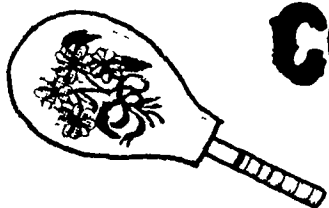


# CRAFT CORNER



making. According to "Danish Pulled Thread Embroidery" published by Dover, the technique probably originated as a way to imitate genuine lace.

Pulled thread embroidery, also called embroidered lace, has been prized for centuries in Denmark. In fact, the book is a product of the Danish Handworkers' Guild.

In the book, authors Esther Fangel, Ida Winckler and Agnete Madson give instructions and illustrations for historic pulled thread designs. The pages are also filled with photographs of fine collars, handkerchiefs, cuffs, tablecloths, aprons and other examples of embroidered lace projects.

The sample pulled thread stitches shown here come from the book. Directions below show how to use the stitches to make decorative placemats.

**MATERIALS:** Evenweave linen fabric or plain linen placemats; embroidery thread and needle; embroidery hoop; sewing supplies; tissue paper and pencil.

**PREPARATION:** 1. Cut linen to 12-by-6 inches. 2. Either trace a design, or draw your own design,

on tissue paper. 3. Position tissue paper on linen. 4. Baste along pattern lines through tissue paper and linen. 5. Carefully tear away tissue paper without disturbing basting lines. 6. Stretch linen in hoop.

**STITCHING:** 1. Embroider your designs over basting lines using stitches as suggested below, or any other stitches desired. 2. For decorative designs, use pulled

thread stitches. (a). 3. For outlines in the design, use chain stitches (b).

**EDGES:** Finish edges of placemat in any of the following ways. 1. Edge with buttonhole stitches (c). 2. Ravel edges of placemats to create fringes. 3. Turn under hem. Stitches.

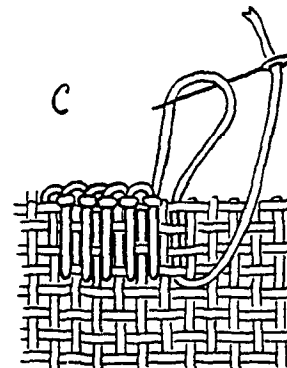
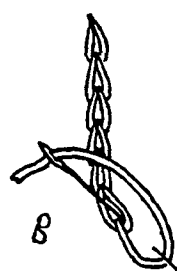
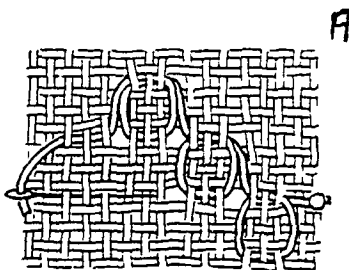
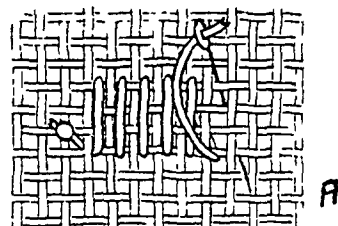
**FINISHING:** 1. Remove basting stitches. 2. Press placemats.

## Make lace by 'pulling threads'

"Pulled thread" embroidery is a way to transform fabric into lace. With a few simple stitches, you can make wonderful, lacy designs for placemats, napkins, tablecloths and other craft projects.

An even-weave linen is ideal for pulled thread work. To create a design, you count threads, take a stitch over the counted threads, and then pull the threads together into lacy designs.

Pulled thread work is faster, easier to do and, as a result, far less expensive, than classic lace-



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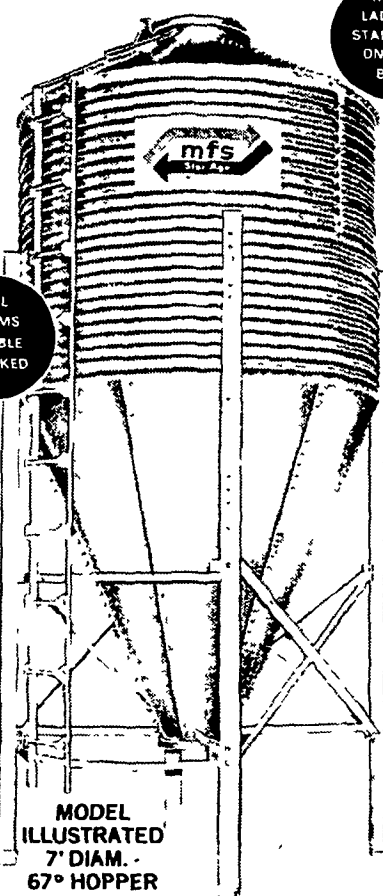
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