

Lace is a decorative ajour textile. Real laces can be divided into needle laces and bobbin laces. There are two types of bobbin laces: straight and part-lace. These both techniques were developed in the epoch of renaissance, in the first half of the 16th century. The needle lace was developed from a cutwork. The immediate precursors of the needle lace were "point coupe" and "reticella" techniques. The bobbin lace was developed from a passementerie. The bobbin laces as well as the needle laces appeared probably at once in Italy and Flanders. The first laces have a geometric decor. Linear or plant decors were used in the first half of the 17th century. Fine and light laces with a flower motif rise in the 18th century. In the end of the 18th century, the motifs are very small and the most of the laces fill mesh ground. In the epoch of the renaissance and the baroque, good conditions for complex figurative scenes were allowed. A grateful space for (riche -great) religion scenes was given. The lay scenes, almost genre, symbolic and hunting scenes can be seen on the lace, too. All the 16th century and in the first half of the 17th century appeared a lot of Pattern Books first for needle laces and then for bobbin laces in Germany and Italy. It is a proof (evidence) of a great vogue of the lace.