

“Steffi’s Loop #3” ... Fresia

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52 Pairs,

1 piece Fresia silk 15/3 = 50g, with coloured blocks.
Available for example at www.kloepfel-werkstatt.de

Including notes from the author /discussion on details.



- First, there had been the silk. I had bought it years before, only as I like the autumn colours.

One piece Freesia Silk 15/3, colour 33. 50g, about 250 m.
Nearly a “bad purchase” – due to the strong different colours.
Usual lace patterns look alive if slight colour difference – strong colour difference according to my feeling looks always dirty.
My idea: to realize colour blocks, intentionally.

The Freesia #33 has 4 colours. One colour sequence measured:
together 120 cm.

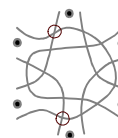
Light beige, gray brown, dark gold, terra cotta.
I had decided to use each colour twice per bobbin, with the cut middle the beige part.

Winding pairs, the lace will start (and end) with beige.

I was really able to prepare more than 50 pairs, as calculated from total 250 m and about 240 cm per bobbin.



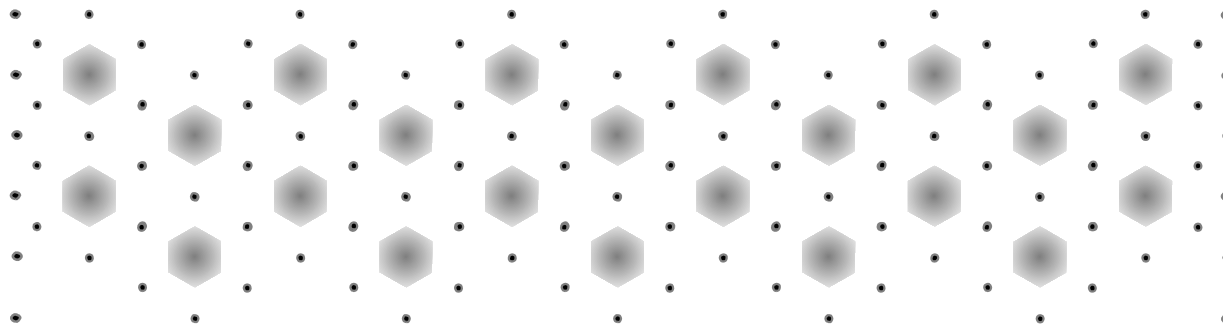
- That time all my other loops had been Torchon, so the new one should be different: To contain snow flakes.
But which kind?
NOT usual modern snow flakes (6 pairs and 10 cloth stitches).
This kind strongly limits the stretchability of the ground, as most threads go nearly straight in one direction.
A kind of old snow flakes will fit more.
Than there was the issue with colours: you will need the possibility to switch single threads during working the lace.
Due to different material requirement of the bobbins.
There are these nice “snow flakes with hole”, pattern B3.3 from “Viele gute Gründe2” published by Ulrike Lühr.



Cloth stitches. Of course 2 twists at each needle. The rounded cross indicates the “Kiss”: single cross only.

- Than I had to find the grid size, which should fit the kind of snow flakes, and the thread size.
There had been some trial-and-error. Finally the simple 4to7-plus-grid, the Binche construction paper, had been found best to use.

- First horizontal row has 6 snowflakes, each 6 pairs. Between them 2 pairs each.
And 3 pairs at both edges. Together $36 + 10 + 6 = 52$ pairs.



- General Note on scarf edges: usually I strictly avoid any thread which goes straightly in any direction within a loop. As this stops the stretchability. Especially on the edges, for example, there should never be pairs with cloth stitch. You should check the way of the single threads accordingly. Additional twist will help.

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Start and Finish

Best way: First to think about the end, and how to connect the final loop.

Suggestion: Simply between the snow flakes.

Each ending pair will end in a starting point, with knot. Each single thread can be stitched into the twisted pairs.

I prefer to mark the parting line inside the pattern, as kind of note where and how to end.

However, a published pattern needs a “start”, including information on the number of pairs. Part A.

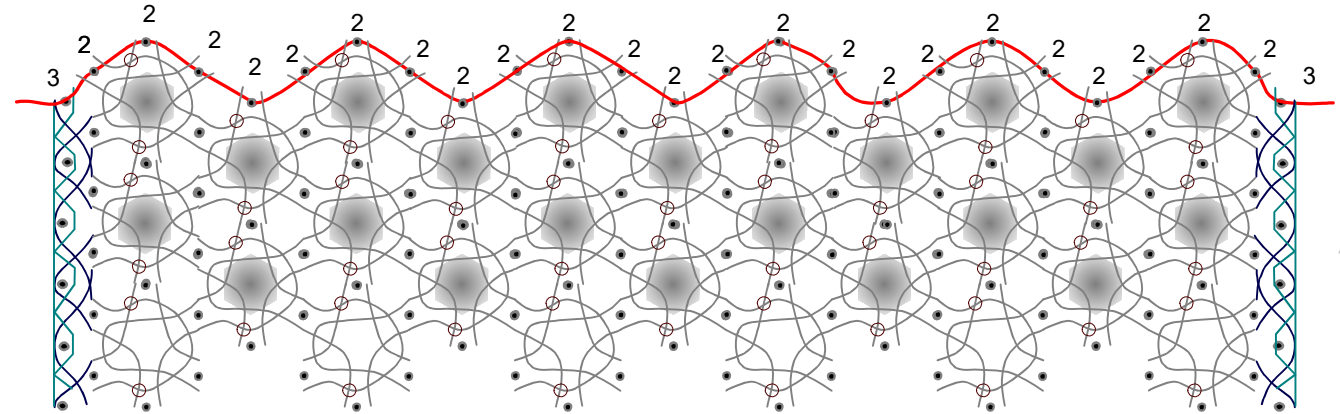
Part B is the main pattern. Make more than one copy, to add a new part B as often as necessary.

The lace should be moisten and dried at least ones before removing the needles, even with silk: the threads, all single fibres, will have enough time to learn their new way. I prefer to use a small paint brush.

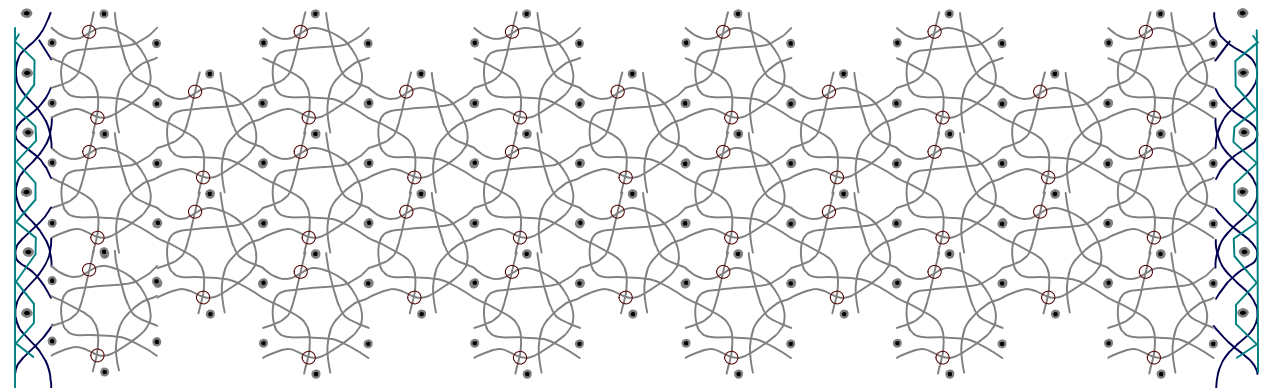
In-between always to check the residual colour at each single bobbin. Additional twist will switch the bobbins.

Last part is part C. If the bobbins are nearly empty, add part C instead of a new part B.

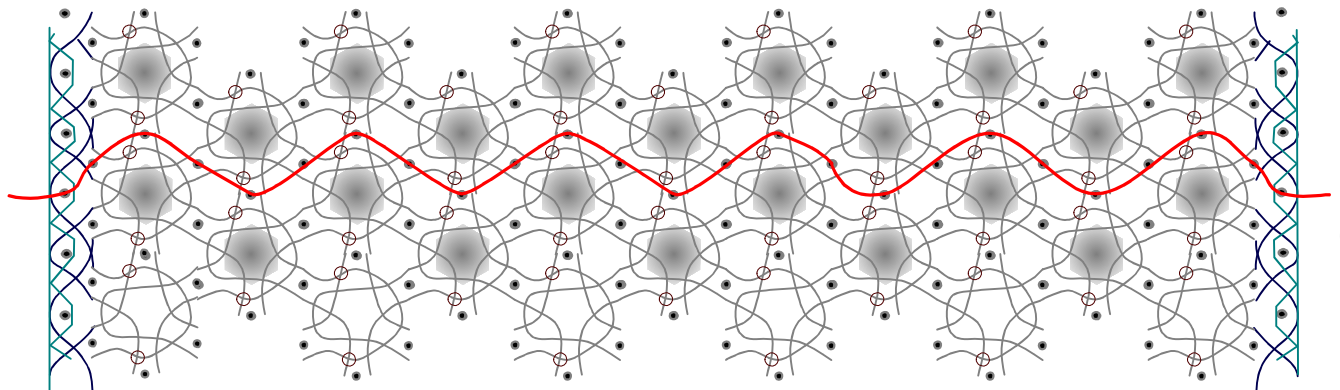
The started lace part has to be adjusted again, using the “original” needle points. The marked parting line will help.



A



B

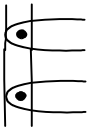


C

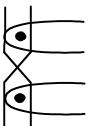
To explain the edge:

Cloth stitches with few additional twists due to the long distances.

Then there are 3 additional pairs at both sides.



Usually you would work a lace foot: the pair from the ground goes through one or more cloth stitches, with the last pair a whole stitch. NN4. The new worker back to the ground.

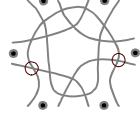


To avoid straight vertical pairs at the edge: simply to add a cloth stitch of both last pairs. The new worker from the ground will make its usual stitches.

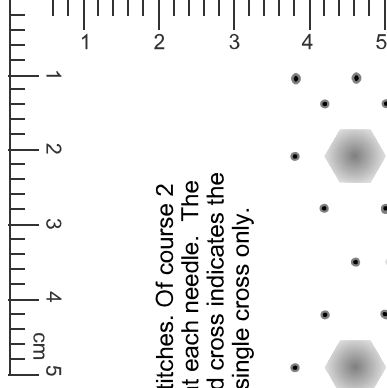
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Cloth stitches. Of course 2
twists at each needle. The
rounded cross indicates the
“Kiss”: single cross only.



B

