========== L a c e - 2011 ==========

A utility program for visualizing lace and other weave structures with deflected threads.

LACE-2011 interprets WIF and WPO (WeavePoint) files that have been previously saved. LACE-2011 then draws, to screen or printer, a simulation of the woven fabric.

The program is descended from LaceWeave (1997) and is what has been called LEANWARE. Very few bells and whistles! So, don't ask for additions like color, variable yarn width, music, or longer repeats. If you like the program, try to persuade the real weaving programmers to incorporate it! Design software has for too long been tied to drawdowns that look like graph paper.

For help or more information, don't hesitate to contact Dave Raup, 423 Johnson Drive, Washington Island, WI 54246 (920-847-2714 or e-mail draup@ itol.com).

REQUIREMENTS:

* PC running Windows (Sorry, no Macs)

  (Works with Windows 2000, ME, Vista, and the 32-bit versions of XP and Windows 7. The 64-bit versions of XP and Win 7 may work with appropriate workarounds or emulators but these have not been tested fully)

* Files in WIF format (an export option in most design programs) or in WPO (WeavePoint)

* 19 Files when LACE-2011.zip is unzipped, as follows:

  this file in two copies (LACE MANUAL.DOC and PDF)
  the program: (LACE-2011.EXE)
  Lace.ICO (optional blue/red icon for desktop)
  14 sample files (WIF or WPO)
  file called VBRUN300.DLL (necessary for running in Windows environment)

INSTALLATION:

(assumes you received the program by download as LACE-2011.ZIP]:

(1) create a new folder -- called anything you like

Note: everything can be done on an external thumb- or flash-drive -- so that the main drive of your computer need not be involved at all! It will be more convenient, however, to put the new folder on your c-drive.

(2) copy/paste or drag the downloaded ZIP file to the new folder

(3) unzip LACE-2011.zip and be sure the resulting 19 files end up together in the folder just created

(4) [optional] add shortcut icon to your desktop as follows: **Right**-click on LACE-2011.EXE; move cursor to **Send To** and select **Desktop (create shortcut)**. This puts a generic icon on your desktop. Now **right**-click the icon and select **Properties**. On the next screen click **Change Icon** and **Browse**; now select file called **Lace.ICO.** Click **OK, Apply,** and **OK.** *[If this fails, find a kid who is good at this stuff.]*

TO START LACE-2011:

* Double-click the file named LACE-2011 (or LACE-2011.exe) or the shortcut icon
[You may get a nasty message asking whether you trust this program. You do!]

the light-blue LACE-2011 screen will appear and you are ready to run.

* Press **ENTER** (or **New File**) to see file-selection box

- * Scroll the lower panel to the desired file name and click it with the mouse

* Then press the **Draw Fabric** button (or **ENTER**) to see simulation

[To change folder: Double-click next to the ===> in the upper panel; then scroll down list of folders and double-click on your choice. If the selected folder contains no WPO or WIF files, the lower panel will be blank.]

[This procedure can be cumbersome and call for many key strokes if your patterns are buried among weaving folders. The easiest solution is to copy weaving files to the folder containing LACE-2011. The files will then appear in the lower panel whenever LACE-2011 starts up.]

* Between drawings, you may use your mouse to adjust **YARN SPACING** and **ZOOM**

IMPORTANT HINTS AND NOTES:

1) Truncation of file names. Notice that one of the weaving files that comes with this program is SUMMER AND WINTER but is called SUMMER~1. This is a holdover from the late '90s when the original LaceWeave program was written. At that time, file names were limited to 8 characters. When longer names were used, a squiggle (~) followed by a number (1, 2, ...) replaced everything after the first 6 characters. So don't be concerned if LACE-2011 uses the abbreviated forms.

2) The program can be entirely mouse (or touchpad) driven. The **ENTER** key is sometimes useful but the program does not respond to 'Esc' or other special keys.

3) Depending on your monitor, you may notice some streaking or heavy lines on the screen drawing at low ZOOM levels. This is due to rounding error and is not seen in the printed drawings.

4) Some files may be unreadable. If so, you probably will get message saying: "Major problem ... Please Exit and restart." Go back to the design program to be sure that the whole pattern has been saved and that threading and treadling/pegplan end normally to form natural repeats.

5) Printing. LACE-2011 gives good prints on laser and inkjet printers. On some inkjet printers the lines may be heavy or muddy. If this happens, click on **Printing Dark** button to switch to **Printing Light** before clicking **Print**.

6) LACE-2011 ignores all information on warp and weft colors. It reads only threading and pegplan (or treadling and tieup).

7) YARN SPACING and ZOOM. Many, though not all, lace weaves depend on a wide sett to produce the lace appearance. The deflecting threads must have somewhere to go! Of course, reducing yarn size has the same effect as using a wider sett. In LACE-2011, this relationship is controlled by one parameter: YARN SPACING. When YARN SPACING is increased, we are either making a wider sett or decreasing yarn size -- we need not care which because we are interested only in the relative amount of space between threads. Changing ZOOM magnifies or reduces the computer drawing but does not change the ratio of sett to yarn size. The number scales used for ZOOM and YARN SPACING are arbitrary.

8) LACE-2011 assumes that full repeats (or multiples thereof) were saved by the design program. The repeat is then duplicated until the screen is full. This feature can produce weird results if, say, 1-1/2 repeats of the pattern were saved by your original design program.

9) WARNING: if you press **Exit** without a fabric drawn on the screen, you will get a **File not found** message. Ignore it and continue.

SAMPLES:

Several designs are included, illustrating various possibilities, including some non-lace weaves. Files are in either WIF or WPO format.

* BASKET. A 6-shaft basket weave surrounded by plain weave (see Donna Muller's HANDWOVEN LACES, p.16 [Interweave Press, 1991], p. 16).

* DIAMOND. Pattern from Rebekkah Kerner & Syne Mitchell 's 2008 article on *WeaveZine* describing the weaving of an antimacassar; WIF file downloaded from http://www.weavezine.com/spring2008/wz_sp08_RebekkahKerner.php

* HANKIE. Canvas weave inspired by the cover photograph of Muller's HANDWOVEN LACES. Best viewed at low ZOOM and wide YARN SPACING.

* HUCK5 and HUCK9. 5- and 9-thread hucks. By varying YARN SPACING, you will see the contrast between the lacy style of wide sett and the "huck spot" style of a closer sett.

* HUCKLACE. Two-end huck lace from Laura Fry's 2009 article on *WeaveZine* downloaded as a WIF file at http://www.weavezine.com/content/woven-lace-huck-twill-threading

* LACEBRON. Lace bronson from Muller, p. 116.

* LACENET. A Lace net with plain weave ovals (see Muller, p. 81)

* SPOTBRON. Spot bronson with a straight twill arrangement of threading units (see Muller, p. 99)

* SUMMER AND WINTER. Not a conventional lace pattern but notice thread deflections at wide YARN SPACING. It is included here mainly to illustrate the truncation of file names (i.e., summer~1.wpo -- see note #1, above)

* PLAIN and TWILL. There is nothing lacy about these structures, but they will give you a feeling for what LACE-2011 does with non-lace weaves. TWILL will look most natural at close YARN SPACING. But try it at the widest YARN SPACING. Would it really look this way if woven loosely?

* WAFFLE. Certainly not a lace weave structure but it illustrates a case where threads are naturally deflected by the structure. In the general area of deflected threads, LACE-2011's algorithm sometimes works well and sometimes not!

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