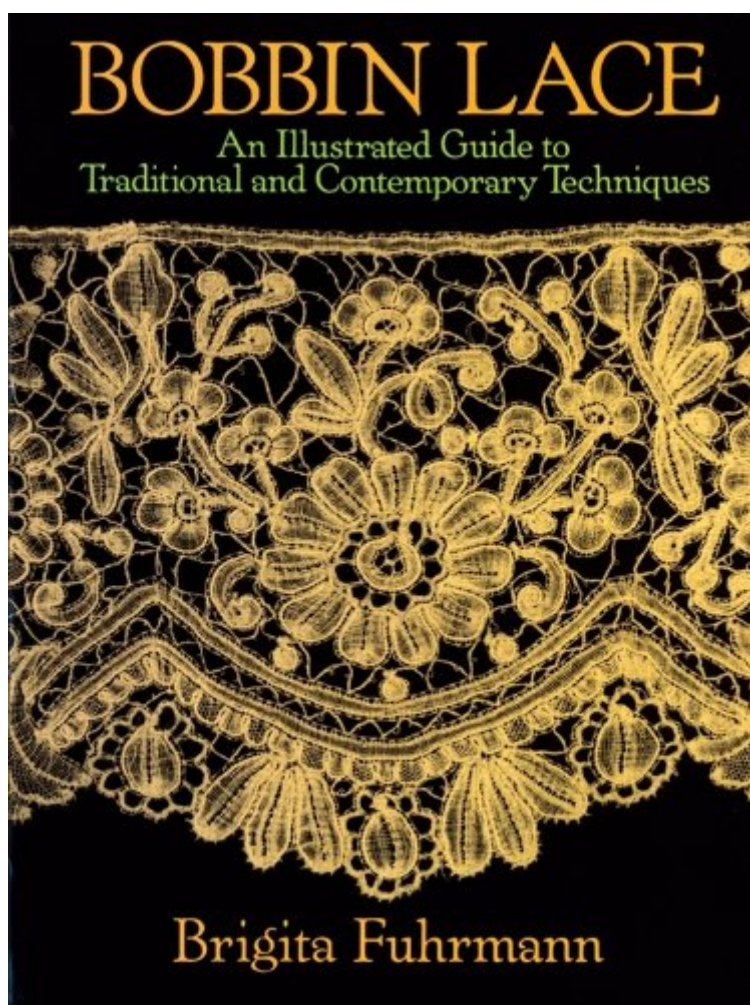


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Bobbin Lace: An Illustrated Guide To Traditional And Contemporary Techniques (Dover Knitting, Crochet, Tatting, Lace)



Synopsis

After over a century of relative obscurity, lacemaking is enjoying a revival as more and more needlecraft artists are intrigued by its creative possibilities. Dating from the 15th century, bobbin lace is prized everywhere for its intricacy, delicacy, and decorative richness — and couldn't be easier to do! In this modern, step-by-step approach to the craft, noted lacemaker Brigita Fuhrmann shows you how to create every kind of bobbin lace — from the simplest stitch to the most challenging pattern. In addition, she traces the history of bobbin lacemaking in Western and Eastern Europe (including Russia) and relates these two distinct types to contemporary trends. For all its intricate, elegant appearance, bobbin lace is based on only two different movements of bobbins — the cross and the twist. Essentially, it is the technique of winding threads on bobbins around pins attached to a firm pillow. The pins hold the lace in place while you cross and twist the bobbins over each other in varying sequences to form a wide range of stitches. The richness of the lace depends on how you combine the stitches into a pattern. Ms. Fuhrmann provides expert advice on the tools you'll need — pillows, bobbins, pins, and thread — and easy-to-follow instructions for a variety of exquisite stitches. Clear, accurate diagrams accompany stitch directions, beginning with the braid and Brussels ground and ending with the maiden's net and spiders. Learn how to make stunning straight lace and tape lace; construct fans, corners, edgings; draft patterns; finish your creations, and care for your lace. Needleworkers at all levels of expertise will welcome this comprehensive volume. Experienced hands will discover endless challenges and inspiration here; beginners will find this an excellent introduction to the beauty and elegance of a time-honored art form.

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Customer Reviews

After reading the reviews, I honestly expected more from this book. It's not a bad book, though, and I don't think a beginner would do wrong in purchasing it. I will say, however, that if I knew NOTHING about bobbin lace, and had bought this book to learn about it, I'd never have gotten into lace-making, as really the only piece of fine lace is the picture on this edition's cover. Most of the lace shown in the book is pretty heavy stuff; no Bucks-point, Honiton, or anything fine or delicate, which is what I personally like. (Certainly there are beautiful examples of Cluny, Torchon, and the "tape-laces" and these have many great uses; it's all matter of personal taste.) Here are a few things to consider: 1) Don't even look at the cover. That's NOT really the type of lace this book goes into. This book is more about basic torchon-type lace, and tape-lace. 2) This book has a good many photos of "modern" lace-art. 3) This book mentions and has photos of Eastern European lace, which we often don't hear much about 4) The tutorial lace-illustrations in this book are made with very large thread, so that you can really see what's going on. This also makes the "lace" in the illustrations look rather coarse and unattractive in some cases, but I think it's made that way for teaching. 5) There is a short section about the history of lace-making and some photos of early lace. 6) There's a discussion about bobbins, pillows (including instructions), thread, etc. I started bobbin lace-making in the early 1980s, around the time this book first came out. At that time most of us had no way to find suppliers for bobbins, or pillows, so these directions were VERY helpful.

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