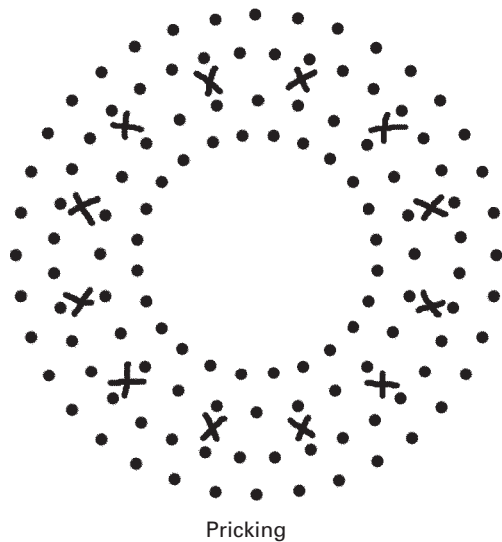
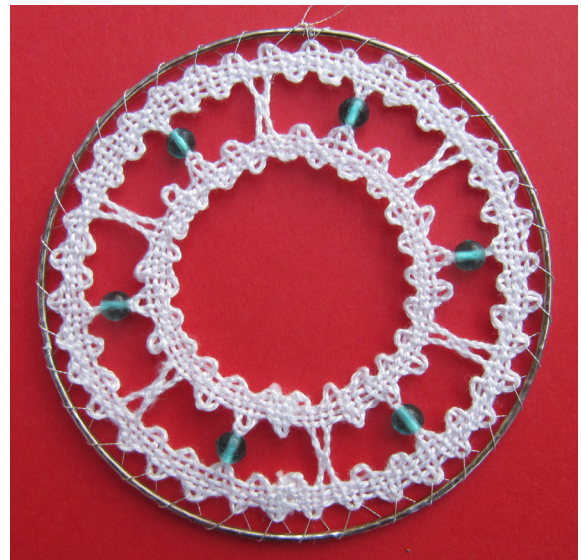


Christmas Ring in bobbin lace



Pricking



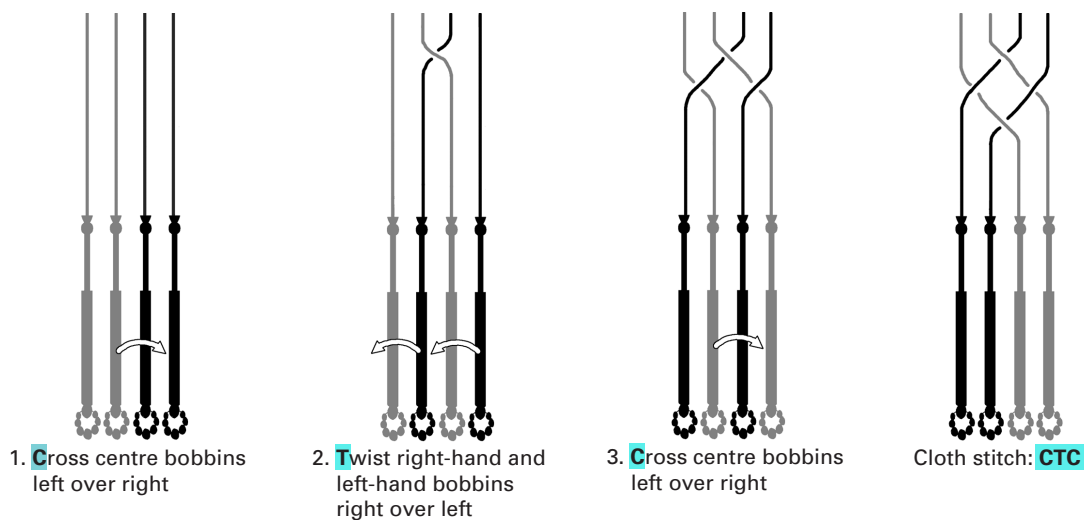
Finished ring

The Christmas Ring is worked in cloth stitch with 6 pairs of bobbins using pearl cotton 8 thread. It is made up of two trails, each worked with 3 pairs, which are linked together at intervals by either working a kiss stitch or adding a bead.

The line beside the pricking will be 5 cm long when the pricking is printed at the correct size.

Working cloth stitch

Bobbin lace stitches are worked with two pairs of bobbins. Pins are used to hold the stitches in place after they have been made. You will be using cloth stitch which is worked as follows:



Working the ring

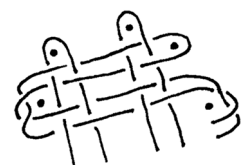
You have 3 pairs of bobbins for each trail: the one with more thread is the worker pair. The other two pairs are the passive pairs. (The white loops will be used to finish the ring by joining the end to the start — see page 2.)

The worker pair moves from side to side working a stitch with each passive pair in turn. At the end of each row the worker pair is twisted twice and a pin is placed between the worker pair and the last passive pair.

The pin should lean outwards slightly. At this point also tension the threads by holding the worker pair firmly and pulling gently on the passive bobbins to keep the work smooth and even.

The first row of each trail has been worked for you and the worker pair is at the left — work as follows:

1. Work cloth stitch (Cross, Twist, Cross) with each passive pair in turn (two stitches).
2. Twist worker pair twice — right-hand bobbin over left-hand bobbin x 2. Pin between worker pair and last passive.
3. Tension threads.
4. Repeat from 1.

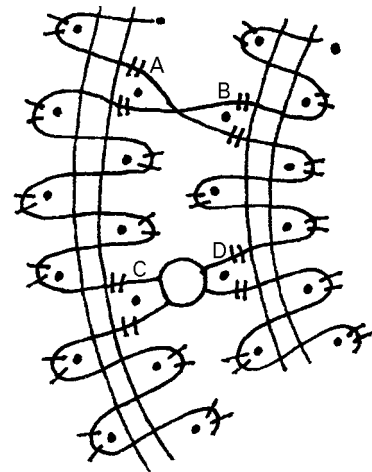


Working a cloth stitch is exactly the same whether the worker pair starts at the left or right.

Where there is a cross between the two trails on the pricking you will need to work a kiss stitch or add a bead.

Working a Kiss stitch

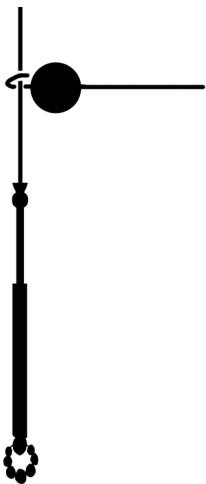
When the worker pairs for the outer and inner trails reach A and B respectively, twist each twice and place pin, then work a cloth stitch with the worker pairs, twist each pair twice and continue working. (In a kiss stitch the worker pair for the outer trail becomes the worker pair for the inner trail and vice versa.)



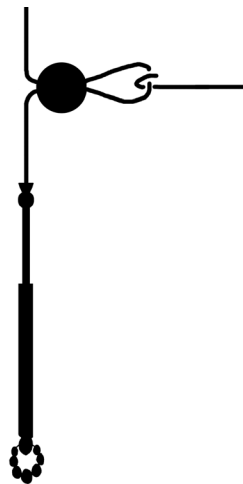
NB. In the diagram on the right 1 line = 1 pair but in all the other diagrams 1 line=1 thread

Adding a Bead

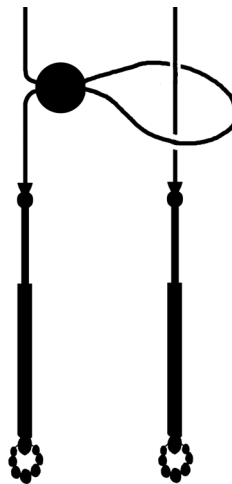
When the worker pairs for the outer and inner trails reach C and D respectively, twist each twice and place pin, then add a bead between the adjacent bobbins of the worker pairs as follows:



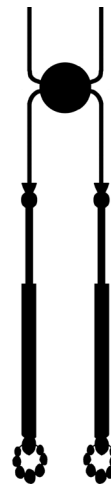
1. Push crochet hook through hole in bead and catch thread from bobbin



2. Pull loop of thread through bead



3. Place the other bobbin through the loop

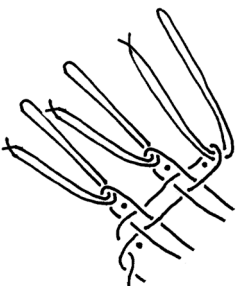


4. Pull gently on bobbins to ease bead into place

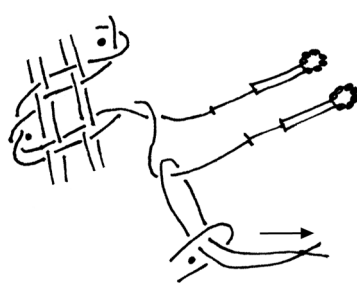
After adding the bead twist worker pairs twice and continue working to the next kiss stitch. As you work round the ring you will need to push down pins so that you have space to work. Cover the pushed-down pins so that the bobbin threads don't get caught around them.

The final row is worked from left to right and brings the worker pair back to where it started. You now use the white loops to join the worker and passive pairs of each trail to where they started.

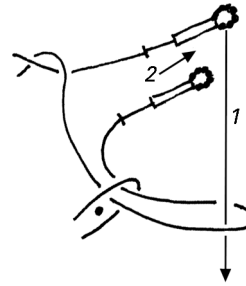
Using the loops to make sewings to join end to start



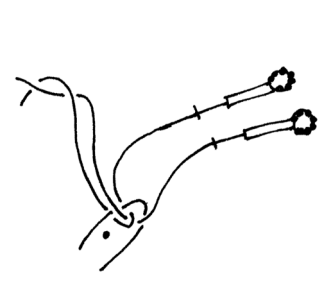
Trail start showing loops of white thread which are used to join the worker and passive pairs into the loops where they started.



1. Take left-hand worker bobbin through loop of white thread and use this to pull up a loop of the bobbin thread. (It may be necessary to remove the pin.)



2. Cut off knot and remove white thread. Put right-hand worker bobbin through bobbin thread loop (1) and then pull gently on the bobbins to close the loop (2).



3. Finished sewing — now tie the bobbin threads with a reef knot. Make similar sewings with the two passive pairs. Then repeat for the other trail.

After tying the reef knots, cut off the bobbins, trim the ends of thread, and carefully remove the pins. The lace can now be used in a Christmas card or stitched into a bangle with metallic thread ready to hang on the Christmas tree.