



# Needles Guide

Getting right to the point

All needles are shown at actual size



John James  
Finest Quality Hand Sewing Needles





## About this Needle Guide

At John James Needles, we have history dating back to the very start of needle manufacture in the UK and we have a needle for every needlecraft discipline.

The name of John James Needles is still recognised by needle crafters around the globe and is renowned for quality and reliability.

In this guide all needles are shown at actual size giving you a useful resource for needle selection and identification. Each needle type also gives a brief summary on common use and purpose.

Also to help, toward the back of the guide there are tables which give the lengths and diameters of all available needles.

On our website at [www.jjneedles.com](http://www.jjneedles.com) we sell needles in blister packs that you would traditionally see in a local high street retailer, we also sell in envelopes of 25 needles and in bulk handings of 1,000 needles.

In this guide product codes are listed for our blister pack format. If you are viewing this guide online clicking on these codes will take you directly to the relevant page of our website or a little search of our website will quickly let you find the needles you need in the format you want.

Finally, to help with your first purchase, enter the following discount code at checkout to get **25% off** - up to a maximum total discount of **£20**:

Code: **NeedlesGuide25**

If you find you need further advice or help you can contact us at [sales@jjneedles.com](mailto:sales@jjneedles.com) or by calling **+44 (0)1527 830941**



## Sharps

These are general purpose sewing needles used by dressmakers around the world. Size 16, 17 and 18 are known as Carpet Sharps and, as their name suggests, are most commonly used in the design and manufacture of carpets and rugs.



## Quilting / Betweens

Specifically designed for quilters, the short length of these needles allows you to stitch far quicker than when using an ordinary sewing needle.



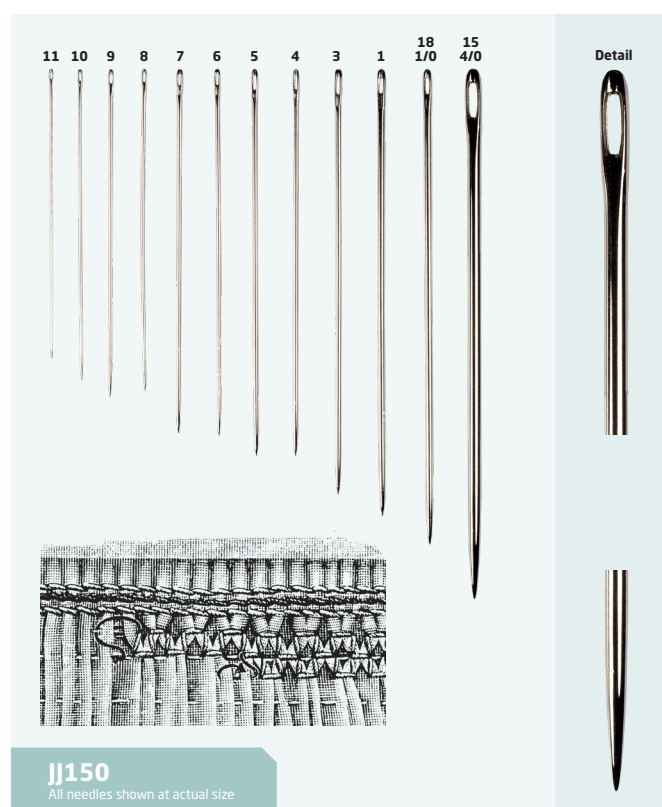
## Tapestry / Cross Stitch

These large eye needles allow the user to thread tapestry wool or six-stranded cotton easily. The blunt tapestry point enables the needle to pass through canvas without tearing or splitting its fibres.



## Milliners' / Straws

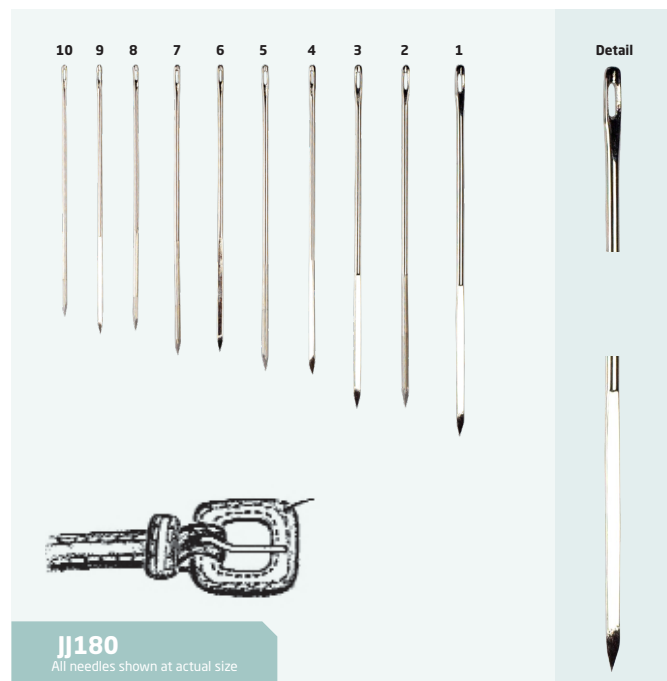
Although traditionally used in the Millinery trade, these needles are now more commonly used for pleating, fancy decorative stitching or even some types of beadwork. They are similar to an ordinary Sharps needle but longer.





## Leather / Glovers

These needles have unusual triangulated (cutting) points to enable them to pass through tough materials without causing unnecessary abrasion. While, as their name suggests, they were originally intended for use when leather working, they are also ideal when working with other media such as suede and soft plastics.



## Chenille

Chenille needles are identical to Tapestry/Cross Stitch needles in length and diameter but the Chenille point is sharp, enabling the needle to pass through the coarsest of fabrics.



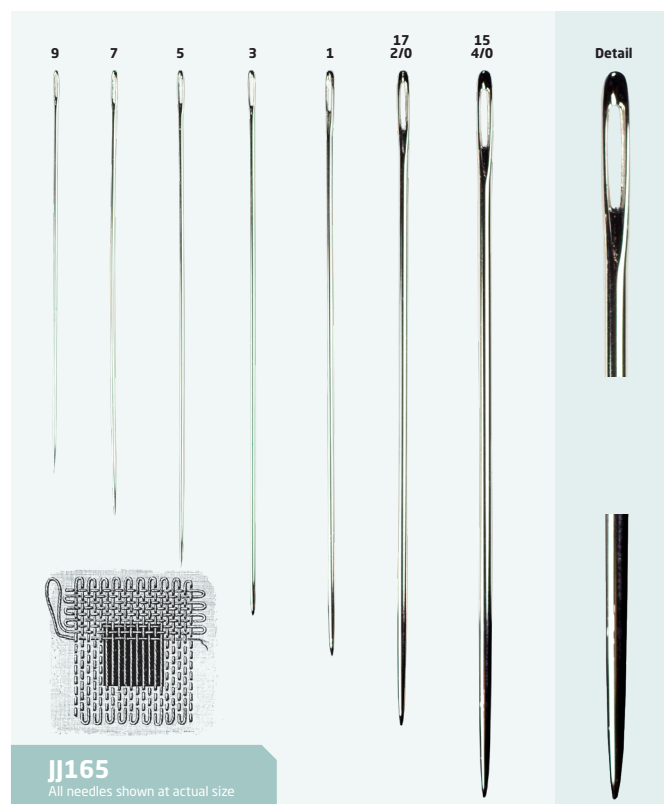
## Darners

Long and sharp with elongated eyes, as their name suggests, these needles are used for darning or mending work. Sizes 14 to 18 are commonly known as Yarn or Wool Darners.



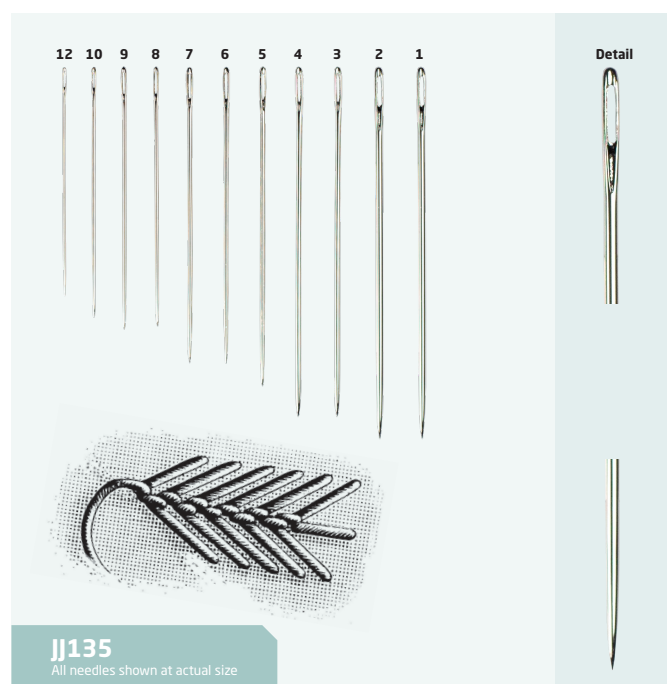
## Long Darners

Another form of darning needle, the extra length and larger eyes of the Long Darners make them even more suitable for mending with wool or other thick and coarse threads.



## Embroidery / Crewel

Embroidery needles have a longer eye than a standard Sharps needle, making them more suitable for threading stranded cotton. Apart from this, their length, diameter and point profile is akin to that of a Sharps needle.



## Easy Threading / Calyx Eye

Perfect for those who find it difficult to thread regular needles, these are standard sewing needles with a cut made in the top of the eye to allow thread to pass through it from above, as illustrated.



## Beading - JJ105

Beading needles are made from the finest steel wire, enabling their use with beads, sequins and pearls. Each size of John James' Beading needles is made from a different diameter of wire which is particularly unusual.

## Short Beading / Bead Embroidery - JJ107

These are specially created Beading needles whose diameters match those of the regular Beading needles, yet in very short lengths. They are ideal for embellishing garments with both beads or sequins and sections of hand embroidery. Available in Sharp point or Ball point.

## Needle Lengths & Diameters

Sharps - JJ110			
Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	48.5	1.02	0.040
<b>2</b>	44	0.86	0.034
<b>3</b>	44	0.86	0.034
<b>4</b>	40	0.76	0.030
<b>5</b>	40	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	37	0.69	0.027
<b>7</b>	37	0.69	0.027
<b>8</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>9</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>10</b>	32.5	0.53	0.021
<b>11</b>	31	0.46	0.018
<b>12</b>	29.5	0.41	0.016

Carpet Sharps - L4302			
Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>16</b>	54.5	1.63	0.064
<b>17</b>	52	1.42	0.056
<b>18</b>	50	1.09	0.043

## Needle Lengths & Diameters

### Ball Point Sharps - BN0310C

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	48.5	1.02	0.040
<b>2</b>	44	0.86	0.034
<b>3</b>	44	0.86	0.034
<b>4</b>	40	0.76	0.030
<b>5</b>	40	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	37	0.69	0.027
<b>7</b>	37	0.69	0.027
<b>8</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>9</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>10</b>	32.5	0.53	0.021
<b>11</b>	31	0.46	0.018
<b>12</b>	29.5	0.41	0.016

### Quilting/Betweens - JJ120

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	41	1.02	0.040
<b>2</b>	39	0.86	0.034
<b>3</b>	39	0.86	0.034
<b>4</b>	35	0.76	0.030
<b>5</b>	35	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	31.5	0.69	0.027
<b>7</b>	31.5	0.69	0.027
<b>8</b>	28.5	0.61	0.024
<b>9</b>	28.5	0.61	0.024
<b>10</b>	25.5	0.53	0.021
<b>11</b>	22.5	0.53	0.021
<b>12</b>	22.5	0.41	0.016

### Big Eye Quilting - JJ125

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>10</b>	25.5	0.53	0.021
<b>11</b>	22.5	0.53	0.021

### Gloves/Leather - JJ180

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	48.5	1.02	0.040
<b>2</b>	44	0.86	0.034
<b>3</b>	44	0.86	0.034
<b>5</b>	40	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	37	0.69	0.027
<b>7</b>	37	0.69	0.027
<b>8</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>9</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>10</b>	32.5	0.53	0.021

### Easy Threading/Calyx Eye - JJ144

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>4</b>	40	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	37	0.76	0.030
<b>8</b>	34	0.76	0.030

### Embroidery/Crewel - JJ135

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	48.5	1.02	0.040
<b>2</b>	48.5	1.02	0.040
<b>3</b>	45	0.86	0.034
<b>4</b>	45	0.86	0.034
<b>5</b>	41.5	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	38.5	0.69	0.027
<b>7</b>	38.5	0.69	0.027
<b>8</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>9</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>10</b>	32.5	0.53	0.021
<b>12</b>	29.5	0.41	0.016

## Needle Lengths & Diameters

### Straws/Milliners - JJ150

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	59	1.02	0.040
<b>3</b>	56	0.86	0.034
<b>4</b>	51	0.76	0.030
<b>5</b>	51	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	48	0.69	0.027
<b>7</b>	48	0.69	0.027
<b>8</b>	42.5	0.61	0.024
<b>9</b>	42.5	0.61	0.024
<b>10</b>	40.5	0.53	0.021
<b>18</b>	62.5	1.09	0.043
<b>15</b>	69	1.83	0.072

### Yarn Darners - JJ145

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>14 (5/0)</b>	75	2.03	0.080
<b>15 (4/0)</b>	69	1.83	0.072
<b>16 (3/0)</b>	66	1.63	0.064
<b>17 (2/0)</b>	63	1.42	0.056
<b>18 (1/0)</b>	60	1.27	0.050

### Cotton/Short Darners - JJ145

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	57.5	1.02	0.040
<b>3</b>	51	0.86	0.034
<b>5</b>	49	0.76	0.030
<b>7</b>	47	0.69	0.027
<b>9</b>	45	0.61	0.024
<b>11</b>	36	0.46	0.018

### Long Darners - JJ165

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>15 (4/0)</b>	95	1.83	0.072
<b>17 (2/0)</b>	85	1.42	0.056
<b>1</b>	75	1.02	0.040
<b>3</b>	70	0.86	0.034
<b>5</b>	64	0.76	0.030
<b>7</b>	58	0.69	0.027
<b>9</b>	52	0.61	0.024

### Tapestry/Cross Stitch - JJ198

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>13</b>	69	2.34	0.092
<b>14</b>	58	2.03	0.080
<b>16</b>	52.5	1.63	0.064
<b>18</b>	48.5	1.27	0.050
<b>20</b>	44	1.09	0.043
<b>22</b>	40.5	0.94	0.037
<b>24</b>	37	0.76	0.030
<b>26</b>	34	0.61	0.024
<b>28</b>	32.5	0.53	0.021

### Chenille - JJ188

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>13</b>	69	2.34	0.092
<b>14</b>	58	2.03	0.080
<b>16</b>	52.5	1.63	0.064
<b>18</b>	48.5	1.27	0.050
<b>20</b>	44	1.09	0.043
<b>22</b>	40.5	0.94	0.037
<b>24</b>	37	0.76	0.030
<b>26</b>	34	0.61	0.024

### Beading - JJ105

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>10</b>	55	0.46	0.018
<b>11</b>	51	0.41	0.016
<b>12</b>	51	0.36	0.014
<b>13</b>	49	0.30	0.012
<b>15</b>	45	0.25	0.010

### Short Beading/Bead Embroidery - JJ107

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
Sharp Point			
<b>10</b>	32.5	0.46	0.018
<b>12</b>	32.5	0.36	0.014



## Needle Lengths & Diameters

### Ball Point Bead Embroidery - JJ107

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
Tapestry Point			
<b>10</b>	32.5	0.46	0.018
<b>12</b>	32.5	0.36	0.014

### Long Beading - L4321

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>12</b>	76	0.36	0.014

### Doll/Soft Sculpture - JJ60335

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>3½"</b>	89	1.09	0.043
<b>5"</b>	127	1.09	0.043
<b>7"</b>	178	1.09	0.043

### Bodkins - JJ60900

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
Flat Bodkins			
<b>N/A</b>	72	N/A	N/A
Round Bodkins			
<b>17</b>	59.5	1.42	0.056

### Primary - JJ485

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	33	1.16	0.046
<b>3</b>	33	1.02	0.040
<b>5</b>	33.5	0.86	0.034

### Saddlers Harness - L3912

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	54	1.02	0.040
<b>2</b>	54	1.02	0.040
<b>3</b>	54	1.02	0.040
<b>4</b>	48	0.86	0.034
<b>18 (1/0)</b>	57.5	1.09	0.043
<b>17 (2/0)</b>	59.5	1.42	0.056
<b>16 (3/0)</b>	61.5	1.63	0.064

### Saddlers/Betweens - L3911

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>1</b>	41	1.02	0.040
<b>2</b>	39	0.86	0.034
<b>3</b>	39	0.86	0.034
<b>4</b>	35	0.76	0.030
<b>5</b>	35	0.76	0.030
<b>6</b>	31.5	0.69	0.027
<b>7</b>	31.5	0.69	0.027
<b>8</b>	28.5	0.61	0.024

### Bookbinders/Straw - L4303

Size	Length mm	Diameter mm	Diameter Thousandths of an Inch
<b>15</b>	69	1.83	0.072
<b>18</b>	62.5	1.09	0.043



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