



AUSTRALIAN LACE GUILD  
PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS  
TORCHON LACE STAGE 2

1. Read the general guidelines.
2. Submit three (3) major finished pieces of work to show a sound working knowledge of the lace beyond Stage 1 e.g. handkerchief (lace to be mounted on fabric by hand and material measuring at least 15 cm across) or collar. One of these pieces should have a footside which is shaped so that it requires mounting by hand across the grain of the fabric (e.g. circular, hexagonal, oval or irregular) and this piece should be mounted on fabric. One must be of own design and evidence of the design process should be included.
3. Submit sufficient samples and/or finished articles of not less than 15 cm (measured on the footside) to cover all the techniques within the requirements.
4. Stage 2 workbooks should illustrate the progression of work submitted for assessment since Stage 1 and include evidence of wider reading.
5. Stage 2 requires you to have some appreciation and knowledge of the historical background and traditional uses of the craft. A summary (about 1 typed page) showing your reading and knowledge should be included.
6. Submit one (1) major finished piece of your Stage 1 work with this Assessment.
7. Retain one (1) major finished piece from Stage 2 to be resubmitted for Stage 3.
8. Submit a list of threads (as well as samples of threads) used and books consulted

**REQUIREMENTS -**

**Fans**

- Extended
- Gimp woven

**Trails**

- Crossing - both wide and narrow, in both half stitch and whole stitch. A narrow trail occupies the space between 2 pin holes; a wide trail occupies more space by omitting 1 or more pin holes.

**Spiders**

- Variations from the simple and compound, as many different types as possible (a minimum of 5)

**Gimp creating the pattern**

**Grounds**

- Other rose grounds (a minimum of 5)
- Bias ground
- Cane ground
- Triangular ground
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**Methods of starting and finishing**

- Straight piece of border lace not to be joined - Patterned end, e.g. towel or place mat end, cuff, etc. (One side is a footside edge and the other 3 are headsides). Two pieces of lace to be completed. Any two from the following three options are required, e.g. Rosemary Shepherd, Pamela Nottingham or method/s of your choice.



**All four sides a footside** - a square or rectangular insertion with all four sides a footside. Work should be started along one of the straight edges (top) and finished along the opposite straight edge (bottom).

**Lace extension.** Method of neatening ends of the lace. An extra pattern repeat or part of a pattern repeat, is worked at the beginning and end of the lace, then folded back underneath and stitched into place for form a neat hem. ("Techniques of Torchon Lace" by Pamela Nottingham, page 75 or "An Introduction to Bobbin Lacemaking" by Rosemary Shepherd – page 111/112 original edition, page 88/89 later editions)

**Adding extra threads**

- In a corner – to facilitate the working of the corner, but not to increase the width of the lace.
- To increase the width of the lace, i.e. extended corner

**Triangular piece**

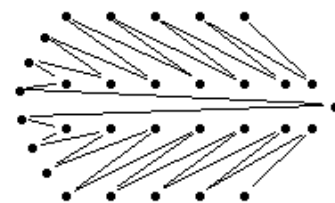
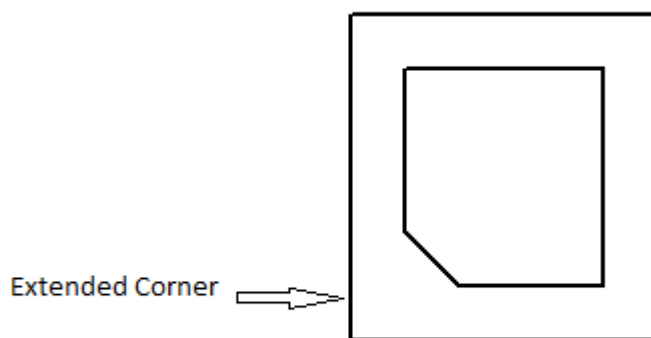
- as insertion, edging or corner

**Rectangular mat**

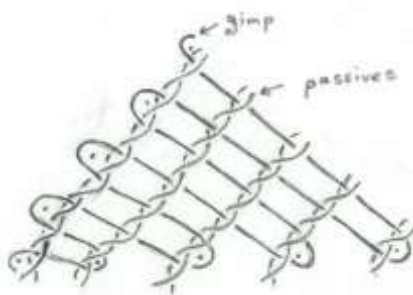
- worked from top to bottom

**Collar, Ruffle and a Circular edging**

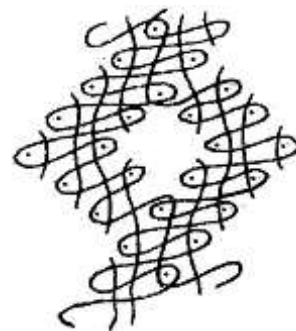
- worked on either circular or squared grid



Extended Fan



Gimp woven fan - detail



Crossing Trails – worked in same stitch throughout. Same method used for either half or cloth stitch. Where workers meet in middle, one pair of workers is dropped while the other continues until trail divides again. Dropped worker then becomes active again.

## REFERENCES

Suggested references may include, but are by no means limited to, the following books:

Those for Stage 1 and:

Robin Lewis - 101 Torchon Patterns  
Hildegard Glos - Spinnen (Spiders)  
Bridget Cook - Practical Skills in bobbin Lace –  
Bridget Cook and Geraldine Stott – The Book of Bobbin Lace Stitches  
Rosemary Shepherd – Introduction to Bobbin Lace (New)  
Pamela Nottingham – The Technique of Torchon Lace  
Heather Billington – Torchon Starts and Finishes  
Bridget Cook – Building Torchon Lace Patterns  
Rosemary Shepherd – Introduction to Bobbin Lace (Old)  
Alexandra Stillwell – Drafting torchon Lace Patterns