

Common Types of Lace

Lace type	Description	Examples	Common characteristics
needlepoint	Expensive lace made with needle. Pattern is sketched onto parchment then stitched onto two pieces on linen. Solid parts are filled in by a needle. A knife is passed between parchment and linen to release lace	Venetian point	Floral pattern with regular open-worked fibers.
		rose point	Similar to Venetian point
		Alencon	Designs include flowers, birds, and vases. Background is hexagonally shaped mesh of double-twisted thread
pillow (bobbin)	Made by twisting and knotting threads into pattern	Cluny	Coarse, strong, distinguished by paddles or wheels
		Chantilly	Made in silk or unbleached cotton with double ground. Patterns include vases, baskets and flowers.
		Torchon	Stout, simple, inexpensive patterns. Coarse ground with loosely woven threads. Called beggar's lace
		Maltese	Characterized by Maltese cross
		Valenciennes (Val)	Mesh for French Val is diamond shape. Up to 1000 bobbins used for this lace
		Brussels	Fine lace. Ground is worked around previously made pattern
		Mechline	Light with fine threads. Ground pattern woven with flowers, buds. Similar to Brussels
		Honiton	Beautiful designs made in flower patterns (thistle, rose) on open ground
crocheted	Made with crochet hook; not as fine as needlepoint	Irish	Many patterns made with crochet hook with coarser thread than needlepoint lace.
		Syrian	Similar to Irish crocheted lace; used for handkerchiefs.
darned	Chain stitch outlines pattern on background of net	filet	Square mesh with patterns showing animals and trees
		antique	Heavy linen thread is used in a large, rectangular knotted mesh
machine-made	First made by John Heathcoat in 1809	shadow	Fine mesh ground with shadowlike patterns of finer mesh
		princess	Machine made braid on a net put together by hand
		oriental	fine net with heavily embroidered edge