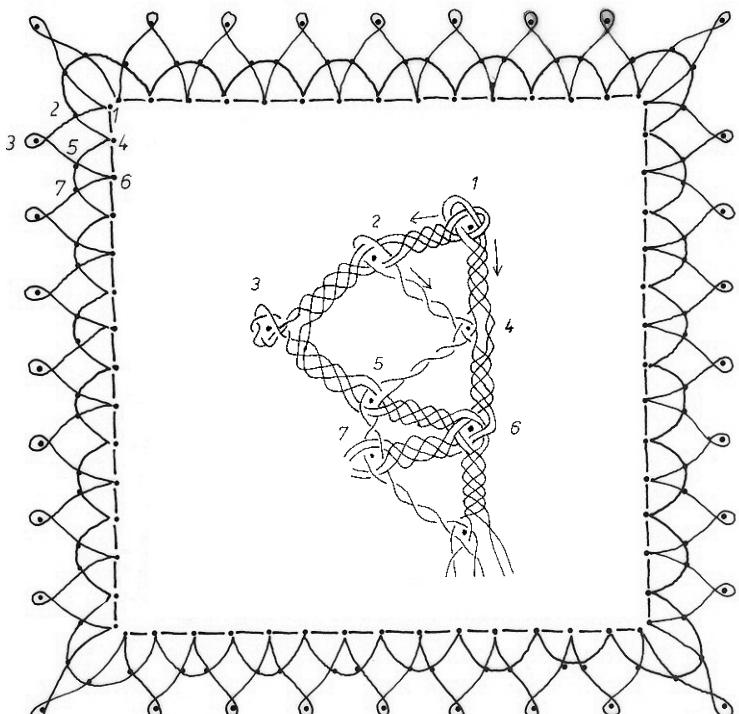
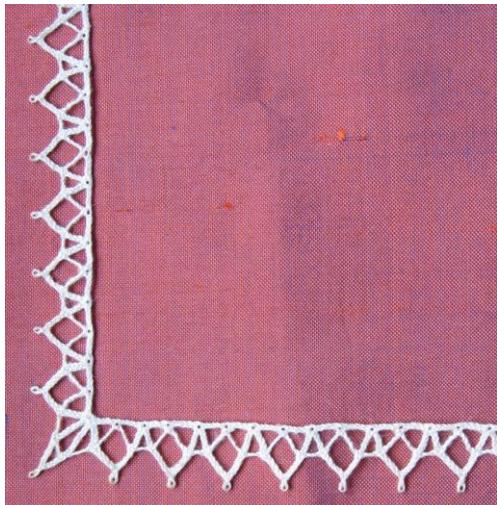


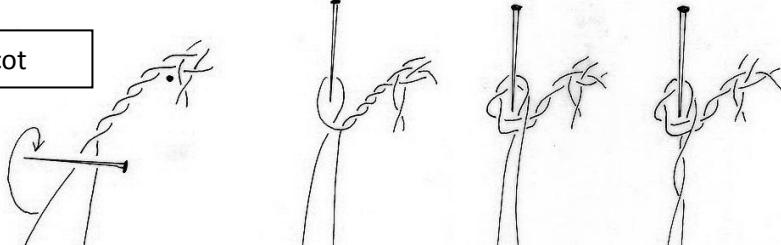
This edging was originally designed to introduce adult students to plaiting, picots, windmill and lazy crossings, but it was equally popular with young lacemakers. It is probably best suited to those twelve years and over. The pattern as given is suitable for a quick practice project, but enlarged it would make a good edging for a handkerchief. Practice plaiting first with just 2 pairs of threads, repeating the twist-cross movements until you are confident. To keep the plaiting firm and flat, pull up on each cross movement.

Requirements

Wind 5 pairs of bobbins (coupled) with 50/2 linen or number 12 or 16 perle cotton, depending on the brand.



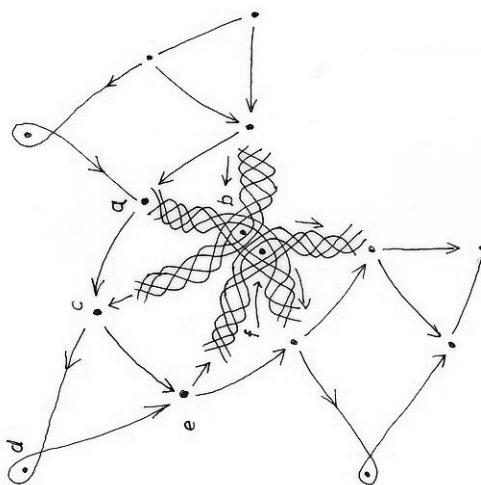
Stages in making a picot



Method

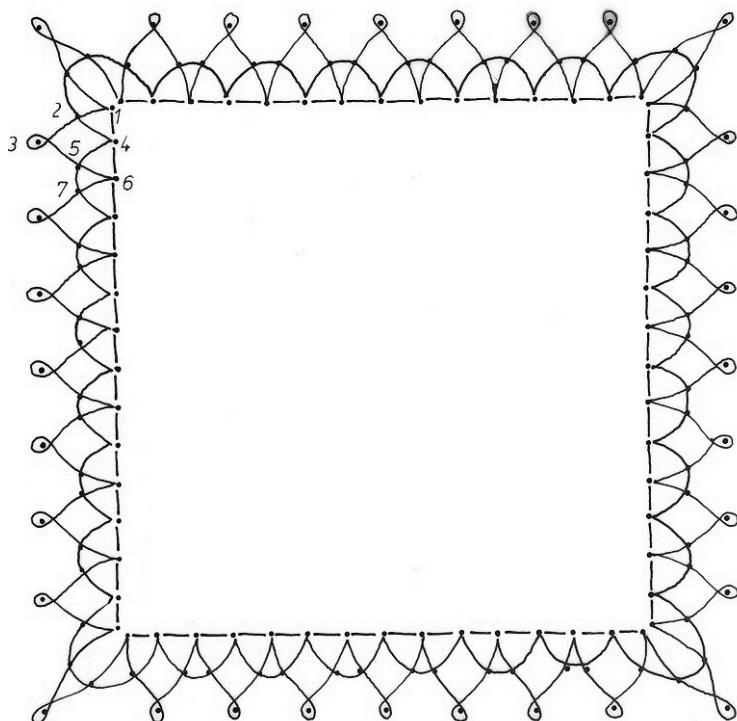
- Start near the corner as marked, using any convenient pinhole above the start for temporary support pins. Refer to the diagram and work as follows.
- Bring in 4 pairs at **pin 1** with a windmill crossing; that is, cloth stitch 2 pairs through 2 pairs, using each pair as if it were a single thread so that you make only one stitch.
- Plait the left hand 2 pairs until you are a fraction short of **pin 2**, (to allow room for the crossing) then bring in the remaining pair with a lazy crossing; that is, cloth stitch the single pair through the plait pairs, using the plait pairs like a single pair.

- At **pin 3** work a picot as shown in the diagram; twist the right hand plait pair once and lay it aside; twist the left hand plait pair 5 times; hold the pin on top of the left hand thread of this pair and pass the thread clockwise around the pin; push the pin into the pinhole and *before pulling the first thread up* pass the second thread of the pair around the pin *in the same direction*; now pull both threads up and continue plaiting, stopping just short of pin 5.
- Next plait the pairs remaining at 1 to just **short of pin 4**; twist the single pair at pin 2 three times and work half stitch, pin, half stitch with the left hand pair of the plait. Those pairs have now changed places so that the pair from the plait now twists to 5 and the pair from 2 enters the plait.
- **Pins 5 and 7** are worked as lazy crossings, as for pin 2.
- **Pin 6** is a windmill crossing of the pairs from 4 and 5.



From now on pins 3 to 7 repeat themselves up to the corner. If you look carefully at the diagram you should be able to see what to do. Note that there are two windmill crossings very close together right at the corner (b and f). It's best to avoid twisting the plait pairs between these two crossings, so the corner turn is as sharp as possible.

When you have finished tie off the finishing threads into the starting loops as neatly as possible.



2 – Plaited edging –© RMS 2012