To go with Lesson 1: Bobbin lace basics

**Hygiene**, for lack of a better word:

* Clean hands
* No food & drink over pillow (treat your pillow like a computer keyboard)
* Use a lint roller (pet-hair roller) or brush on your pillow after each project
* Cover your work in progress and even an empty pillow with a cloth when not in use
* Cover your pillow with a cloth even before pinning a pattern on it – skin oils will get on the fabric, which can be washed; pillow itself can’t be washed
* Don’t hold pins in your mouth
* Touch the threads as little as possible
* Keep cats out of your lace!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Pattern Preparation:**

* Print or copy pattern onto cardstock in pale colors; make two copies while you’re at it, in different colors (pale blue, pale green, manila, pale gray, pale pink, pale yellow)
* Choose cardstock colors that will contrast with thread you plan to use
* Mark anything that needs to be marked (seldom needed)
* Cover pattern with clear Contact Paper; trim.
* To prick pattern, put a piece of cork-board under it; otherwise prick on pillow
* Prick pattern using sharp needle in pricker (not a ballpoint needle); keep needle vertical. Hold pattern up to light to check for spots you missed.
* Position pattern on pillow with the bottom edge at least 8” from the bottom edge of pillow. This is important!

**Winding Bobbins**:

* Choose thread with an S-twist (fibers twist to the right) \\\\\\S\\\\\\
* (FYI, the opposite of S-twist is Z-twist: //////Z//////)
* Use either hand, but be sure **thread is going on clockwise** as you look straight down at the top of the bobbin
* Likewise, the hitch can be put in using either hand, but the end result must match the diagram or picture included in your lessons.