

Lacemaking

Category Rules

This category includes network or lacies and needle laces such as reticella, punto in aria, rose point, gross point, bobbin lace, sprang, and woven laces. If using a hand-spun, hand-dyed yarn, it does not have to be spun/dyed by the entrant and no extra points will be given for this.

Research and Documentation (Score: 0-4 points)

- 0 No documentation provided with entry. Face-to-face judging adds very little information.
- 1 Minimal information is provided for time, place and style. Face-to-face judging adds some background information.
- 2 As in #1, generalized sources are given with no emphasis on primary and/or scholarly resources. In face-to-face judging, no further understanding of the resources is evident. Materials and methods of construction of the entry are described.
- 3 As in #2, there is a good balance of resources: primary and/or scholarly sources well supported by other resources. Documentation and/or face-to-face judging provides well developed discussion of research. Materials and methods of construction are described and the reasons for the choices made are discussed.
- 4 As in #3, in-depth and extensive documentation provides a good balance of resources, emphasizing primary (if available) and/or scholarly resources backed up with a significant selection of other resources. Documentation and/or face-to-face judging provide a good explanation of original research and experimentation related to the research. Face-to-face judging indicates a keen grasp of the research and the entrant can discuss it easily with active engagement. Appendices included in documentation (if any) help provide further pertinent information to subject and time period.

Materials and Methods (Score: 0-4 points)

- 0 Entry is completely modern with no relationship to period elements or practices.
- 1 Use of modern materials and methods to produce a work that would not be accepted in period but either bears some relationship to an authentic work or which might be useful within SCA culture. Entry is inconsistent to period, location, and persona (ex: some period elements, but doubtful authenticity of materials, colors, technique, design, or planned use).
- 2 Use of **both** modern materials and methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period, location, culture, and economic class for which it was constructed.
- 3 Use of **either** modern materials **or** methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period, location, culture, and economic class for which it was constructed without explanation of any substituted materials.
- 4 Use of materials and methods entirely documentable to the period for which it was constructed or the use of modern materials in a way that does not detract from the appearance, feels appropriate to the persona for whom the item was constructed (ex: hand-spun wool, silk, or linen thread, hand-dyed thread by period process) and reasons for the substitution are explained in the documentation and do not detract from the appearance and appropriateness for the persona.

Scope (Score: 0-6 points for the item)

Rank the **ambition**, not the success, of the entry. This takes into account both the difficulty of the process and the size of the piece made. The fineness of a piece should be more important than the size. A 1-inch by 1-inch piece of lace may take an hour to complete. Use your best judgment of where this piece falls in the category of scope. **Note:** Here, needle lace denotes an embroidered, loop edging; cutwork denotes embroidery of cut-out shapes in fabric where the majority of the item is still the original fabric. Lacies can be embroidered over either a

net made of knotted threads or a net made by drawing the threads out of a piece of linen. The smaller the squares, the greater the time investment. Use the following rubric to assess complexity of design, also taking into account the difficulty of working with the chosen type of material.

1. Small piece of laces on purchased netting, small piece of bobbin lace in one pattern, one small reticella/punto in aria pattern, small needle-lace loop edging on chemise cuffs, etc.
2. Medium-sized laces panel, bobbin lace with 1 or 2 stitches, small edging for collar and cuffs in mono design, small reticella/punto in aria design (one flower or animal), simple handkerchief edging, etc.
3. Small sample of needle lace patterns or bobbin lace, small piece of bobbin lace braid pattern, small item such as a collar and/or cuffs in reticella/punto in aria or dense cutwork (embroidered cut outs where main fabric still exists), etc.
4. Large sample which might contain more than one pattern, complex panel in bobbin lace, laces, reticella/punto in aria, cap of lace medium collar and cuffs, complex handkerchief edging over 1 inch, 5-10 ft of simple-looped needle lace or bobbin lace braid, shorter length of complex bobbin lace etc.
5. Large example or complex pattern (i.e., elaborate sampler, complex lace cap, partlet), simple Elizabethan ruff, or similar length (10 ft or more) of bobbin/needle lace or very simple reticella/punto in aria or cutwork pattern.
6. Large doily in bobbin or laces, border for large coverlet, Elizabethan ruff (or > 10 ft length) in reticella/punto in aria/complex bobbin lace/dense cutwork etc.

Skill (Score: 0-6 points for each bullet item)

How well is the entry made? Rank the **success** of the entry for each of the following elements.

- Accuracy in design realization.
- Neatness (especially in starts and ends).
- Tension.
- Uniformity (in stitch density, stitch length, etc.).

Optional

- Finishing of piece (hemming, appliqué, etc.).

Ingenuity (Score: 0-4 points)

Judge the ingenuity of the entry. Was the entrant resourceful and inventive in the approach to creating their entry? Does the entry reflect the entrant's vision of period context? Is original thought, contemplation, interpretation, and vision evident according to the entrant's period?

Judge's Observation (Score: 0-6 points)

Rank the entry as a whole. How well do all the separately judged parts fit together? The entry's overall effect is judged in this section. This is the only section of the criteria where the judges may allow their personality, private opinions, and personal preferences to influence scoring.