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Italian Cut Work

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Adjust the gathers evenly, then pull the material down tightly, arrange it with pins ¼ to ½ in. apart and fasten it with two stitches at the bottom. No gathering threads are needed. Much of the success of the shade depends upon the tautness of the material.

The lining, which should be put on next, should never have any more fullness than is necessary. While it is the mark of a poor shade if the shade is not thick enough and the wires show through, yet if too many folds are used the light will appear uneven. Princess shades have a perfectly straight lining.

The material of the interlining and of the lining should cover the collar of the Princess shade both inside and outside. This piece should be on the bias and cut as wide as the collar itself plus the seams.

Both types of shades have a braid or ruching around the top and bottom. This ruching extends over the collar of the Princess shade. Chenille, Chenille moss or gold braid may be used. If ruching is used it may be of the same material of the outer covering or a combination of that material and the lining material. The ruching may vary in width from one to one and a half inches, and in length should be five times the measurement of the space to be covered. It is made by stitching together the edges so as to make a long tube, then turning this inside out and double box-plaiting it all.

The Princess shade always has fringe, which may be dyed to match the outside layer of the material, or it may be shaded. The width of the fringe depends upon the size of the shade and height of the standard. Pottery bases demand wider fringes. From three to eight inch are widths used. The Empire shade may or may not have fringe. Both shades have braid trimming around the top and bottom regardless of the fringe.

The silk shade is very adaptable and may be used with pottery, polychrome, wrought iron or wood bases.

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**ITALIAN CUT WORK**
By Margaret Ericson

Perhaps one of the most fashionable types of needlework at the present time is Italian cut work. Lovely designs can be made, which are truly exquisite and charming.

Cut work requires neat and careful work for the best results, but it is not so very hard to do. The design is drawn or stamped on the material, and a simple button hole stitch is used throughout for the cut work motifs. The stamped outlines are run with short stitches and the "in between" parts are cut away. To make mitred corners, a complete right angle must be taken in the lace.

In Italian cut work, the designs are mostly of the flower type, while in the Venetian, there are a variety of figures of humans and animals. In the Italian, there seems to be a chance for the daintier and more spider web type of work. This is perhaps due to the fact that there are patterns of flowers and the like worked out.

Where can one use this cut work? In innumerable places! The corners of a lunch cloth are very attractive with a square of cut work in each, the napkins having a smaller corner design of the same pattern. In the lunch cloth a square inside insertion can be made.

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room, that will brighten or bring out the color schemes already used, and a general freshening of older but still useful and decorative pieces.

Italian Cut Work

(Continued from page 12)

either colored or the same as the cloth. A delightful one is made of natural colored linen, with blue thread used for the cutwork design.

Lunch cloths and napkins are not the only possibilities for cut work. It can be used in any of the places where embroidery, crocheting or knitted lace could be used, as well as in other places. If one cares to take the time, cut work is admirable on handkerchiefs. Picture a dainty linen handkerchief with a touch of real cut work in one corner, or possibly in all four. A touch on collar and cuff sets is also effective.

Italian cut work is a very pretty and clever form of decoration for lovely linens and adds a touch of distinction to many of the things which it graces.

One home furnishing club girl is planning to redecorate her mother's room as she completed her own last year.

Do you know that the first Homemaking club in the United States was in Iowa?

Harriet Wallace, H. Ec. '24, who was an honor student in home economics, is now teaching in the High School at Morence, Ariz. Morence is a town of about nine thousand people.

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(Continued from page 6)

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