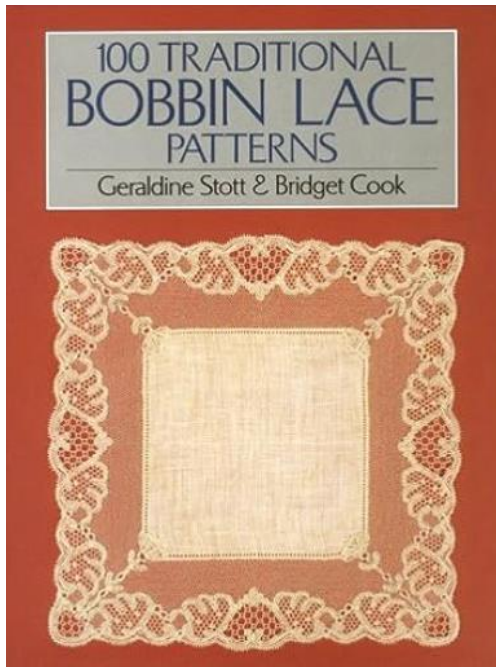


100 Traditional Bobbin Lace Patterns

Geraldine Stott & Bridget Cook



If ever you need Bucks Point patterns, this book is a treasure for you. It is not the book for a first-time student learning Bucks Point since there are no basic instructions on how to make point ground, honeycomb ground, how to pass a gimp, or even how to make a picot. This book expects that the reader has some experience with Bucks Point or other point ground lace.

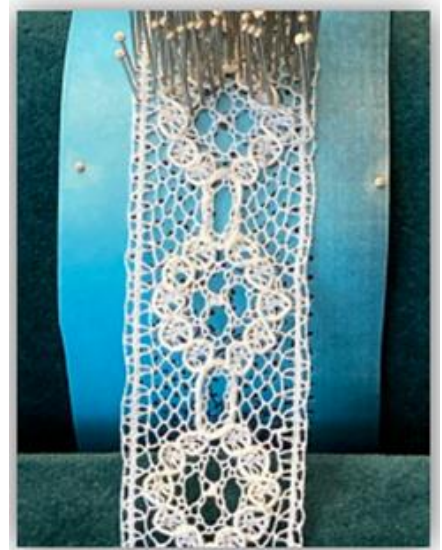
However, once the reader has had some experience with point ground laces, this is a wonderful collection of patterns. It covers a lot of territory. The simplest pattern requires only 10 pairs. The last, most complex pattern will require 88 pairs.

For those who have only experienced lace books since the start of the widespread availability of computers in our lives, know that this book was published in 1982. In those days, most commercial drawings were rendered by draftsmen with rulers, compasses, and French curves. In looking at the working diagrams and the patterns, you will notice that neither Stott nor Cook were experienced in drafting. These are hand drawn diagrams as you can tell from the wiggling. The patterns suggest that they may have been taken

directly from older patterns since the pin holes are not equidistant.

The good thing is that they did have some access to color printing, so the patterns use red and blue to indicate the stitch used. As for the irregularities in the pinholes, I tried out the lace "Dandelion Clocks" that uses 22 pairs. Truthfully, I did not find that the hole spacing was a problem for me. Yes, the edge isn't perfectly straight but then I don't have the consistency in my lacemaking for any sewing edge to be geometrically straight. After all, I am not making machine lace. At least for this pattern, the working diagram is accurate. Given that the diagrams are hand drawn, I expect that errors will be found somewhere, but with the excellent photos of each pattern, they can be corrected.

While this book will be great for people who have had some instruction in point ground, it can also be used for more creative things than simply using the 100 patterns as given. At the end of the book there are point ground grids that can be used to create your own designs.



Sharon Sacco

It is also possible to adapt the designs beyond their original intent. Below is my ATC from this year. Initially I was going to design a Duchesse wave; however, in looking at the book's cover design, Seaside, I saw a wave that would work for me. I took only the wave out of it to create "Hokusai meets Randall Munroe on Bucks Point Beach." (The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston was doing a large Hokusai exhibit. Randall Munroe only illustrated his books with stick figures.)