

Snowdrop Heart

by Janice Blair

Mettler Stickgarn cotton size 30 or Mettler 'Silk Finish' size 50/3. An alternative could be DMC Broder Machine 30.

6 pr green wound with 2 yards on each

1 pr white wound with 1 yard on each

2 pr red wound with approximately 6 yards continuously

Note: Mettler has a tendency to untwist whilst making the tallies so it is necessary to roll the bobbins occasionally to retwist them. Start with the crescent tallies; work the stem, snowdrop and heart. My design is made to fit into a plastic coaster. If you wish to make this for some other reason you might want to add a plait around the outside and inside of the heart shape for stability. This would require another two or four pair of bobbins.



Crescent tallies -- When working a crescent talley the aim is to tension tighter on the inside of the curve and looser on the outside of the curve. Working an extra twist on the outside will help, as will the picots. Work whichever type of picot you are most familiar with and when you make a sewing into a picot be careful not to pull the tally out of shape. I worked a 4 twist/2 twist picot with worker and outside passive.

Right Talley -- Hang 2 green pr rainbow style over the pin and twist once. Hang next green pr over same pin but to the right of other bobbins. Use second from left bobbin as worker to weave over/under left bobbin, over next 3 bobbins, under/over last bobbin, under center 3 bobbins, over/under left bobbin. Repeat for 2 more rows but work extra twist on outer bobbin. Now start using bobbins singly and weave normally but keep extra twist on outside thread. When almost at the bottom of crescent revert to using center 3 bobbins as one for about 3 rows. After last under/over on right thread, use wkr under 1 pair and over last pair, bring right thread over 1 pr under 2 pr, put pin under last pr. Twist each pr twice. Leave these pairs for working the stem and work the opposite crescent talley similar but opposite to the first one.

Stem -- The stem is made with all six pairs, with 3 passive pairs and a sewing edge, i.e. pin under 2 pr. Bring all pairs around to start stem, moving pin to support all pairs. CTC 2 center pairs, twist twice, pin between. These are now passives, cloth right hand pr through next three prs, twist twice, CTC through last pair, twist twice, pin under. Work stem until reaching next 3 crescents, which are worked with 2 pr (both wkr prs) and single thread picots. Work stem sewing into bottom of crescent tallies. When stem narrows lay back 1 pr passives. At end of stem (before working triangular talley), take center 3 prs and plait together using each pr as one thread. Lay back to sew in and cut off later. Work CTC with outer prs, pin between prs and make triangular talley. Put pins at bottom corners of talley and tie each pr with double knot around pins, the left pair will be used to make the first flower talley and the right pair will be used for the last flower talley.

Flower -- Sew in white pr at one pin and work leaf talley using 1 white and 1 green pair, sew into stem. Use green thread for sewings. Plait back and sew into triangular talley at pin. Make a sewing at the center bottom of triangular talley, work center talley, sew into stem. Leave green p, sew in and cut off later. Twist white pr and sew into last triangular corner pin. Work talley with other green pair and white pair and sew into stem and cut off. Sew in all remaining threads and cut.

Heart -- Using two red pair start at the center talley by doing side bar sewings into stem. Work tallies around heart shape and sew in where the heart touches the stem or leaves. At last talley sew into the first one, make a short plait, sew into back of first talley and cut off.

After completion you will be 62 tallies closer to your 1,000 goal.

