

Masterpieces of Irish Crochet Lace: Techniques, Patterns, Instructions (Dover Knitting, Crochet, Tatting, Lace)

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In recent years Irish crochet lace has enjoyed a tremendous revival among needleworkers. Nearly lost in the early twentieth century when machines took over the manufacture of most lace, the craft is now being rediscovered by enthusiasts who recognize it not only as one of the most durable, serviceable, and beautiful forms of lace but also as a type that provides a unique opportunity to be creative.

This inexpensive volume presents authentic motifs and grounds used by the most skilled Irish needleworkers of the late nineteenth century. Collected and edited by one of the best-known experts of the time, Thérèse de Dillmont, it offers patterns, complete instructions, and/or detailed photographs for 30 motifs, 12 intricate grounds, and various traditional footings and borders.

Crocheters can use these versatile motifs of delicate raised flowers, leaves, sprays, and more to transform ordinary bedspreads, doilies, tablecloths, and clothing into works of art to be treasured for years. Make your own unique designs for new curtains, fancy collars, delicate cuffs, and so much more. Each of these motifs can be altered in shape, enlarged, diminished, or combined in new patterns — there's virtually no limit to the results you can produce.

Beginners should practice making individual motifs before attempting an entire piece of lace, and experienced crocheters may want to follow the directions exactly before experimenting to form new motifs. With practice, you can invent your own patterns just by employing these authentic, elemental motifs and their complementary grounds. A new introduction relates the history and technique involved in Irish crochet lace, and a conversion chart translates outdated terms.

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- Sales Rank: #325929 in eBooks
- Published on: 2014-03-05
- Released on: 2014-02-08
- Format: Kindle eBook

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