

Small Tape Lace Star designed by Janice Blair for IOLI 2012 convention.

See details at <http://www.minnlacesociety.org/IOLI/index.html> about their request for stars.

For the star at the bottom of the photo -

6 prs bobbins

50/2 Bockens Linen (linen adds body to the lace)

Coats Ophir Silver metallic thread

Wind 3 pairs with about 30" white passives (pass.) and one pair workers (wkr) white with 1½ yds on each bobbin. Wind two pairs with 1 yard silver thread on each bobbin, (outer passives). All wound continuously.

Hang wkr & 1 silver pass on inner pin, 1 white pass on next 3 pins and 1 silver pr on last pin. Take wkr to right through silver pass., white pass and, twist twice and work a turning stitch with the outer silver pass. pr (Turning stitch is CTTC.) Place the pin under the 4 bobbins on the outer edge, both prs twice, tension carefully and work next row, with the same turning stitch at the edge. This keeps the silver threads on the outside of the tape.

At the last inner pin on each point, leave the inner silver pass. behind and continue to the outer edge. Keep the outer edge the same, but when returning the wkr to the center, leave the wkr pr behind and work back to the outer edge with the last pass.pr, work back to center. Tension all the threads and leave the inner pass. behind. When working down from the point, work through the pass. pr that was left behind once, and use that pr. as the wkr. After working the inner area the same, you will now pick up the original wkr pr. When reaching the silver pass. that was left behind, twist it once and work a turning stitch with it. Now continue with the tape.

At each inside point of the star, use the outer pin twice by removing it from the first worked pinhole and placing it back in the pinhole after exchanging the worker. NOTE – do not twist the worker between the first and second use around the pinhole. Be careful when tensioning not to pull the workers too hard.

At the end, take the worker back to the center, sew pass. prs into starting pinholes and then pass the outer silver pr between each pass. pr, then tie knots with each pass. pr over the silver threads. Work the plaits in the center with 4 silver threads following arrows on pricking. Do not replace the pins after sewing the plait into each pinhole. Knot the silver threads and tie white threads over the silver threads. Cut close.

Tensioning is difficult when using metallic thread so tension after placing pins to have something to pull against.

The top star was made with linen. The bottom star was made with Guterman 100/3 silk, but did not add enough stability when off the pillow. Starching might help. If you do not have linen thread, you could try DMC Perle 12 which is a little thicker than the linen. If you use a thinner thread, add another passive pair.

Coats Ophir is available at needlework shops, or you could use DMC Fil Argent Clair available at craft shops.

