



NEEDLE - CRAFT

SOME SIMPLE YET USEFUL SUGGESTIONS
THAT WILL INTEREST EVERY NEEDLEWOMAN

Venetian Ladder Work

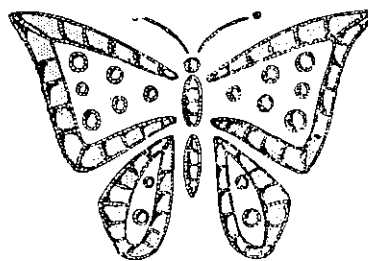
ONE of the prettiest and most effective decorations for underwear made of linen, lawn, or silk is Venetian ladder work—a pretty cut-work embroidery, of which a specimen is illustrated below.

Mercerised cotton, flax thread, or fine embroidery silk should be used for the embroidery, according to the material to be worked.

WORKING THE DESIGN

To do the work, closely buttonhole stitch or over-sew the material along the outer side of each shape, such as the wing of the butterfly illustrated. Then over-sew or buttonhole the inner line, but when the position for the first "rung" or "bar" is reached, carry the needle over to the outer line and slip it through the head of one of the stitches at this point. Over the thread connecting the two lines work buttonhole stitches, being careful not to take them through the material. When the inner line is reached, continue buttonholing or over-sewing as before until the position for the next "bar" or "rung" is reached. If a really strong "rung" or "bar" is wanted, two threads should be passed across the needle, carried back to the inner line and then over to the outer line again.

If there is only a single outline to the work, as in the case of the body portion of the butterfly, it is usual to buttonhole or over-sew along the left-hand side of the shape, then to turn the corner and



proceed along the right-hand side, making the "rungs" or "bars" from there.

When the shapes are done, take a small but sharp pair of scissors, and cut the material away underneath the bars close up to the over-sewn outlines.

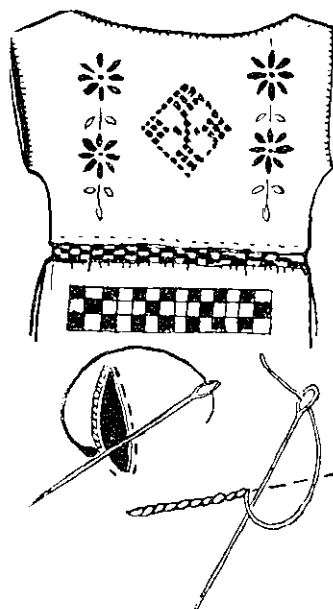
MAKING THE HOLES

To make round holes, pierce the material with a stiletto and over-sew or buttonhole them. If large round holes are to be made over-sew or buttonhole the outlines, and cut the material away from the centre. Another plan is to slit the material twice, in the form of a cross, turn the edges under and over-sew round the outline.

The antennae of the butterfly sketched consist of lines of fine over-sewing or satin-stitch.

A Nightdress Yoke in Broderie Anglaise and Filet

Whether your "nightie" be of silk or linen this design for its yoke will be found charmingly dainty, and as it is so simple a pattern no transfer is necessary. A sharp crease on each side of the centre, where the tiny bits of broderie anglaise



The small sketches show: (1) An enlarged drawing of the filet crochet for the band. (2) The method of working the petals of the flowers. (3) Stitches used for the stems.

come, will give you a centre line on which to work, and it will be found best to embroider in this centre stem first. Your flowers and five tiny leaves can easily be indicated by a small straight line, drawn in with a pencil where each is to come. You must then proceed as in the sketches. The small square in the centre can be either a filet lace one, to match the insertion used to link up the yoke of the nightgown with the skirt part, or if you crochet you will know how easily these can be made in the filet crochet which is having such a tremendous vogue to-day. The insertion is a design which permits of a tiny silk ribbon being run through it if you wish. You will notice that the buttonholed edges of the yoke and sleeves are devoid of scallops—this being the latest and smartest mode of finishing. A row of French knots or tiny spots embroidered in satin-stitch should be added above the insertion.

A New Way of Working Initials

We like to work initials on to our own belongings or on to gifts which we make to friends, and they are as pretty a decoration as anything. Everyone knows, however, that letters are not always easy to work. For most forms of embroidered letters, in fact, you need to be a skilled needlewoman. If, however, you follow the method indicated here, of leaving the actual material as the letter, and darning in the background to throw it in relief, all difficulties quickly melt away. Supposing that you cannot draw the letter you want, trace one from a box-lid advertisement or something similar, and cut it out in a strong piece of white or brown paper, snipping all round very carefully with sharp scissors to get the precise shape. Tack this carefully in the required position and then darn right up to it as you see the stitches placed in the sketches. When the paper pattern of the letter is taken away you will have it revealed, of course, in the material of the ground. Beads placed round the edge or at the corners make a pretty finish. Initials worked in this simple way will be found most effective, and can be used for linen shopping bags, nightdress cases, blotters, etc.



The Modish Monogram

First seen at Deauville, the fashion of having one's initials in the form of a monogram embroidered on one's blouses or frocks has achieved a great vogue. Miss Gladys Cooper has carried out the idea on her jumpers with great success. A West End shop is showing a delightful blouse model in heavy crêpe de chine with the monogram embroidered on the plain front panel. The blouse slips over the head, and has altogether rather a waist-coat effect, the monogram lending a delightfully feminine note.