

Letters Tied Up in Knots: An Interlace Alphabet

Precursors and near relatives of interlacings of the Pictish school of Celtic Art.

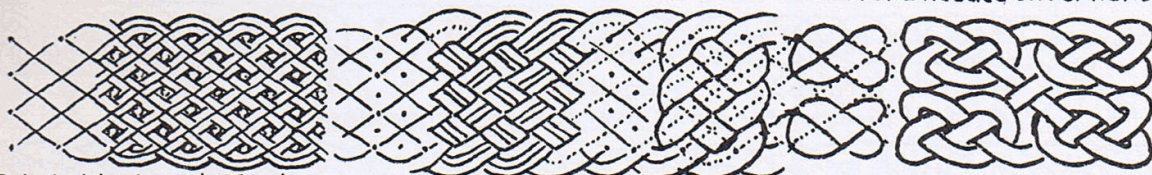
Egyptian



Tut-Ankh-Amen's Tomb.
1375 - 1350 B.C.

From a stick in granulated gold work.

From a Highland Dirk Handle.
with round headed silver nails



Tut-Ankh-Amen's Tomb.
A stick with interlacings of
coloured barks and gold.

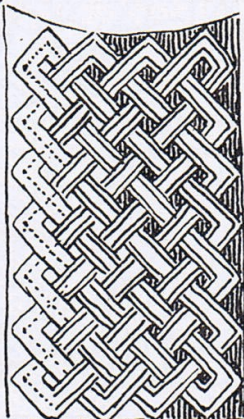
A Few Pictish interlacings, based on the same lay-out.



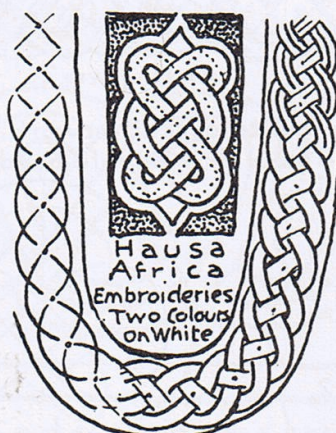
Pictish, Byzantine-Celtic, Greek-Celtic, Turkish 15th Century, Persian.



Hausa
Africa
Embroidered.



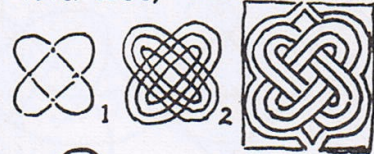
Bornu, Africa.
Embroidered



Hausa
Africa
Embroideries
Two Colours
on White



Woven to be, Hausa, Africa.



Hausa Africa
Embroidered



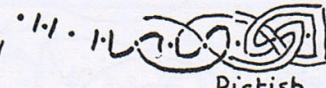
Chinese 15th Cent.,
Ming Dynasty.



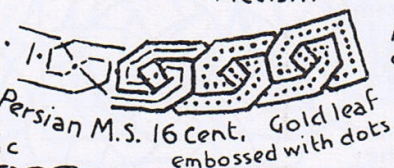
Pictish



Persian M.S. 16th Century
Gold leaf embossed with dots.



Pictish.



Persian M.S. 16 Cent. Gold leaf
embossed with dots.

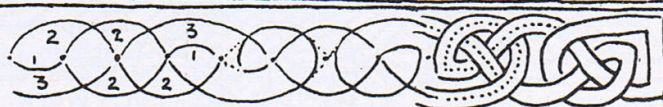
Pictish and Byzantine-Celtic

Pictish and Byzantine-Celtic.

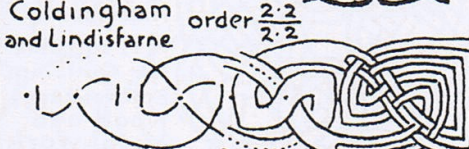
Below are a few simple knots in Pictish Art.
The breaking and rejoining of Plaitwork into knots
is a feature of the Pictish School of Celtic Art.



Coldingham
and Lindisfarne
order $\frac{2 \cdot 2}{2 \cdot 2}$



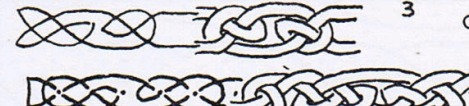
Stone at Leek,
Staffordshire
Order $\frac{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 2 \cdot 2}$



Lindisfarne Gospels. F. 29
Compare with X
order $\frac{3}{1 \cdot 1 \cdot 3}$

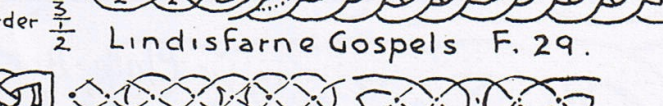


order $\frac{3}{1 \cdot 1 \cdot 2}$ Lindisfarne Gospels F. 29.



Lindisfarne Gospels

George Bain



Book of Kells







In loving memory of

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

† ihs xps. Matheus homo

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anguned godpeller
INCIPIT EUANGELII
GENILOGIA MATHEI

syn
nece
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de
enpce

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puru

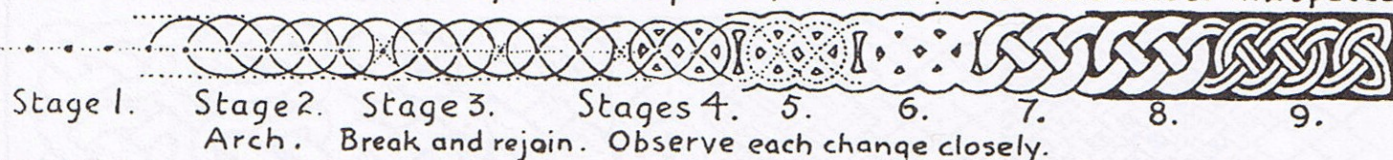
abraham
er puru

The Rules:

- No more than 2 lines crossing at any point
- Always alternate: over, under, over, under,...
- Bonus points for making a single continuous line

The Methods of Construction of Celtic Knotwork Art.

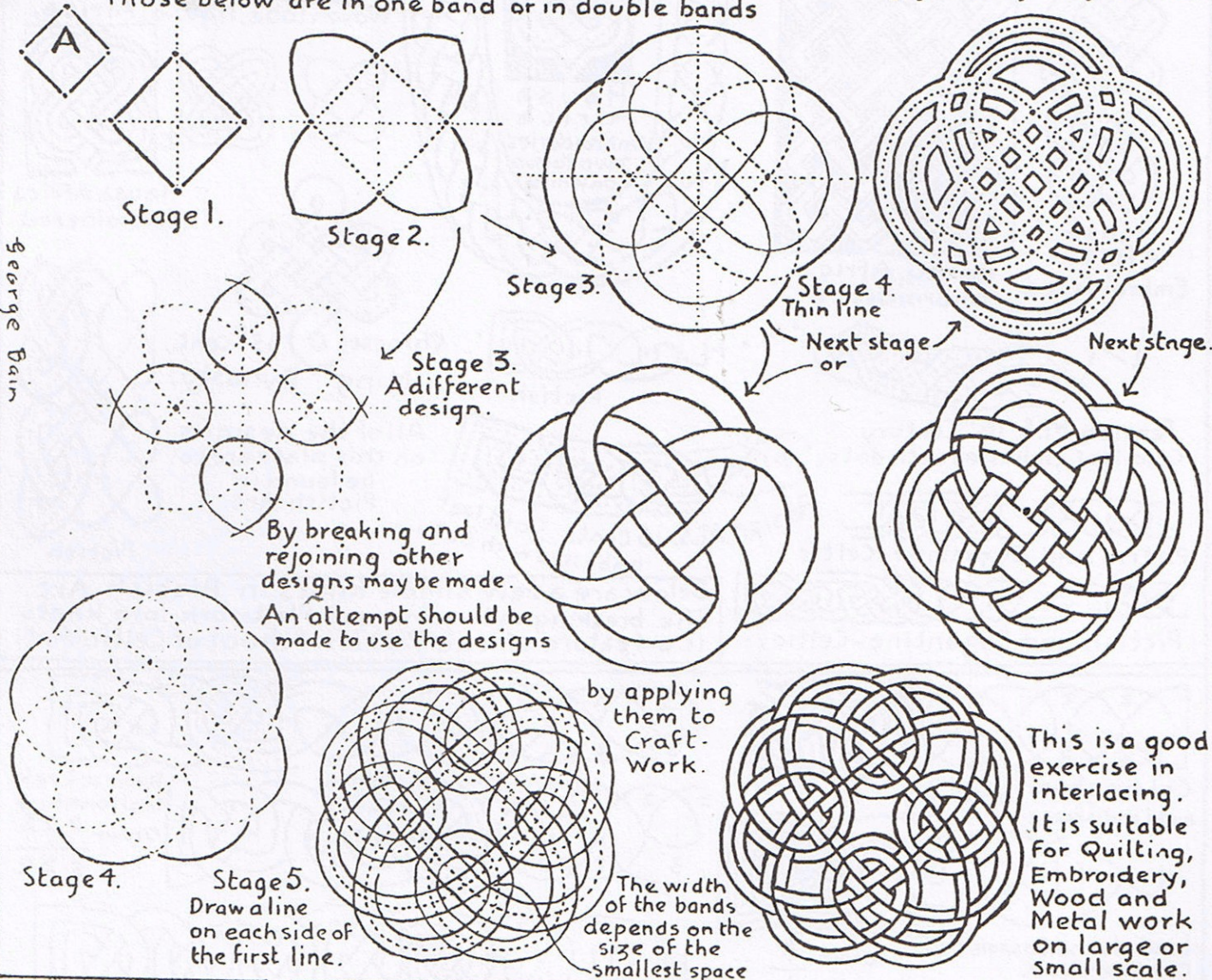
Commence with a row of equidistant points, then arch over and under in 2 spaces.



There are numerous interesting variations. The breaking and rejoining must form knots, not rings.



Arching over three spaces. Designs for carving, embroidery, quilting, leatherwork, rug-making, jewellery may be made. Those below are in one band or in double bands





A



K



W, PH



\tilde{N}



U



S



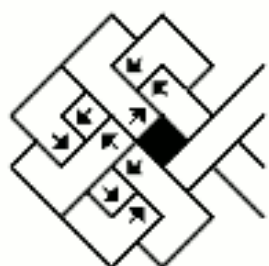
E



N



C



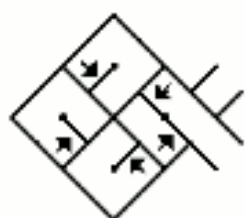
L



T



J, CH



O



TH



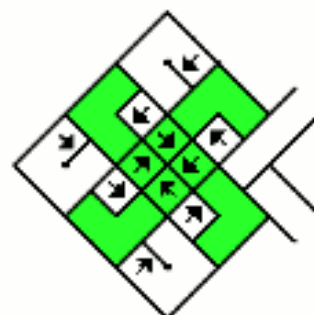
SH



I



M



H, KH

