

# Point and Pillow Lace: A Short Account of Various Kinds, Ancient and Modern, and How They Are Made

Lace is a delicate fabric made from threads or yarns that are twisted, looped, or knotted together to create openwork patterns. It is often used to trim clothing, lingerie, and other textiles, and can also be used to make freestanding pieces such as lies and tablecloths.

There are two main types of lace: point lace and pillow lace. Point lace is made by hand using a needle and thread, while pillow lace is made using a pillow and bobbins. Both types of lace can be made in a variety of patterns and designs, and can be used for a variety of purposes.



## Point and Pillow Lace - A SHORT ACCOUNT OF VARIOUS KINDS ANCIENT AND MODERN, AND HOW TO RECOGNISE THEM by Aya Kusch

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## Point Lace

Point lace is made by hand using a needle and thread. The lacemaker typically uses a fine thread and a small needle to create a series of stitches that form the pattern of the lace. Point lace is often very delicate and intricate, and can take a long time to make. However, it is also very beautiful and can be used to create stunning pieces of clothing and accessories.

There are many different types of point lace, including:

- **Needlepoint lace:** This type of lace is made using a needle and thread to create a series of small stitches that form the pattern of the lace. Needlepoint lace is often very intricate and can be used to create a variety of different designs.
- **Bobbin lace:** This type of lace is made using a series of bobbins that are wound with thread. The bobbins are then twisted and looped around each other to create the pattern of the lace. Bobbin lace is often less delicate than needlepoint lace, but it can be made more quickly and easily.
- **Crochet lace:** This type of lace is made using a crochet hook to create a series of loops that form the pattern of the lace. Crochet lace is often very delicate and can be used to create a variety of different designs.

## **Pillow Lace**

Pillow lace is made using a pillow and a series of bobbins. The bobbins are wound with thread and then attached to the pillow. The lacemaker then uses a series of pins to guide the threads around the pillow to create the pattern of the lace. Pillow lace is often less delicate than point lace, but it can be made more quickly and easily.

There are many different types of pillow lace, including:

- **Honiton lace:** This type of lace is made in Honiton, England. It is known for its delicate and intricate patterns, and is often used to make wedding dresses and other special occasion garments.
- **Chantilly lace:** This type of lace is made in Chantilly, France. It is known for its light and airy appearance, and is often used to make lingerie and other delicate garments.
- **Valenciennes lace:** This type of lace is made in Valenciennes, France. It is known for its geometric patterns and is often used to make curtains and other home decor items.

## How Lace Is Made

The process of making lace is complex and time-consuming. However, the basic steps are the same for both point lace and pillow lace.

1. **The lacemaker first creates a pattern for the lace.** The pattern is typically drawn on paper or parchment, and it includes all of the details of the lace, such as the stitches, the motifs, and the overall shape.
2. **The lacemaker then prepares the threads or yarns that will be used to make the lace.** The threads or yarns are typically made from cotton, linen, or silk, and they are often dyed to create a variety of colors.
3. **The lacemaker then begins to make the lace.** The lacemaker uses a needle and thread or a series of bobbins to create the stitches that form the pattern of the lace. The lacemaker must be very careful to follow the pattern exactly, or the lace will not turn out correctly.

4. **Once the lace is complete, the lacemaker removes it from the pillow or the frame and trims it to the desired size and shape.** The lace can then be used to trim clothing, lingerie, and other textiles, or it can be used to make freestanding pieces such as lies and tablecloths.

Lace is a beautiful and delicate fabric that can be used to create a variety of different garments and accessories. It is made using a variety of techniques, and the process of making lace is complex and time-consuming. However, the results are worth the effort, and lace can be used to create stunning pieces that will be treasured for years to come.



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