

## Lace Resources International

Catalogue No.TM306

### *Golden Joy*

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## Torchon 3D Flower Pattern

**'Golden Joy'** ©Judith Markham 2006

### Suitable for all levels of ability

The pattern for this three dimensional flower is a simple four segment square mat. Instead of joining the square at completion of the fourth segment, the working continues until eleven segments have been completed (i.e. eleven quarters). The lace is not joined. The ends are finished neatly by tying and rolling them inside the pin line. A fine hand sewing needle is used to stitch parts together.



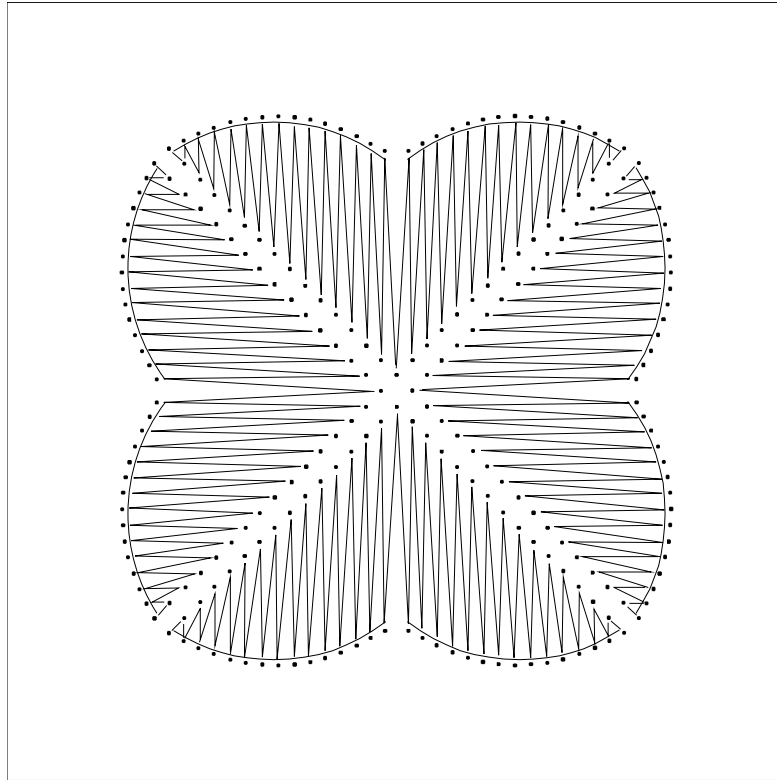
## Pattern Sheet

### **'Golden Joy' Pattern** ©Judith Markham 2006

**Note:** The fans for the worked sample shown above were larger (i.e. had more pinholes per diagonal row) than the pattern given here. This is a better size for a flower that will be worn.

### **Dimensions**

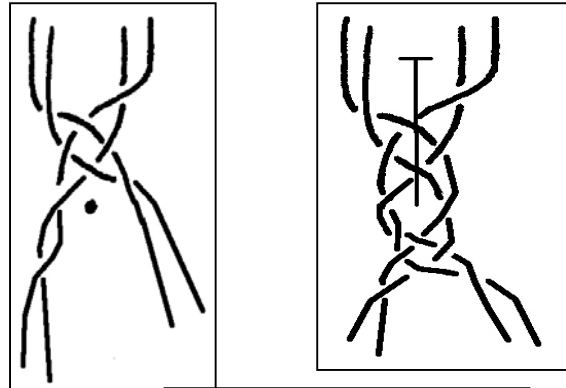
The top and bottom edges of the frame measure 103mm/4 1/16ins



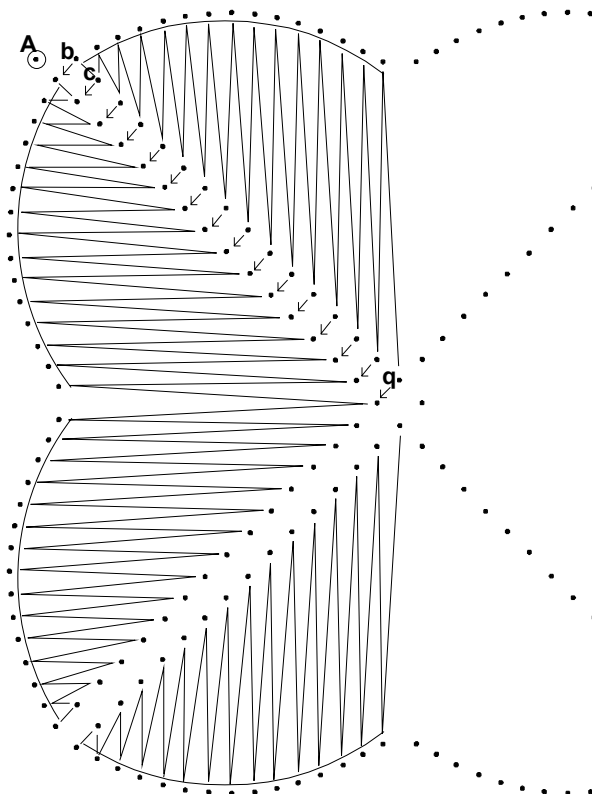
## Stitches & terminology

**The Fans:** the weaving stitch for all fans is half stitch; i.e. cross and twist.

**The headside edge:** the workers and gold edge pair work together in *torchon double stitch*, with an extra twist on the outside pair before the pin. Enclose the pin by working a *torchon double stitch* (no extra twist). This stitch is also called torchon stitch, double half stitch, whole stitch, cloth and a twist, firm edge and spoked edge.



Headside edge working



Setting in diagram

## Materials

**Thread:** The example was worked using *Aurifil Ne28, 2ply Mercerised Egyptian Cotton* and ONE strand of DMC Metallic Pearl No.5 Gold (2ply).

**Note:** *I separated the two plied strands and used just a single strand.* The 2ply pearl of this size would have been too thick for the pinhole spacing but a single strand was exactly the thickness I wanted. A metallic thread is essential to the shaping of the 'petals'; do not substitute a cotton perle thread. A single strand of DMC Metallic Pearl has a count of 15 wraps to 1cm.

Any **alternative cotton thread** should be a strong thread with a count of 29-31 wraps to 1cm. Do not use any thread with fewer than 29 thread wraps to 1cm (heavier).

Any **alternative metallic thread** should have a count of 15 -17 wraps to 1cm.

## Bobbins

17 pair wound with Aurifil Ne 28/2, Madiera Tanne/Cotona No.30 or other substitute.

1 pair wound with a single strand of DMC Metallic Pearl thread No.5 or substitute.

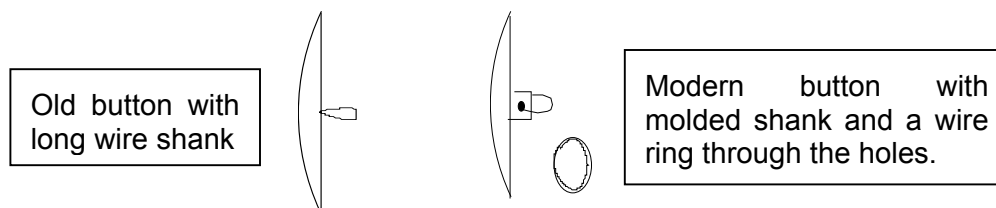
## Thread length

**Fine thread:** Wind 1m65cm/66ins onto each bobbin; this includes the extra needed between the head of the bobbin and the pins. The thread length given is the maximum thread requirement and only the 11 threads that become workers will use close to the full amount. However, winding all bobbins with the same thread length is simpler than calculating which threads will become workers and which will remain as passives.

**Gold thread:** Wind 1m/40ins on each bobbin of one pair (includes extra allowance).

## The centre decoration

I wanted to wear the lace flower (sample) so I found an old button with a long metal shank and I use a 'Safety' pin to secure the shank to a blouse. Many old buttons have long shanks. If you cannot find an old button with a long wire shank, then use a modern button with a molded shank and push a chain link that is made to open (Jump Ring) or a Split Ring through the holes. Terminology may differ from country to country but jewellery suppliers sell jump rings and split rings are generally found in hardware shops.



If the flower you make is for table decoration and not for wearing then just use a pretty button with a smooth front or a bead as the centre feature. For a decorative flower, the only purpose of the button or bead is to conceal the open middle.

## Instructions

Metallic threads always require careful tensioning and the edge stitches should be tensioned before and after the pin.

Large half stitch woven fans also require careful tensioning to achieve even thread lines, both horizontal and diagonal. Work each fan slowly and do not over tension the lace threads.

### Setting up and setting in

One pair will be set up on a pin in the temporary pinhole labeled 'A'. All other pairs will be set up sequentially on temporary/support pins. Temporary pins are positioned in pattern pinholes along the lower edge of one segment; i.e. pinholes from 'b' to 'q' on the setting in diagram.

People who are familiar with the use of temporary pins for setting up should read instructions a. to d. and Steps 1 to 6 respectively, then should proceed as usual. People who are not familiar with using temporary pins should begin at a. and work systematically through all the steps and instructions.

- a. Put up a pin in the temporary pinhole 'A'. Hang the pair wound with gold pearl on this pin.
  - b. Put up a pin in every 'temporary' pinhole, from the top pinhole labeled 'b' and down to the last pinhole labeled 'q'.
  - c. Leave standing the pin at 'b' and the next pin along 'c'. Push all other pins down against the pricking. Having the pins pushed down should provide you with a reminder/counter for hanging in the threads.
  - d. Hang one pair around the pin labeled 'b' .
1. Using the pair from temporary pin 'A' and the pair from 'b', work a torchon double stitch (cross, twist, cross, twist) and one extra twist on the *outside pair only*.
  2. Put up a pin in the top pinhole of the fan, positioned between the two pair. Release the thread from the temporary pins 'A' and 'b' and gently pull the bobbins to ease in the loops of thread.
  3. Enclose the pin by working a torchon double stitch (no extra twist) and stop. The gold pair should be the left hand pair of the two once the pin has been enclosed.
  4. An additional passive pair must be hung into the working at this stage but not from a temporary pin: Hang this new pair around the top pin of the fan, on top of the worked stitches. Lay this pair to the right of the worker pair and twist the new pair once.

Before any weaving stitches are worked, hang one pair around the standing pin below pinhole 'b'. This pair must be brought into the work before a pin is put up at the end of this first weaving row.

5. There are three pair at the top fan pin; take the middle pair of the three and work half stitch with the extra passive pair at right, then another half stitch with the pair

hanging on the temporary pin 'c'. Twist the outside pair (worker) once more and put up a pin. Tension the weaving row.

6. Enclose the pin by working a half stitch, and stop.

From here on a working sequence begins for setting up new pairs on temporary pins, working rows and releasing pairs from temporary pins.

7. Raise the next temporary pin of the row (below 'c') and hang one new pair around it. This pair will be worked later.
8. Take the fan worker pair (second pair from the right) and work half stitches with each of the passive pairs across to the edge pair (gold). Tension the weaving row.
9. With the edge and worker pairs, work edge stitches before and after the pin, as before. Tension the edge stitches.
10. Work half stitches through all passive pairs, including the new pair hanging on the temporary pin. Enclose the pin and stop.
11. The pair brought into the work from temporary pin 'c' must now be released; remove the pin to free the thread. Ease in the thread loop by gently pulling the bobbins.

Repeat the work sequence from Step 7, continuing until all pairs have been worked.

**Note:** Providing you work systematically, there should always be two temporary pins standing, each with a single pair hung around it but one pair of threads should already have been taken into the fan working and only the pair on the lower pin should be lying free.

The last pair is brought into the fan working at the widest point. This pair must be released from the temporary pin immediately then pushed aside because it will not be worked in the next row.

Complete the fan, working one pair less in each row down to the last pinhole.

After enclosing the bottom pin of the fan there should be:

One pair hanging from each pin along the lower edge of the fan, counting from the pin at the widest point down to (and including) the second last pin of the fan.

At the bottom pin there should be one gold pair (outside pair) and one fine thread pair enclosing the bottom pin and the extra fine thread passive pair lying beside the bottom pin (at right).

### Turning the corner

If you know how to work a corner turn, proceed as usual. If you have not turned a corner before, work as follows:

Some pins must be pushed down at this stage. For the present, leave standing the last three headside edge pins and all pins along the lower edge of the fan. Push all other pins flat against the pricking.

The three pair at the bottom pinhole of the fan must work another sequence of stitches before turning the pillow, as explained below.

At the headside edge, on the division line between the two fans, is an extra pinhole and that will be worked next:

1. Take the middle pair of the three pair at the bottom of the fan as the worker pair. The worker and next pair to the right (extra passive pair) work a torchon double stitch *but no extra twist*. Enclose the pin by working a torchon double stitch.

That last set of stitches forced the worker for the fan to change position with a thread of the passive pair and provided a new worker thread for the next fan.

2. Take the second pair from the right and the pair to the left and work a torchon double stitch, with an extra twist on the outside pair. Turn the pillow a little farther to the right then put up a pin in the top pinhole of the next fan. Enclose the pin with a torchon double stitch. Stop.
3. Reposition the cover cloth.
4. Start the next fan by taking the second pair from the left as the worker pair and working half stitches through two pair to the right; i.e. the extra passive pair and the next pair along. Enclose the pin and work back to the headside edge.
5. Continue, remembering to bring in one new pair at the end of each right side row as the fan widens.

**Note:** Work all four segments before removing any pins from the first. Usually pins are removed earlier but *not for this pattern* as there is a high risk of pulling a thread too tightly and causing the whole to pucker. Cover the completed segments with cover cloths.

After working the fourth segment remove all of the pins from segments 1 & 2.

Leave all pins in segments 3 & 4.

Fold the first worked fan over the second and cover the lace. As pins are removed from the segments continue to fold the lace and cover it. The fans are not easy to fold until several have been worked and the pins removed.

## Finishing

Complete the final segment (11<sup>th</sup>) leaving the pins standing along the lower edge.

Do not remove any pins from the last two segments.

Except for the pins along the lower edge, push all other pins down flat against the lace.

Fold any unpinned lace and cover that also.

Tie each pair of bobbins twice then proceed as follows:

Find the three pair at the bottom of the fan. Lift them all together in a bundle and roll the bobbins three or four times to the left, passing them from hand to hand. Lay them down onto the pillow.

Turn the pillow so the bobbin tails are facing to the left edge of the pillow.

Find the single pair at the next pin along from the bunched pairs. Pick up the right hand bobbin of this pair (lower bobbin of the two) and carry it around the pin and to the right. Lay down the bobbin with its tail facing toward the right hand edge of the pillow. The thread will be lying horizontally across the pillow.

Find the rolled and bundled bobbins (6) and carry them under the pin and to the right, between the bottom pin and next pin along. Hold the bobbins so the tails point toward your body. Lay the bobbins down, with their tails facing toward you and their threads lying on top of the single thread lying horizontally.

Pick up the bobbin with its tail facing to the right. Find and pick up the partnering bobbin still facing to the left. Lift both bobbins and tie them over the bunched and rolled threads, making three ties. Lay the bobbins with the bundle making eight bobbins and threads together.

**Note:** When tightening any tie, do not hold the threads tightly and run one thread down the other because the friction can cause one or both threads to break. Instead, start tightening with both threads slack and pull both at once gently to tighten the tie down against the bunch.

♣ Gather all of those tied and bundled bobbins together. Holding them in one hand, lift them off the pillow. Roll them once to the left.

The next pair to be separated is the pair hanging at the next pin along from the previously tied pair:

Carry the bobbin under the pin and to the right, and lay the bobbin down with the tail pointing to the right. The thread should be lying horizontally across the pillow.

Lay the bunched bobbins over the horizontal thread.

Find the partner to the horizontal thread and tie the threads as before. Lay the tied bobbins with the bundle.

**Cutting out threads:** From here on, threads must be cut out of the bundle or it will become too thick. The first time, find four bobbins of the original six but don't try to find actual pairs. Lift up the bobbins and threads and cut the threads close to the last set of knots. In future, cut out only two threads at a time but NOT the last tied pair and NOT true pairs.

Repeat the sequence from ♣, working until only TWO untied pairs remain.

Before rolling the bunch and tying the second last pair cut out four threads to reduce the thickness of the bunch.

Tie the second last pair as before. Using very sharp scissors carefully cut all the bundled and tied threads close to the last set of knots.

**The two threads at the final pin (widest point of the fan) must not be cut out;** unwind the thread from the bobbins and leave the threads at the pin. These two threads will be used later for sewing sections of the lace together.

Carefully remove all pins from the lace and lift it off the pricking. Do not turn it over immediately because the last fan must be folded and stitched together.

### **Stitching the sections together- last fan worked**

With the work wrong side up (as worked) fold the last fan in half, bringing the bottom stitch up to meet the top stitch. Match the stitches along the curved edges. The rolled edge should be sandwiched between the folded layers. Pin the two halves together matching the stitches along the curved edge.

There are two untied threads at the widest point of the fan. The upper thread will be used to stitch the straight edges together. The lower thread will be used to stitch the layers together once you have arranged the 'petals'. Proceed as follows for stitching:

Thread a needle with the uppermost thread at the widest point of the fan. Work a series of small whip stitches along the straight edge (diagonal line), locking the two layers together. Do not tension the whip stitches tightly or the lace may pucker.

Except for overlaid top and bottom stitches, the stitches along the curved section may be left unstitched.

After working the last whip stitch, carry the needle to the side bar of the last stitch. Work a small knot over the side bar and then run the needle between the two layers. Bring the needle out of the lace again and pull the thread taut before cutting off close to the lace. The end should disappear when the thread is cut.

**The edge of the first worked fan:** Thread a fine needle with a length of the same thread used to work the lace.

Turn the lace over so the wrong side is face down. Find the first fan and fold the bottom half under the upper half of the segment. Match the top and bottom fan stitches. Pin the two halves together.

Secure the stitching thread at the widest inside point of the fan; this section will be concealed later by the button/bead. Stitch along the straight edges as for the last fan.

### **Arranging the flower petals**

Thread a needle with a coloured thread of a similar size to the lace thread. You need a coloured thread so that you can see it easily.

Layer the fans together in their continuous squares. Turn the lace so the right side is uppermost. Understand that the corner division of two fans forms the tip of each 'petal'.

The bottom layer with 3 ½ fans is left to lie flat.

The second layer of four fans is twisted to the right until the point of each petal lies between two petals of the lower layer. Twisting them has also tightened the middle.

Using the coloured thread, tack the two layers together immediately.

Arrange the fans of the upper square by twisting them to the right until these petals lie between petals of both lower layers. Tack this layer into place. Walk away from the flower for a while. When you return, place the button or bead into the middle and see if you are happy with the petal arrangement.

When you are happy with the arrangement of the petals, thread a needle with the remaining untied thread at the widest point of the folded fan on the bottom layer. Position

the button or bead in the middle, with the shank or ring through the central opening. Stitch through the lace stitches and sew the lace to the button shank or ring.

When the sewing is finished, shape the flower by twisting the point of each petal.

**Note:** I believe the above instructions are accurate but should you find an error, please tell me.

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