

Christmas Tree © M.E Shaw 2013



Variation 1

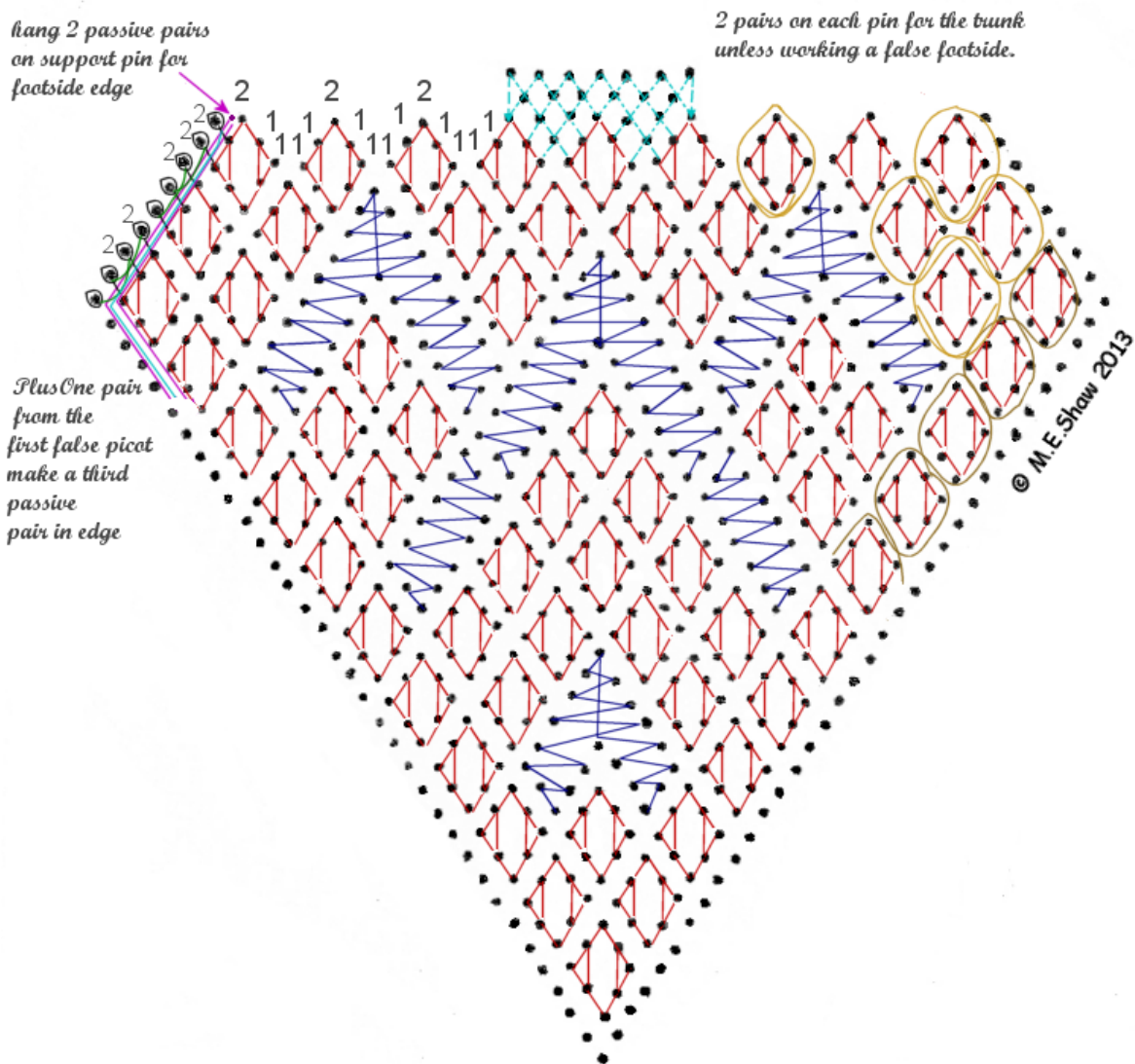


Variation 2

Suggested Threads: Madeira Tanne #30, Finca Bolillos #40, Madeira Cotona 30, or suitable thread of your own preference.

Bobbin Pairs Required: Approx 74 Pairs plus gimp pairs. ***See in Working Notes to use fewer pairs. Variation 1:Gimp Thread Madeira Metallic.

If you are asked to share my pattern: Please pass on the email address in the footer and I will send a copy to those that would like one.



Working Diagram Variation 1

I have included here some **Working Notes** etc. for those who need them and hope that they are clear and helpful.

The pattern is worked from the trunk to top of the tree. Have 3 (or even 4) passive pairs along the footside edge to give a firm edge. **False Picots** are used to add pairs as you go. As the work narrows, the pairs used for the **Picots** are worked through one passive pair. Gradually this pair moves inwards and once they are next to the innermost passive pair is when to throw them back ready for removal. The pairs thrown back can either be tied and trimmed or, if using 4 passives just trimmed away. This makes them quite secure.

Gimps are optional. I worked these in sections as I was alternating colours on one sample piece. The woven trails are worked in cloth stitch. The diamonds in **Version 1** are in cloth st. pin cloth st. twist.

For Version 2 I used Cloth Stitch. Using Half Stitch would give another variation.

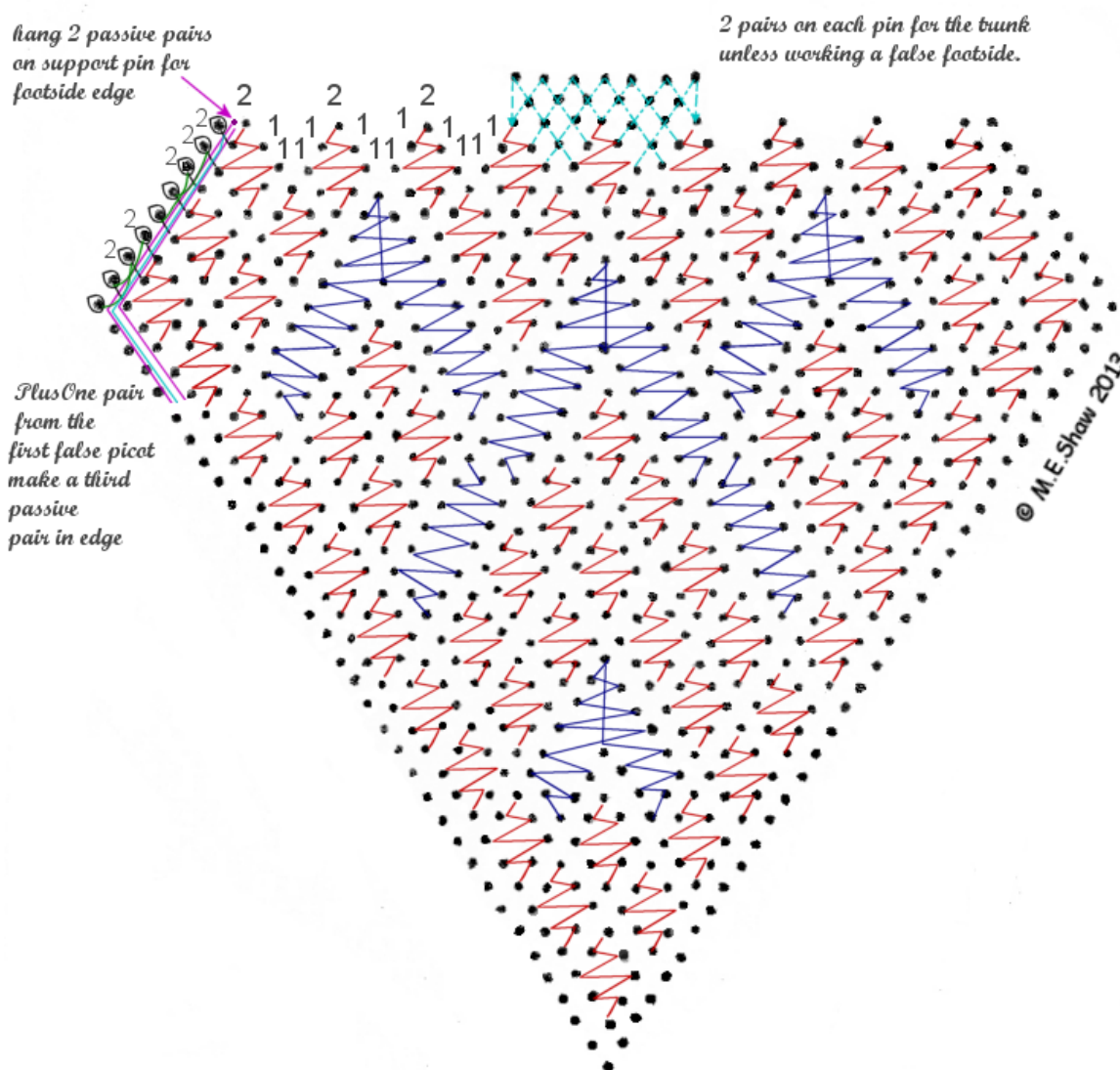
At the finishing tip I used two centre pairs to attach a bead and secured with a good knot, the threads then taken back through the bead with a beading needle. If there is not enough space they can be stitched into the knot. (I touched the knot with a tiny dab of PVA glue)

I divided remaining threads and made plaits for a hanger. Plaits were knotted together and threads cut.

I used a clear hairspray on the back of the work to stiffen slightly.
 Another option is to start the trunk with a **False Footside** using 14 pairs. (see photo of **Version 2**) A diagram is included In **Version 1** I put a gimp through and then started the trunk.

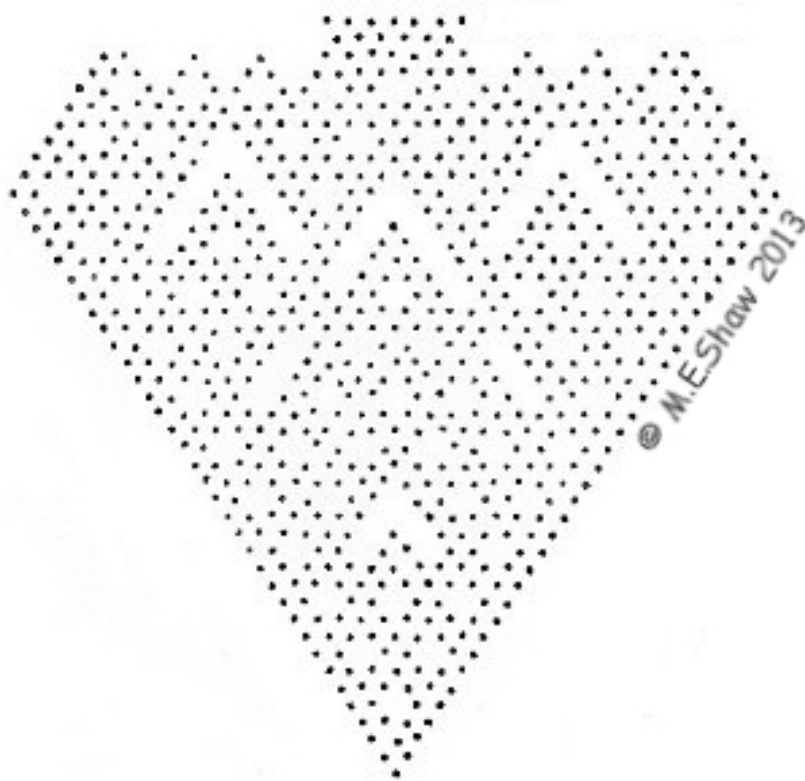
*****Note: To use fewer bobbins:** As I moved down, working on one side and began to throw out the bobbins no longer required, I tied and removed a few discarded pairs and used them for the other side. Only do this if you are happy all is ok .Leave good long ends just in case you have to undo your work then you can tie a bobbin back on...

Working Diagram Variation 2





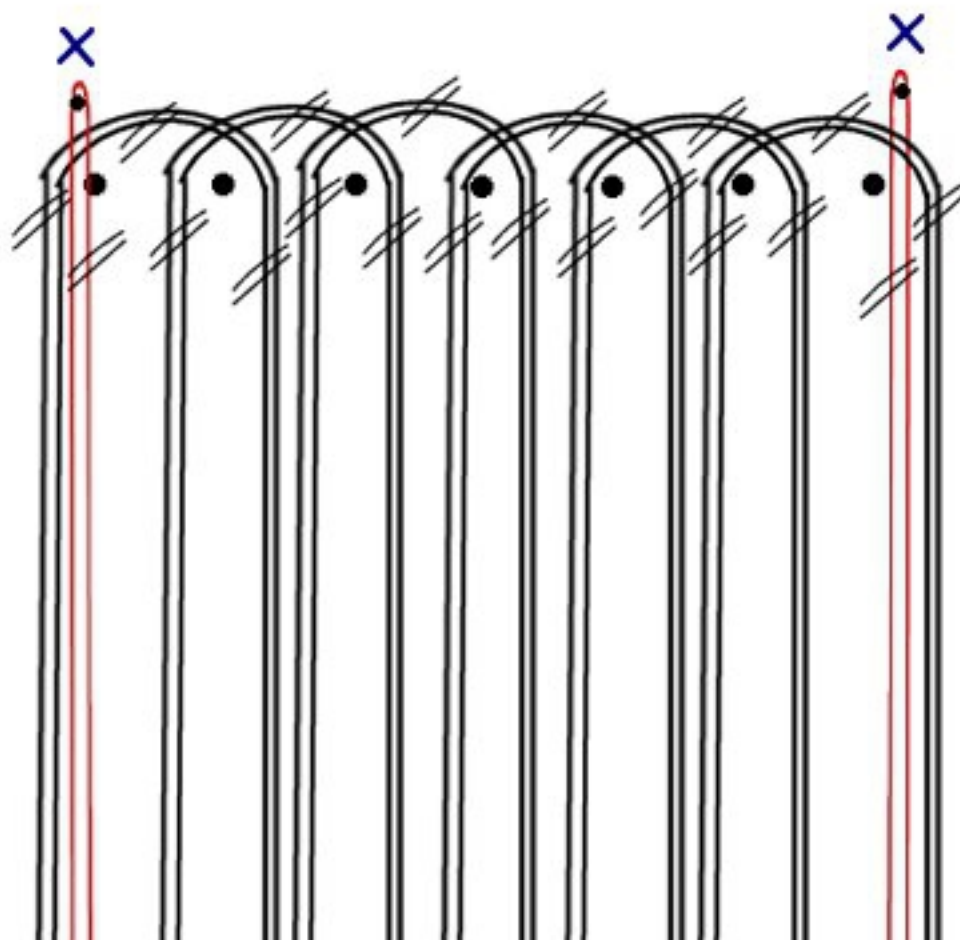
Pricking Actual Size



Pricking slightly enlarged

False Footside to Start. (14 pairs)

Put two support pins x into position. Do not remove these too soon but wait until the trunk is underway and next row of pins placed, then ease threads down carefully. Use a support pin above work for adding the other pairs (two pairs at a time.) This support pin can be removed as you go.



Variation Two.

I added colour by Thread Wrapping.

When working the small Cloth Stitch diamonds and the top pin is placed in position, take a pair of bobbins wound with the metallic thread, slide them under the pair that will be passive, take them up and around the placed pin, and lay them next to the other pair (the Working Pair) Wrap each of the working bobbins with the thread from the added bobbins by twisting several times. Now continue the woven area using two bobbins as one. Place the last pin, untwist the metallic thread remaining and lay the pair back. Close the pin. Remove the laid back pair and used for the next area.

Only a small amount of thread is needed on one bobbin so make a slipknot to hold it onto the bobbin.