



## AUSTRALIAN LACE GUILD PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

### GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL STAGES

Candidates are expected to submit work showing ALL the requirements listed. It is recommended that candidates approach their state branch for a mentor to guide them through the proficiency process.

#### 1. **WORKBOOKS**

For all techniques a working notebook is required.

- 1.1 Due to costs of postage, hard heavy covers are NOT recommended.
- 1.2 Assessment pieces must be clearly marked and **easily accessible**, and **both sides of the work should be visible**. It is suggested that clear plastic pockets or protectors are used. Do not use pins or sticky tape to secure the lace. Instead, ensure that the whole Proficiency Workbook is securely wrapped so that no lace is dislodged in transit.
- 1.3 Workbook pages, including plastic pockets, should be clearly numbered and a table of contents included. A checklist will be supplied to make sure that all requirements are completed. On this, show the page for each item that is to be assessed and return it with your workbook. Assessors will use this to find your work and in making comments.
- 1.4 Include with each pattern the following details:
  - Provide name and sample of the thread used.
  - Give book references for the patterns used. Include full book title, author and page number. Also list the titles of books you have access to so the assessors can refer you back to them if there are any problems they can help you with.
  - Needle size (Needle lace, Knitting), Hook size (Crochet)
  - Number of pairs required (Bobbin lace)
  - Any other relevant details pertaining to the lace made, e.g. techniques included, working diagrams, difficulties experienced, etc.
- 1.5 For bobbin lace the actual pricking used, with pattern markings, is to be included. Errors within the lace may often be the result of a fault within the pricking.
- 2 After the application closing date you will receive from the Proficiency Coordinator a number to use on your assessment folio and a photocopy of the test piece, plus a marking/check sheet. For bobbin lace, include the draft as well as the pricking of the pattern made from the photocopy supplied by the Proficiency Coordinator. For other techniques include any appropriate stages in your development of the pattern. The Candidate should endeavour to make the piece of lace as close as possible in size to the photocopy supplied, using the same or similar thread and gimp size. Submit with the rest of the requirements to the Coordinator by the due date.
3. The actual lace must be supplied for all assessment pieces. **No photographs or photocopies** will be accepted.
4. The major finished pieces must be clearly marked as such.
5. For Stage 1 all other assessment pieces are to be arranged in progressive order of working. Arrange Stages 2 and 3 pieces in order of your own choice.
6. Teaching notes issued by a tutor should not be included.
7. If a piece of lace has been laundered please state; however, newly worked lace should not require laundering, except where this is part of the blocking or finishing process.
8. While traditional techniques are required, candidates may choose to submit pieces showing modern design and/or usage. However, be careful that the pieces of lace chosen do comply with the type required. For example, many of the modern designs of lace are “freeform” and not worked on a 45 degree grid, and are therefore unsuitable for Torchon pieces.



## AUSTRALIAN LACE GUILD PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

- 9 Terminology: In these requirements Whole (Cloth) stitch is cross, twist, cross (CTC) and Half Stitch is cross, twist (CT).
10. For continuous lace, a 15 cm length is suitable (Measured on the footside).  
For non-continuous lace, the motifs need to be of sufficient size to clearly demonstrate the techniques required.
11. To submit work for Stage 2 you must hold the Stage 1 certificate. One (1) major finished piece from Stage 1 must be resubmitted with your Stage 2 assessment.
12. Stage 2 requires a standard considerably higher than that accepted for Stage 1. At Stage 3, a very high standard of work is required.
13. Stage 2 workbooks should illustrate the progression of work submitted for assessment since Stage 1 and include evidence of wider reading. One major finished piece from Stage 1 should be included and clearly indicated. One (1) major finished piece from Stage 2 must be resubmitted with your Stage 3 assessment.
14. Stage 2 requires you to have some appreciation and knowledge of the historical background and traditional uses of the craft. A summary (about 1 typed page) showing your reading and knowledge should be included.
15. In Stage 2 where techniques differ in the various styles of your lace you should indicate which style you have used. E.g. in Point Ground laces, different footsides are normally used in Bucks and Lille.
16. In Stage 3, please resubmit one (1) major finished piece from Stage 1, and 1 major finished piece from Stage 2.
17. If doing a second Stage 3, and you have already passed a teachers level, there is no requirement to submit the teaching requirements. If you pass the second stage 3, a teacher's certificate will be automatically awarded.
18. Stage 4 requirements for the Teaching Certificate are listed separately.
19. In a number of places an original or adapted design is required. If the work you submit is original, include evidence of the design process you have used. An adapted design is one originally from a designer, book, piece of lace, etc, which you have changed. State the source and include a photocopy or photograph of the original for comparison. In bobbin lace an acceptable adaptation requires a significant alteration to the pricking.
20. Anonymity: a number will be issued to each candidate to preserve anonymity. The name and address of each candidate will only be known to the Coordinator. Do not include anything which may indicate who you are, e.g. prize certificates, your name or your tutor's name on any pieces or prickings. Suggestion - Label as: "original design", "own design"/ "Design by Lacemaker No. ...", "design obtained from tutor". Include a name only when reference can be made to a published or readily available design.
21. Submission of work: proficiency work for assessment will be presented on a yearly basis only. A candidate who is not successful in the year of presentation may reapply the following year.
22. Postage: jiffy bags are recommended for posting of workbooks. Ensure that the whole Proficiency Workbook is securely wrapped so that no lace is dislodged in transit. All work should be sent by registered mail and will be returned by same method. Allowances should be made for possible postage delays. If you are unable to finish your work and wish to defer until the following year the Coordinator must be advised by the closing date.