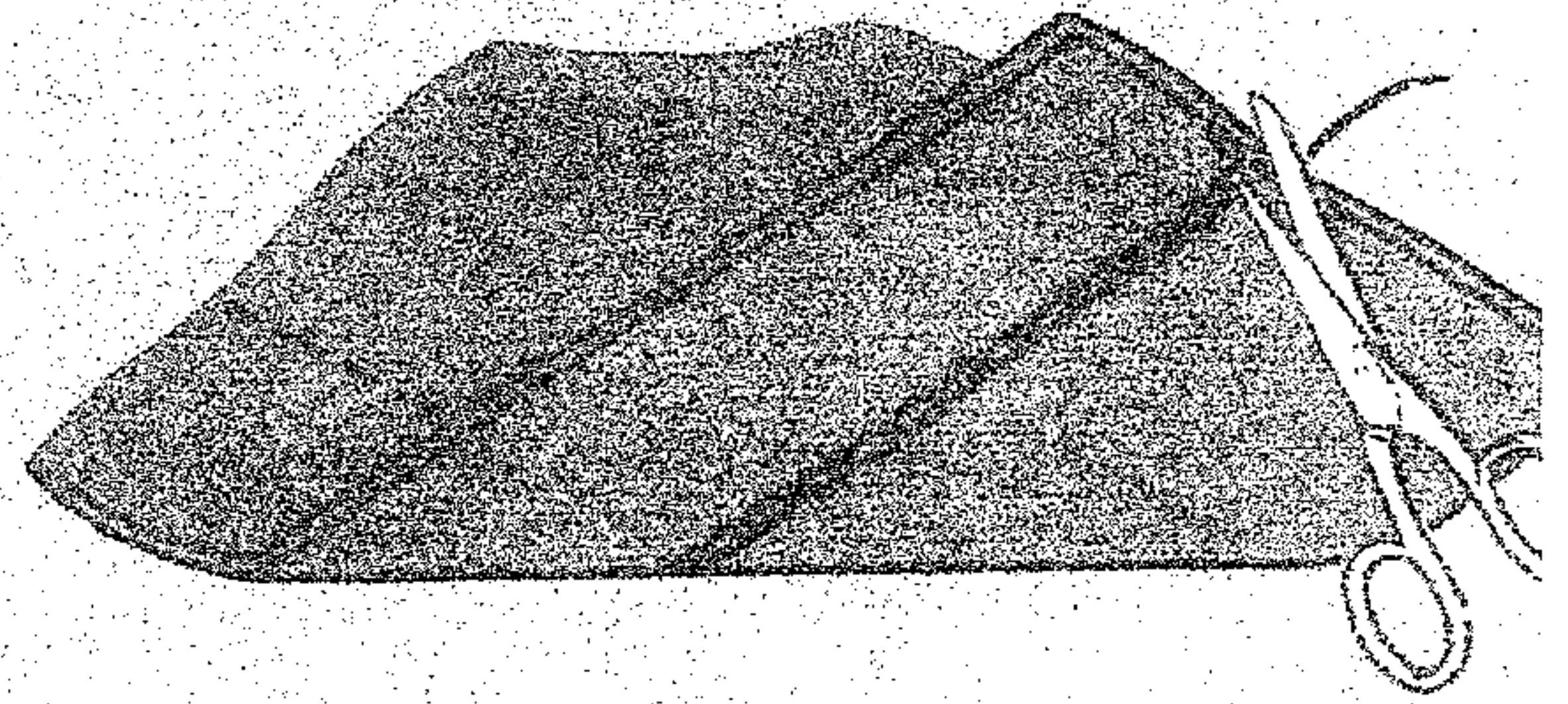
removing the stitching

Chainstitching can be removed smoothly and cleanly in seconds by freeing the last stitch formed in the fabric.

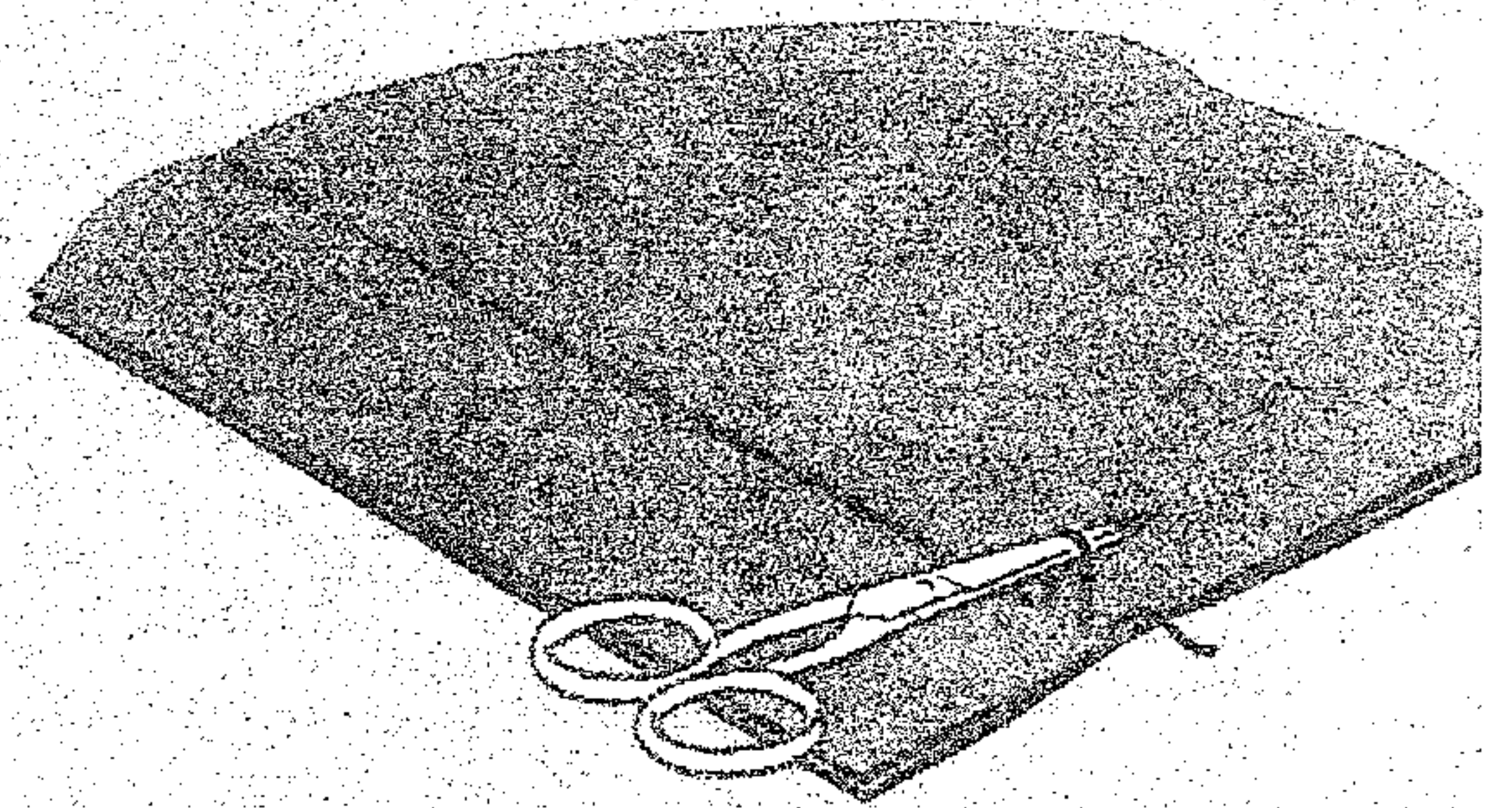
1. Simply cut the last loop formed on the underside of the fabric.
2. Then pick up the free thread end from the top surface of the fabric.
3. Pull the free thread end, removing entire line of stitching.

removing the fittings

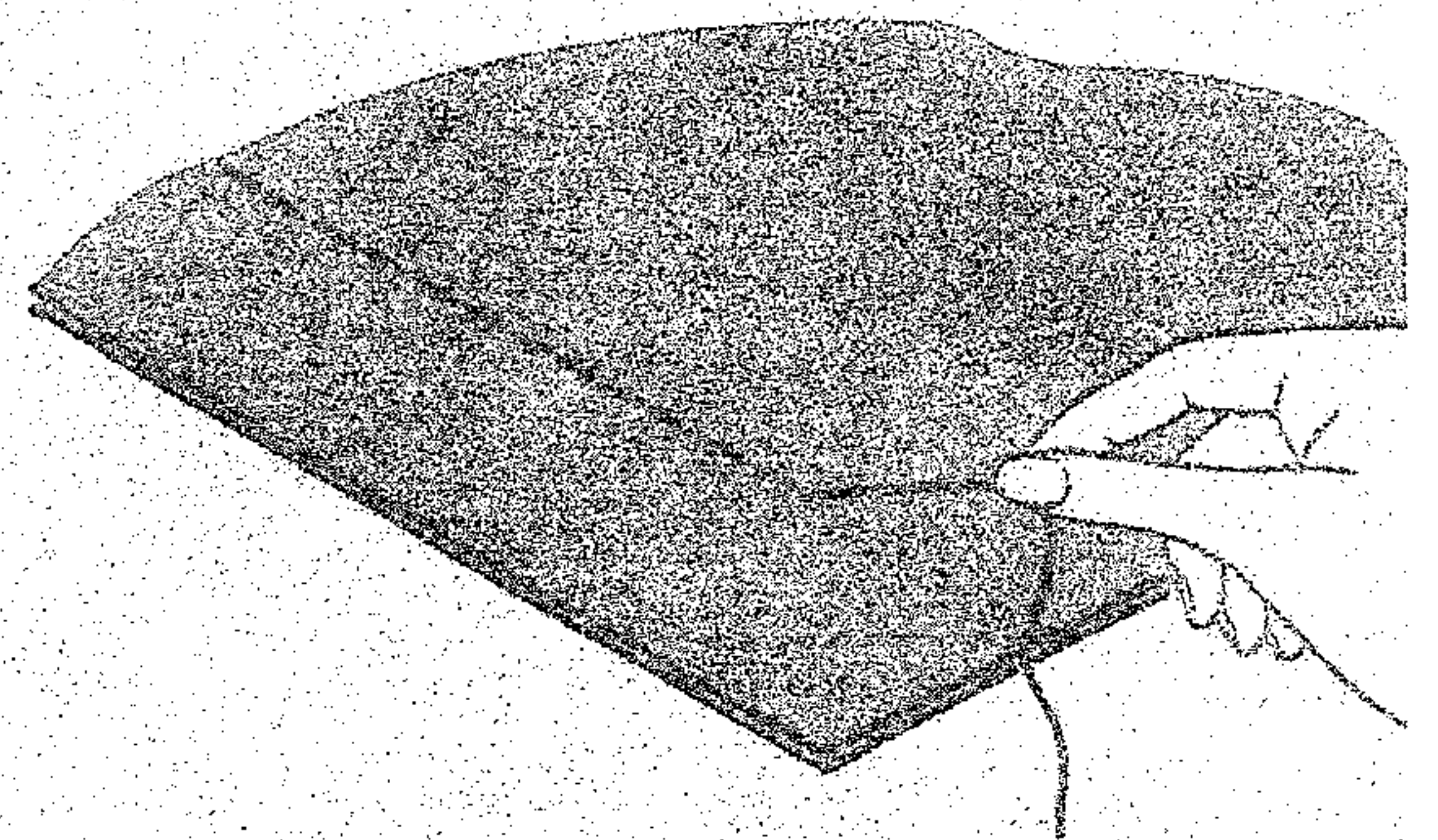
1. Release chain from machine.
2. Make sure needle is at its highest point.
3. Open slide plate.
4. Remove bobbin case cover.
5. Replace bobbin and snap down latch.
6. Unlock the throat plate and remove by sliding it toward you.
7. Remove chainstitch thread guide.



Cutting Last Loop



Picking Up Free Thread End



Removing Line of Stitching