## INTERMEDIATE FINGERLOOP BRAIDING: WORKING WITH 7 BOWS

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REVIEW OF TERMS

| A B C D |  | The fingers of your hand are labelled A through D, with A being the index finger and $D$ the little finger. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reversed |  | The bow is picked up from behind the bottom strand so the loop is twisted. |
| Unreversed |  | The bow is picked up from the front so that the loop remains untwisted |
| Top and Bottom |  | Two bows on one finger: <br> The bow closest the base of the finger is the bottom bow, the one closest to the tip is the top bow |
| Lower bows | Starting from the lowest finger (usually b or c) each bow is moved down one finger (ex. c to $d$, $b$ to $c$, a to b) with the loops remaining untwisted. |  |
| Raise bows | Starting from the highest finger (usually b) each bow is moved up one finger ( $b$ to $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{c}$ to $\mathrm{b}, \mathrm{d}$ to c ), with the loops remaining untwisted. |  |
| Turn bow | Take the bow off the finger, twist it one full turn and place it back on the same finger. |  |
| Reverse bow | Take the bow off the finger, twist it one half turn and place it back on the same finger. |  |
| Departed | Each bow is made of 2 different colours so that the top of the loop is one colour and the bottom is another. |  |

## HOLLOW LACE OF 7 BOWS

Place 1 bow each of one colour on BC right. Place 2 bows each of another colour on AB left and 1 bow on C left.

1. A right through $B C$ right take top $B$ left reversed
2. B right take top A left unreversed
3. A right through top $B$ right take $C$ left unreversed
4. Lower left bows
5. A left through $B C$ left take top B right reversed
6. B left take top A right unreversed
7. A left through top B left take C right unreversed
8. Lower right bows

## BROAD LACE OF 7 BOWS

Place 1 bow each on BC right. Place 2 bows each of another colour on AB left and 1 bow on C left.

1. A right through $B C$ right take top $B$ left reversed
2. B right take top A left unreversed
3. A right through top $B$ right take $C$ left unreversed
4. Lower left bows
5. A left through BC left take top B right unreversed
6. B left take A right unreversed
7. A left through top B left take C right unreversed
8. Lower right bow

## ROUND LACE PARTI

Place 1 departed bow on each of BC right and C left. Place 2 departed bows on each of AB left. The same colour is on top of all bows.

1. A right through $B C$ right take top $B$ left reversed
2. B right take top A left unreversed
3. A right through top $B$ right take $C$ left unreversed
4. Turn left bows
5. Lower left bows
6. A left through BC left take top B right reversed
7. B left take A right unreversed
8. A left through top B left take C right unreversed
9. Turn right bows
10. Lower right bows

Place 1 departed bow on each of BC right and C left. Place 2 departed bows on each of AB left. The same colour is on top of all bows.

1. A right through $B C$ right take top $B$ left unreversed
2. B right take top A left unreversed
3. A right through top $B$ right take $C$ left unreversed
4. Lower left bows
5. A left through BC left take top B right unreversed
6. B left take A right unreversed
7. A left through top B left take C right unreversed
8. Turn right bows
9. Lower right bows

## LACE COW DE RACE

Set 7 departed bows on ABCD left and BCD right with the same colour up on all bows. Fix the end to a swivel.

1. A right through B right from within outwards and under all other bows to take $A$ left reversed
2. Raise left bows
3. D left take D right unreversed
4. Lower right bows

## FURTHER RESOURCES

http://wirenstring.no-ip.info/fingerloop/ My website with the complete transcriptions of the Tollemache and Harley 2320 manuscripts. Most one person braids have modern instructions.
http://fingerloop.org/ Mistress Rhiannon's \& Mistress Azza's website. Detailed instructions including video, braid patterns, transcriptions of $17^{\text {th }} \mathrm{c}$ braiding manuscripts.
http://www.bumply.com/Medieval/braiding01.html Analysis of the 24 braids found in the London excavations

Crowfoot, E., F. Pritchard and K. Staniland. 1992. Medieval finds from excavations in London: 4. Textiles and clothing c.1150-c.1450. HMSO, London.

Egan, Geoff and Frances Pritchard. 1991. Dress Accessories 1150-1450. Medieval Finds from Excavations at London: 3. HMSO, London.

Griffiths, Jeremy. 2001. The Tollemache Book of Secrets. The Roxburghe Club, London.
Stanley, E.G. 1974. Directions for making many sorts of laces. Pp. 89-103 in: Rowland, Beryl (ed.). Chaucer and Middle English Studies. Kent State University Press.

