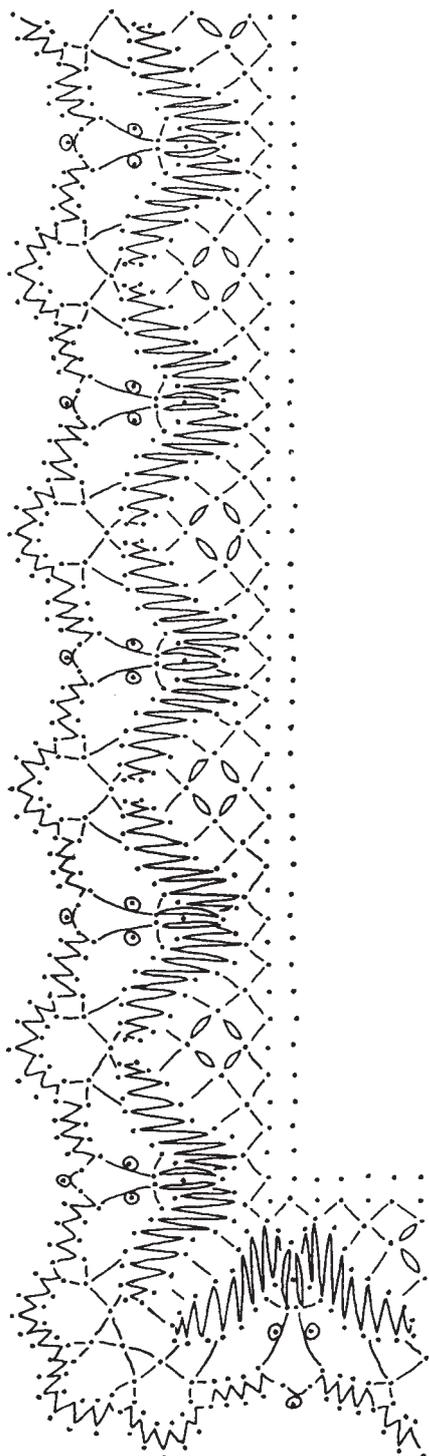


Butterfly Handkerchief Edging

This pattern is an adaption of the butterfly edging on pp.82-84 of *The Technique of Bobbin Lace* by Pamela Nottingham (first edition ISBN 0 7134 3230 6) published by B.T.Batsford Ltd., London.

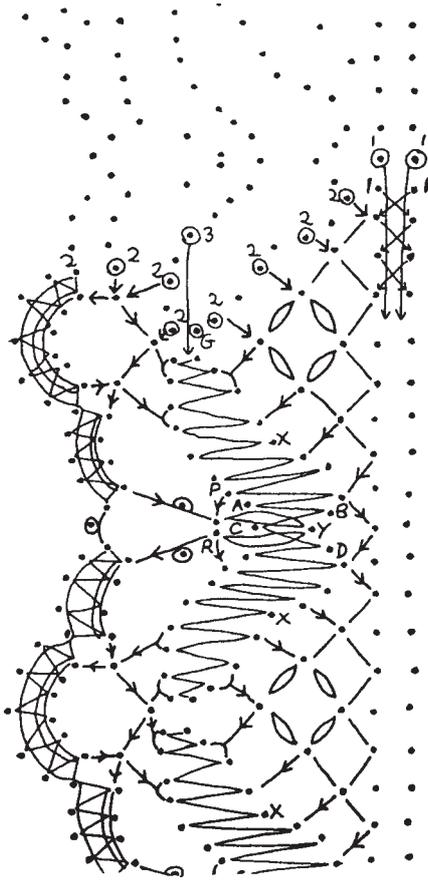
I liked the idea of a butterfly edging but when I worked a sample I thought that the butterflies looked very stiff and lifeless. Then a friend showed me an old piece of lace with butterflies which looked as if they would be able to fly. I decided to change the shape of the butterflies and this pricking is the result.

The butterfly wings are worked in half stitch, the scallop heading in cloth stitch with a cloth stitch and twist edge, and there is a Kat stitch footside. Except for the butterflies the working method is that given in *The Technique of Bobbin Lace*.



23 pairs DMC Broder machine 30 or similar thread
1 pair DMC Coton Perlé 8 as gimp

The pricking should measure 15.4 cm (6.05 in) from top footside pin-hole to corner pin-hole and the width from footside to top of the scallop should be 3.7 cm (1.48 in).



Method of Working Butterflies

Take the gimp through the three pairs at the tip of the wing and twist these pairs once. Start working with the right-hand two of these pairs and continue working following the diagram taking the gimp through the plait pairs as they are needed. Notice where the plait pairs are taken in at separate pins and where they are both taken in at the same pin. When no pair enters (or leaves) the weaver pair is taken outside the gimp, twisted twice and brought back inside the gimp (Diagram 1). At X work a nook pin with the pin outside the gimp (Diagram 2).

The butterfly's body is worked so that it ends up underneath the wings i.e. on the right side of the lace. It's not nearly as difficult as it sounds.

Work the wing to A leaving out two pairs at P. With these pairs work a plait to cross with the first antenna and then use the antenna pairs to work a leaf for the first half of the body. Now work from A to B moving the passive pairs across the leaf pairs to the left as they are worked. At B no pair enters so take the weaver pair outside the gimp and back inside again (Diagram 1). With the body pairs work a nook pin at Y treating each pair as a single thread (Diagram 2). Now use them to work another leaf for the second half of the body. Then work from B to C moving the passive pairs across the leaf pairs to the right as they are worked. Once pin C has been put up cross the leaf pairs with the plait at R and use them to work the second antenna. Complete the second half of the wing, taking in and leaving out pairs where indicated. Cross the gimps once the wing is finished. At the corner where the wing tips are further apart I plaited the three pairs at the tip of the wing and the gimp pair together treating pairs as single threads (Diagram 3). The footside was worked as shown in Diagram 4.

NB Do not forget to remove the support pins (●) used at the start.

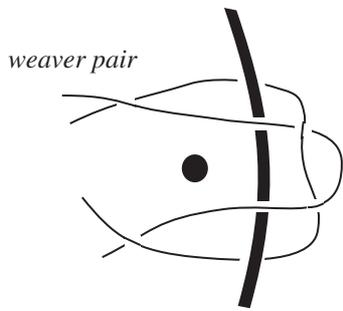


Diagram 1: no pair(s) entering or leaving wing

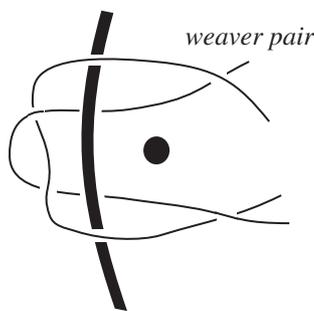


Diagram 2: nook pin

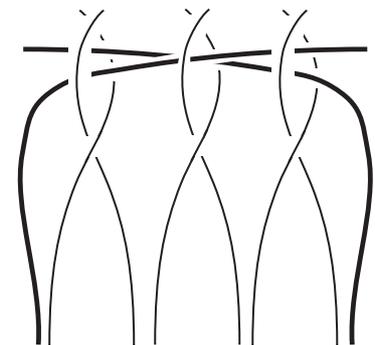
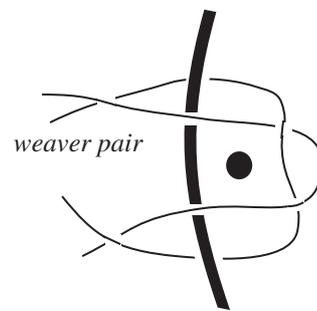


Diagram 3: pairs treated as single threads for thick plait at the corner

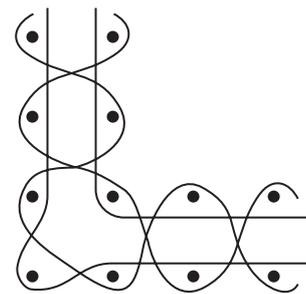


Diagram 4: footside at corner