

[Free] Binche Lace

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#604686 in Books 1990-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 #File Name: 0852198108 | File size: 26.Mb

Michael Giusiana, Linda Dunn : Binche Lace before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Binche Lace:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An intricate and an intensely beautiful undertaking By Brooksie Bow Considering the used prices for this title, some inside info is in order. This book has very little in the way of practical instruction, written or otherwise. The author assumes that you have a thorough knowledge of the basic stitches, tools, and techniques of "continuous" laces (ex Torchon, Buck's Point, etc..) and are ready for a MAJOR challenge. Binche is a very fine thread-very high bobbin count style of lace making; the largest thread used (only cotton in this book) is 100/3 and the smallest is 170/2; the minimum number of bobbins is 17 pairs for a sampler..the maximum used in this book is a large project calling for 90 pairs! The "average" project uses 25-30 pairs....there's a bookmark using 32 pairs! (The pillow commonly used for binche is a roller, but you could probably get away w/ a Honiton or a cookie pillow. The bobbins are a special binche bobbin, but you could probably make do w/ basic long throat Danish bobbins...this lace will need plenty of thread on the bobbin.)The book takes you from various ground samplers all the way to full projects. The progress is as follows...Flanders, Pointe de Paris, Valenciennes, and finally Binche w/ it's various fillings (snowflakes, bricks, etc...). There are only black and white photos, the drawings/prickings are black and blue, and all measurements are given in Metric only (ie no Imperial conversions like "2.5 cm/1 in").....these are my only SLIGHT complaints w/ the book's overall structure. The author does a good job of telling which samples/photos/prickings were reduced and by what percentage they were, which is quite helpful. Overall I think someone seriously interested in making a delicate type of continuous lace that requires lots of bobbins and small threads will enjoy the challenge this book offers. Neither samples nor projects are skimmed on, so you'll have

plenty to work w/ for many years to come. The used prices on this title are too high IMHO and there are now videos that also teach this form for not too much more money than the used prices. I'd carefully weigh my options and do my research before buying this even though it IS a good book. This a lovely and very intricate lace that's certainly a worthy goal for a lace maker wanting to maximize their skill levels and keep the lace making art alive.