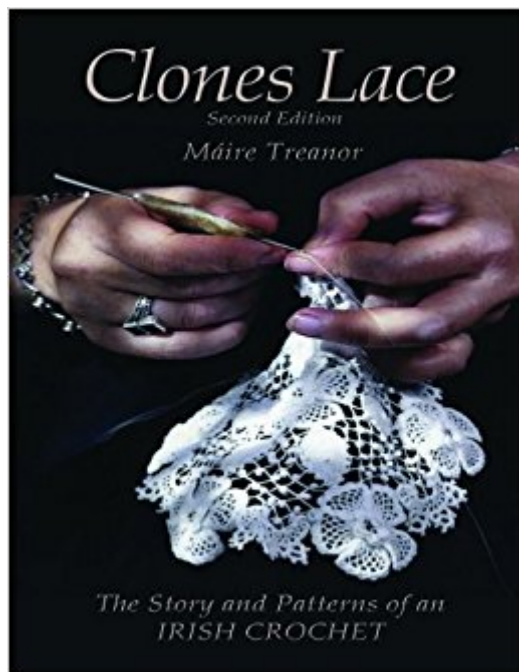


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Clones Lace



Synopsis

The story of Irish Crochet and its unique interpretation by the Clones lacemakers. The secrets unfold through detailed instructions, traditional motifs and patterns with the temptation to be challenged by the creative aspects of this Irish lace.

Book Information

Perfect Paperback: 126 pages

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Customer Reviews

disappointing in number of patterns and really good information on how to actually make Irish Lace. I have tried one other pattern from a magazine and was so pleased with it. I was excited to continue on making this beautiful lace but this book was not very good on helping me learn this beautiful art.

I don't honestly know if I ever would have properly learned this art without Maire Treanor's help. I had collected many of the antique Irish crochet how-to books over the years, but I admit that I had difficulty in reading the very old print. The print was small, the lines far too close together for easy reading, and the old type much too fuzzy. Although I at least had the basic idea from all my Irish Lace perusing, Maire explained the creation of this beautiful needle art in simple, modern terms. She made what seemed almost impossible actually doable! You can easily design your own lace once you have learned the basics of making a variety of motifs: there are a wonderful variety of flowers with their accompanying leaves, grape clusters made from small buttonies (buttonies are used frequently in many motifs), vines and leaves, scallops and clovers. Once you have learned the simple method for crocheting any pretty motif in the world, you will be able to create your own personal motifs with only a little imagination. Plan out your lace by drawing out the design. Will you

create a bridal shawl or an attractive pillow cover? Make sure the paper or cloth that you will be using to set out your motifs and work your ground is the full size for your layout and design. Maire shows her students to crochet approximately two rows around each motif using the clones knot. This stitch is to be used for the 'ground,' the netting that is used to crochet around all your lovely motifs into one masterpiece and border. The 'clone's knot,' is a special stitch that Maire learned, which is unique to her area of Clones, Ireland in County Monaghan. She teaches this stitch in her book and DVD. Simply lay your motifs out onto your paper or fabric foundation according to your lace design--much as an artist who sketches his design on his canvas before he begins to paint. Tack them on with simple needle and thread. The ground is crocheted around every motif, except for the outer edge of those that are used as your border. To make this book even more interesting, Maire shares a great deal of the history of this lace. I first found her book for a normal price at Lacis.com online book catalog (Lacis still sells it for \$28. It had been out of print when I tried to find a copy, and book sellers were stealing folks blind with their outrageous prices). I was not able to find any modern, updated books like Maire's. I tried to make due with the antique patterns, as well as the simple leaflets and booklets from Annie's Attic. So, I was pretty ecstatic that Lacis was able to reprint her book, saving many crocheters from the hands of book selling gougers. I sometimes wonder if Irish crochet would have vanished into oblivion if Maire had not decided to pick up her crochet hook in 1987 and share this invaluable needle-art to those crochet lace-making artists throughout the world who hold this special gift and predisposition locked in their hearts, awaiting Maire with her key? I look back and am delightfully surprised to see how far and wide Maire's gift has spread. The only thing that would be even better than her book and DVD would be to travel to Ireland to meet Maire and to learn from her personally. What a thrill it would be to share this with others as we learn!

As an experienced crocheter working with mostly yarn-based projects, I considered the tiny-hook, tiny-thread realm to be an intimidating landscape, until I studied the concepts in this book. I found Máire Treanor's story and instructions on Clones Lace and Irish Crochet fascinating in a practical sort of way. Máire Treanor traces the history of Irish Crochet and Clones Lace from its origins during Famine times, and intersperses motif patterns with anecdotes about the 'old timers' she has met who have shared their patterns and samples with her. She has archived many motifs, patterns and techniques here for the benefit of modern lace workers. The result is a charming narrative that is also a teaching tool for those interested in the techniques of thread crochet, particularly Clones Lace. Detailed instructions and illustrations are provided both for several classical motifs, and for the

use of the Clones Knot to 'join' or connect motifs to create a lace piece. I'm now eager to incorporate the skills I've learned into my traditional and freeform crochet projects. I believe Máire will be releasing a DVD soon, based on the concepts of her excellent book.

I ordered this book after having searched all over for a reasonably priced copy of this book. Unfortunately I did not find such a thing here on . For reasons I fail to understand the book is stupidly over-priced here. I ended up finding it at the publisher's website - Lacis.com. The book there is brand new, \$28 and free shipping. Sorry , but there are limits to what the market can bear! So, with that issue out of the way - the book. The book is an excellent resource if you are interested in the background of Clones Lace (Irish crochet). The full history is here, and written with a personal touch by Ms. Treanor. There are some patterns included in the back of the book, not many, but there really are not that many Irish crochet patterns. The standard patterns are there, the rose, the Clones knot, the scroll, all of the patterns you see on display in Irish crochet are there for you to follow. I did, however, find Ms. Treanor's DVD entitled "Irish Crochet and Clones Lace" far more easy to follow than her written instructions in the book. It could be that I am simply a visual learner, easier for me to get a pattern when I can see it being made, rather than reading how to make it. This book is excellent, but if you are struggling with the technique I would recommend going to the DVD as it is outstanding when it comes to making the technique clear. This book is very enjoyable reading, the inclusion of the patterns at the end is helpful and the photos are inspiring. I would rate this book a bit lower on technique, but extremely high on educational background of the history of this needleart. A great read and if you go with the DVD as a teaching tool, you will be creating this beautiful lace in no time! If you are going to treat yourself to something beautiful - learning about Irish lace and how to make it is certainly a contender.

I don't crochet a lot but I got plenty out of this book. It was very interesting. I think you really need to know what you are doing to understand the patterns...not that I do, it's just that I've read and looked at many old pattern books now so I think I've got a handle on it, maybe. That's what this book is about...old time lace work. You can find a lot of information online to help out with this book also. Maire's DVD is out now and I have it. It does help to watch someone actually do and explain the work, but I love to have the book in my hands too.

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