

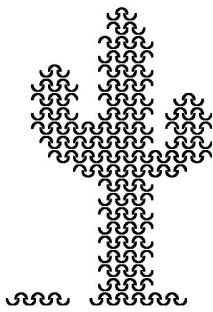
# CACTUS CABLERS

Summer, 2003

E-NEWSLETTER

Vol. 15, No. 3

## Letter from the President



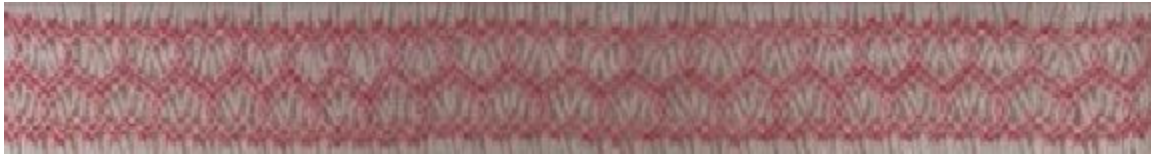
*I* have always loved the song "Time in a Bottle" by Jim Croce. Not just because it's romantic but it's a lot about life. Try as you may to even everything out, [appointments, errands etc] something always hits you from the blind-side and there goes the best laid plans of mice and men. It's something I'm sure everyone can relate to. So I try not to stress myself out and instead go for the casual approach. If I can't put time in a bottle then I'm going to try to slow it down, and leave some of the time for me. That works some of the time, but not always. Some days it just doesn't pay to get out of bed. Take going to the doctor----Now there's a real challenge. In my experience it's better to go to the doctor with a major problem than a small one because they'll find one anyway. While on vacation I had what I thought was a "small problem" with swelling in my left leg. After ruling out Blood clot they had me returning every two weeks for two months. It seems that I have high blood pressure I was put on medication. Bear in mind that I felt fine before started out with the first visit to the doctor. But I have to laugh because after the first capsule I was awful. The warning paper you get with your prescription said it would only last for 4 or 5 days so I thought I was safe to go on with the Sit & stitch/Wee-Care© workshop. Little did I realize that the warning paper was wrong. It lasted 8 days before it begins to slowly level off. Leaving me to believe --the cure is worse than the ailment. The Wee-care workshop went fine though, even with only 7 of us, we managed to get 19 gowns started and some completed. A couple of the newer members were able to learn a lot about their pleaters and different ways to pleat to save

steps. They now [I hope] feel more confident about starting projects on their own. Sit & Stitch was started in the beginning so that anyone of us who were having difficulty could bring their project to the group and get feedback on how to solve it. I call the Smocking meetings and the Sit & Stitch my CALGON BATH. If I can't put *Time in a Bottle* I'll reduce my stress by doing something for me. Than returning to the confusion of life won't feel so heavy on my shoulders.

## Terri

### In This Issue

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- **2004 Raffle Doll - "Vivian"**
- **Desert Rows 2004 Workshop**
- **Nominating Committee**
- **45 Wee Care Smocking Plates**
- **August Stitch of the Month**



## PROGRAMS

### August 20<sup>th</sup>

#### **“Each One Teach One”**

This month’s program has a twofold purpose. We have newer members who are in need of help with their smocking stitches and Terri needs finished Wee Care© gowns. Therefore, those of us who can smock are going to mentor those who need help while we all work on smocking a gown for Terri!

Gowns and smocking designs will be provided (the designs are in this newsletter). Please bring along floss, smocking needle and thread nips.

#### **Mini-lesson – Basic Stacked Cables - Linda Richards**

Bring a pleated sampler, needle and floss and thread nips.

### September 17<sup>th</sup>

#### **Lace Smocking - Terri Kilgore**

Terri will share one of her original designs that she did for the SAGA Lace Correspondence course and give a few tips on how to

create your own lace designs.

#### **Mini-lesson – Brazilian Braided Ribbon Napkin Ring – Jacki Spatafore**

Just in time to make plenty for holiday gifts and to dress up your holiday table!!

### October 19<sup>th</sup> - **Madeira Appliqué & Embroidery – Debi Rix**

This is a SAGA Chapter program featuring hand embroidery of a handkerchief using a Madeira motif in one corner with pin stitch technique to stitch colored fabric on white fabric and embellish another corner with embroidery such as stem stitch, lazy daisy, and granitos.

#### **Mini-lesson – Ladder Stitch (vertical smocking stitch) – Linda Richards**

This vertical smocking stitch is very effective and simple. It makes a gorgeous ornament, especially when beads are added!

### November 19<sup>th</sup>

#### **Plaid Smocking – Linda Richards**

Are you looking for smocking that has a more tailored look to it – something also suitable for boys or home décor? Plaid smocking is just the ticket. Learn how to create your own plaid and smock it!!

#### **Mini-lesson – Honeycomb Smocking – Linda Richards**

One of the oldest and most elastic smocking stitches, which can be used very effectively in adult wear.

### December 6<sup>th</sup>

#### **Holiday Luncheon**

Going out for our Holiday luncheon has been very popular. (I guess we all like to treat ourselves once in a while!) Where should we go for lunch this year? Give your suggestions to Jacki so that we can decide and make our reservation!



## Refreshments

**August** - Dorothy, Terri & Linda

**Sept.** – Gwenn Engle & Kathy Reuss

**October** – Mary Glenn & Pat Allen

**November** - Gail &???  
(Somebody volunteer, please!)

**December** - HOLIDAY LUNCHEON!!!!

## Sit & Stitch

(aka Stitch & Bitch!)

We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. unless otherwise announced. Bring along a project (**We are going to focus on Wee Care© gowns until Terri gets her stash back**) or problem to work on and a salad or dessert to share for lunch. The hostess provides beverages.

If you need directions to any of the homes for the next meetings, get in touch with the hostess.

Please call (or e-mail) the hostess if you are planning to attend – if you don't, you might not have a chair!

**September 2<sup>nd</sup>** - **Linda Richards**

**October 7<sup>th</sup>** -?

**November 4<sup>th</sup>** -?

**Volunteer hostesses needed!!**

## Community Service Projects etc.

**UMC & TMC - Wee Care© gowns in two sizes, hooded blankets & knitted caps**

**Terri** always needs a supply of gowns. We will be planning three workshops each year to help us meet our commitments. Please try to attend the workshops so that we are all participating in the program. If you can't make it to the workshops talk to **Terri** about making some gowns & bonnets on your own time. Also, if you are knitting the caps, check out our [website](#). I have added three new patterns for caps that were donated by **Denny Kelly**.

**Denny** lives in Australia and found our website. She is an avid supporter of the Wee Care© program and she wanted to share these patterns that she designed!

## Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind - "Joanie doll" and quilts

This project is starting to move along nicely thanks to our volunteer, **Pat Grabher**, who is now the chairperson. Quilt kits will be ready to go soon and we will have some of the dolls at the meeting ready for sewers!

## New Beginnings

Now is the time to decide if we will be donating to the same charity this holiday season. **Jacki** mentioned that maybe we would like to consider a group who doesn't get much outside help. If you know of a group who could use children's clothing, etc., talk to **Jacki** so that we can make a decision. Our donations are due at the November meeting – not too far away!!

## SAGA Raffle Basket

We decided at the July meeting that we would send a wardrobe and accessories for an 18" doll again this year for the SAGA convention.

Each member should make a garment or accessory or donate money toward items for the basket. Please bring your items no later than the September meeting and give them to **Linda Richards**.

A favorite pattern of ours is Debbie Glenn's, Dolly Yoke Dress. We've all made it and it can be done with scraps and it is so easy!! Let's put together a beautiful basket again this year. The basket will need to be mailed out very soon after that.

## 2004 Raffle Doll "Vivian"

Vivian will make her appearance at the September meeting. She is an 18" all porcelain doll whose body is just like the dolls we've sewn for the past couple of years. **Bea Wilson** (Linda Richards'

mom) made the donation again this year.

You can get a jump-start on this project now and start earning points toward your SAGA dues!! Any of the clothes patterns for the popular "American Girl" dolls will fit. Vivian is just a little more slender through the body. I'll have a measurement chart and raffle tickets next month with the doll.

## 2004 Workshop

### Desert Rows SAGA Chapter Phoenix, AZ

Keep Saturday, March 13, 2004 open for a workshop sponsored by Desert Rows in Phoenix. We have participated back and forth with these ladies for many years and always have a great time! You won't want to miss this workshop – we always have a great time!



## Nominating Committee

It's just about that time again!! **Terri** will be appointing a nominating committee for officers for 2004-2005. New officers start in January. If you would like to volunteer for the committee, see Terri. The committee will get together and accept nominations for officers and then contact members about serving. Officers serve for two years; it's time to shake things up again!

### The Tone of Voice

Author unknown

It's not so much what you say  
As the manner in which you say it;  
It's not so much the language you use  
As the tone in which you convey it.  
"Come here!" I sharply said,  
And the child cowered and wept.  
"Come here," I said-  
He looked and smiled  
And straight to my lap he crept.

Words may be mild and fair  
But the tone may pierce like a dart.  
Words may be soft as the summer air  
But the tone may break my heart.  
For words come from the mind  
Grow by study and art-  
But tone leaps from the inner self,  
Revealing the state of the heart.

Whether you know it or not,  
Whether you mean or care,  
Gentleness, kindness, love and hate,  
Envy, anger, are there.  
Then, would you quarrels avoid  
And peace and love rejoice?  
Keep anger not only out of your words-  
Keep it out of your voice.

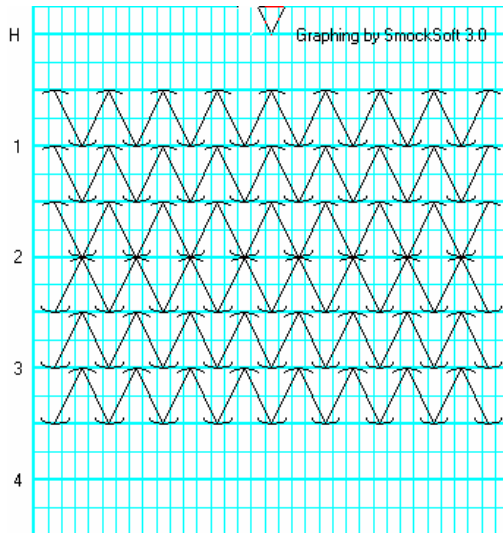


## Wee Care Smocking Plate Collection

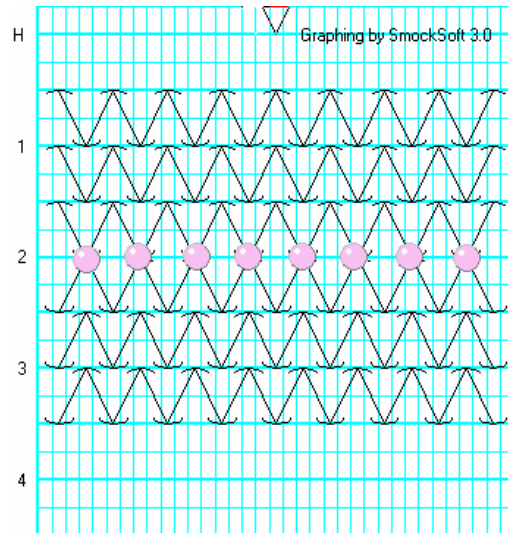
Cactus Cablers has participated in the Wee Care© program for almost 20 years. Over those many years we have collected quite a few smocking plates for the gowns. Many of these have been printed in past issues of our newsletter. I have had a number of requests to pull all of the designs together and print them in one issue as a reference. Since our gowns are no longer done with a bound neckline and we require all of our gowns to be smocked with a baby wave on the first row, I have re-graphed in SmockSoft all of the designs and made necessary changes to make the designs work for us. Because of these changes, I am only directly crediting designs that have had no changes made to them. I hope this will make your smocking a little easier when you next pick up a Wee Care© gown to smock!

Please **remember** that we pleat with ½ row spaces so translate the designs to ½-space smocking, i.e. **row ½ on graph equals pleating row 1** (we do not use a holding row for these designs). Always use a baby wave on the first row to accommodate narrow ribbon.

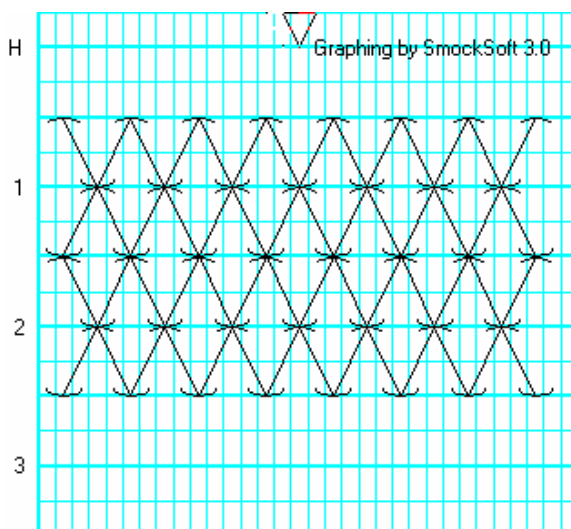
### Wee Care Design #1



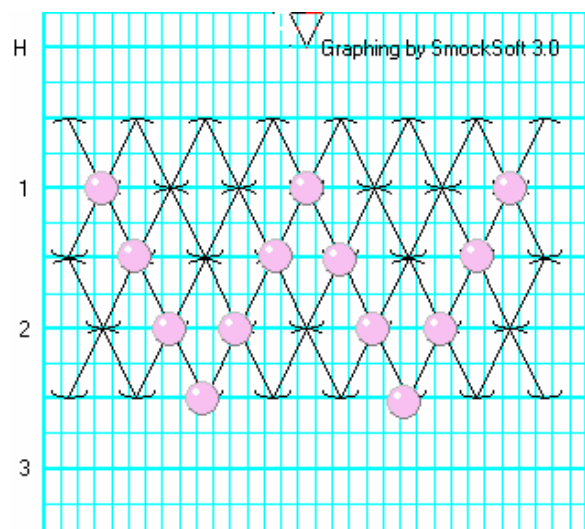
### Wee Care Design #1 with beads

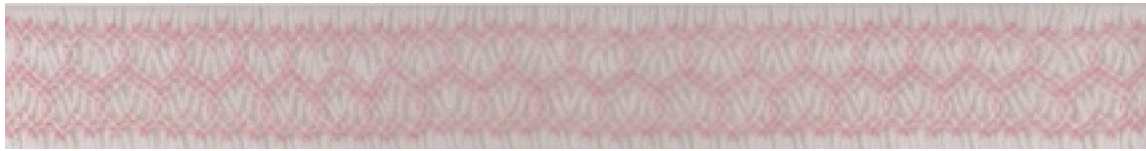


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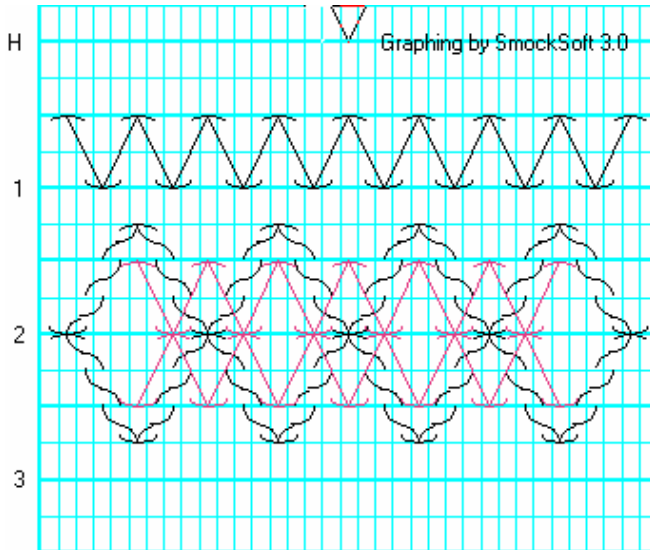


### Wee Care Design #2 with beads

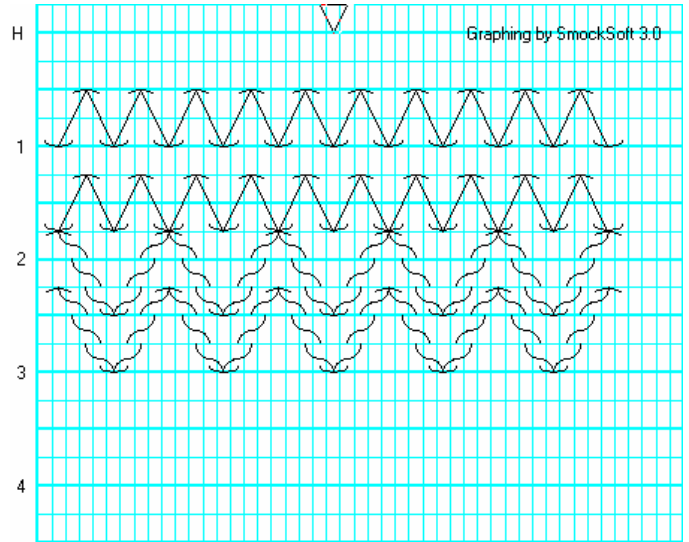




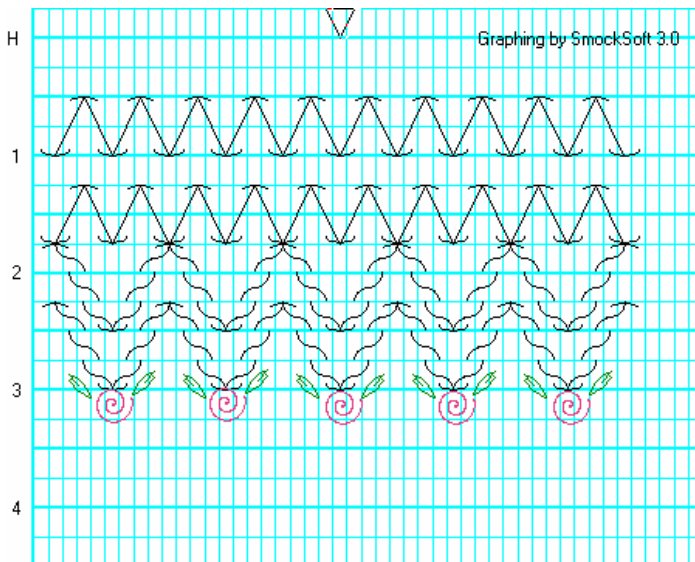
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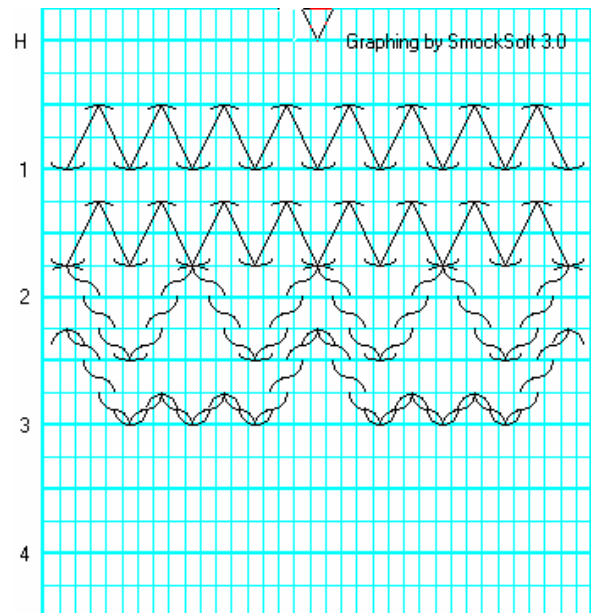
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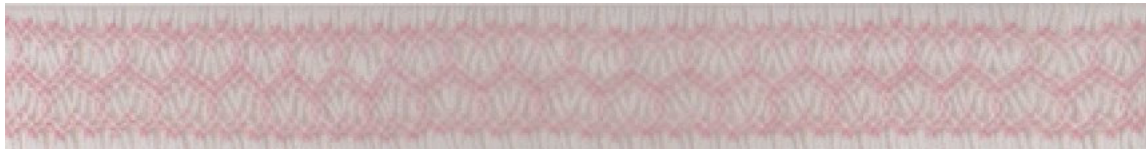


**Wee Care Design #4 with roses**

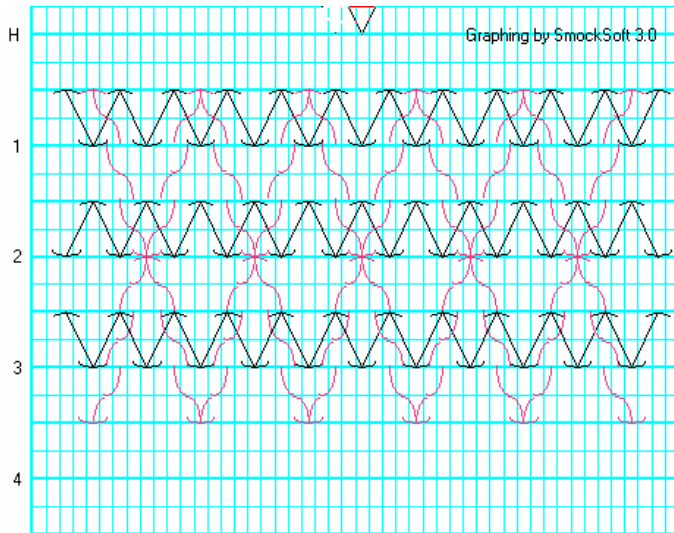


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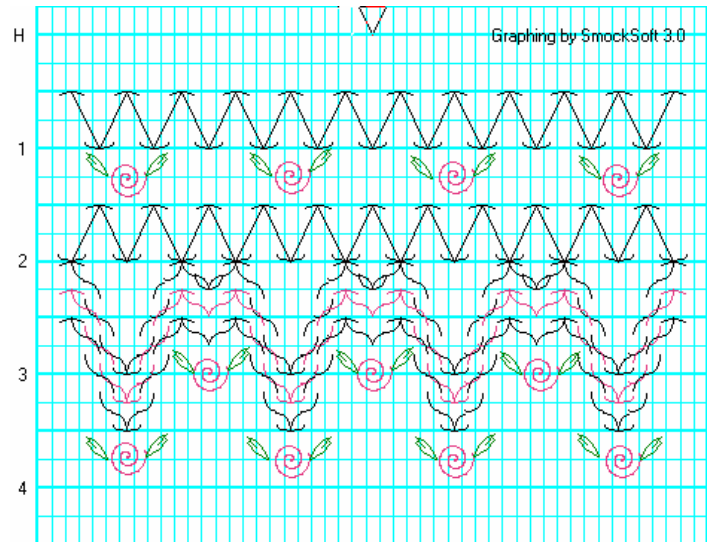




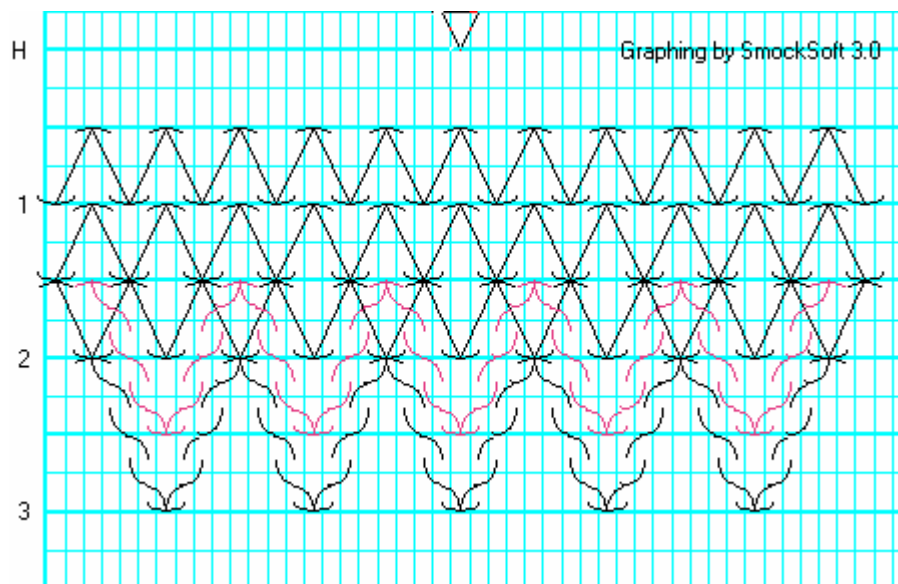
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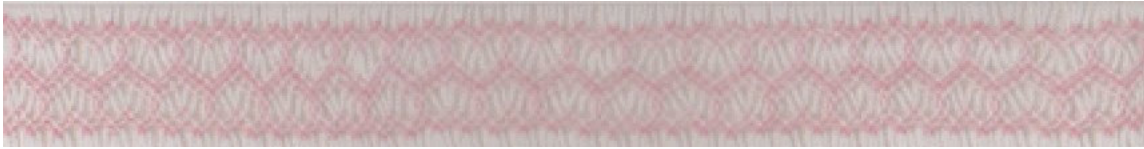


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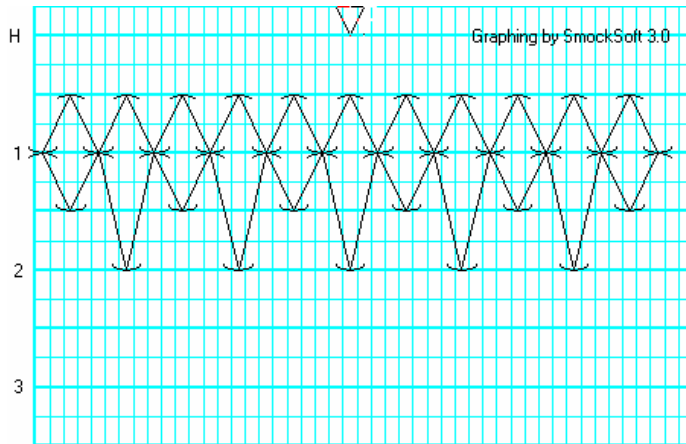


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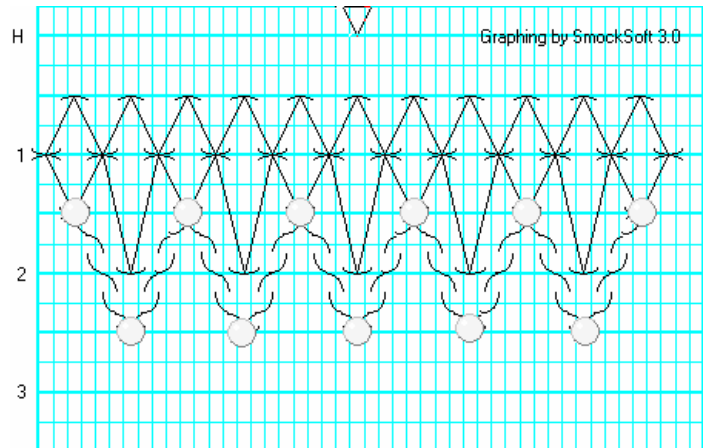




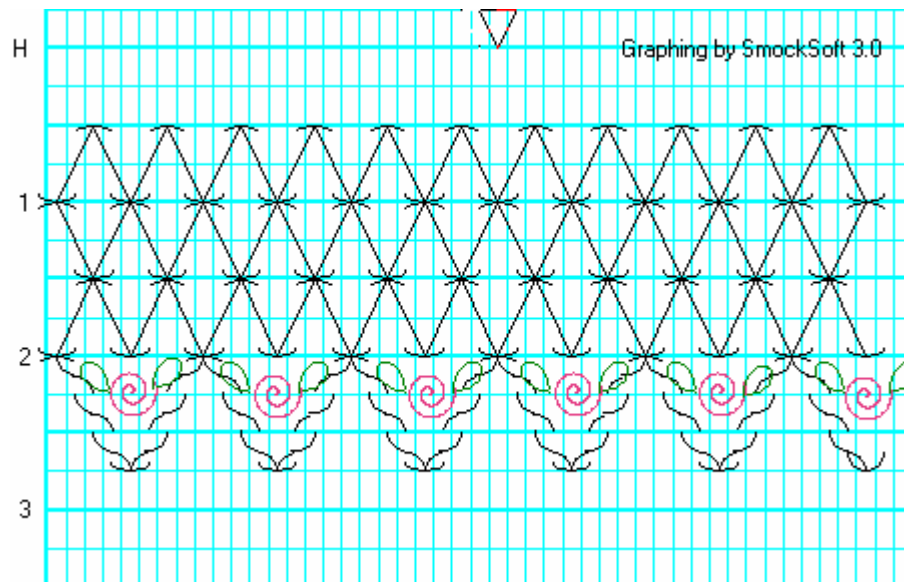
**Wee Care Design #9**



**Wee Care Design #9 with beads**

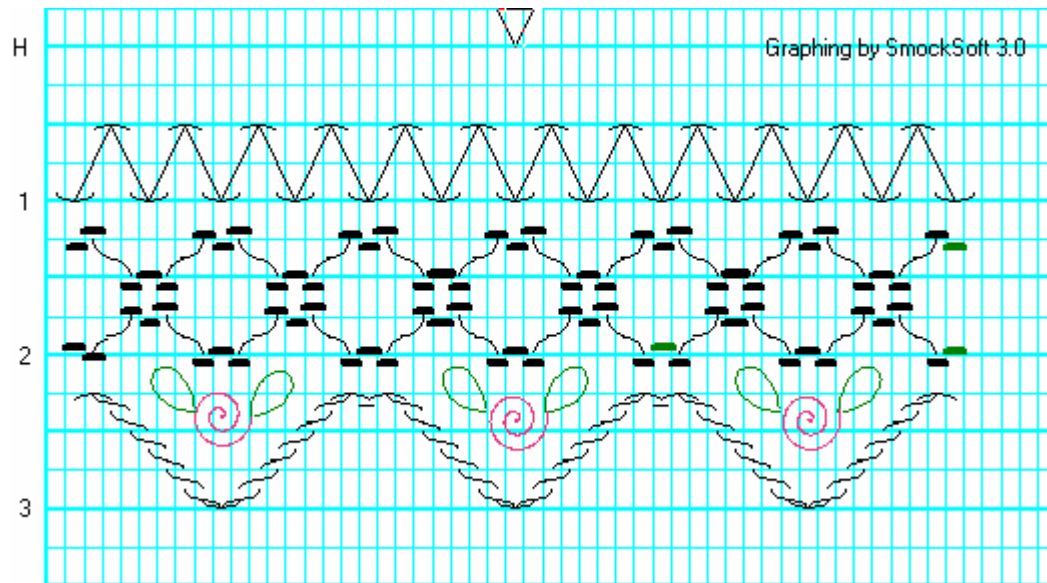


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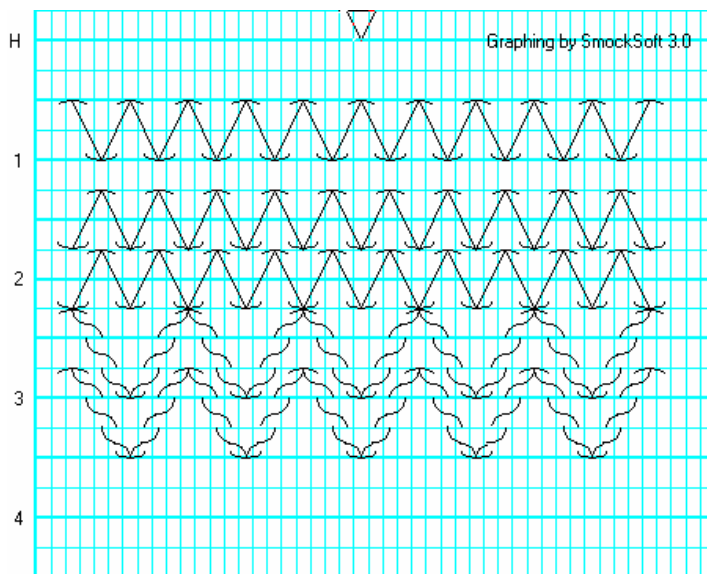




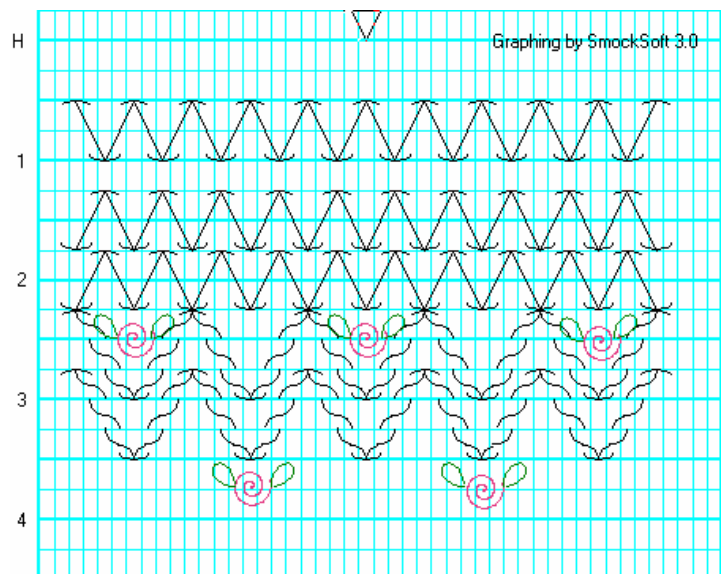
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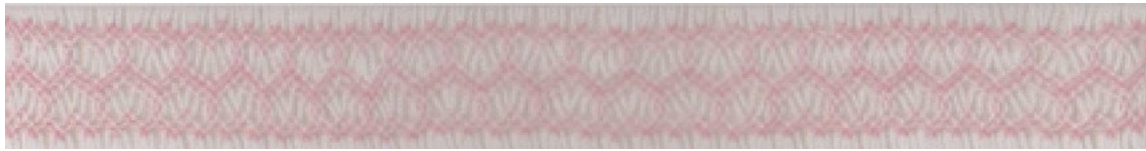


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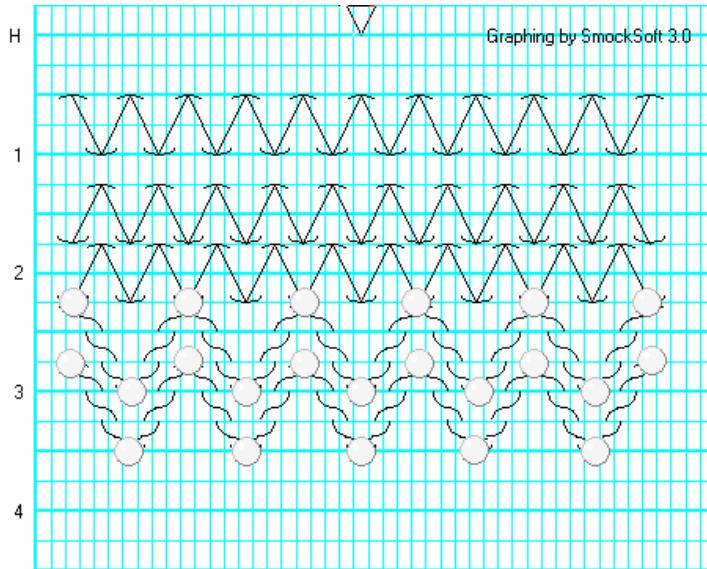


**Wee Care Design #12 with flowers**

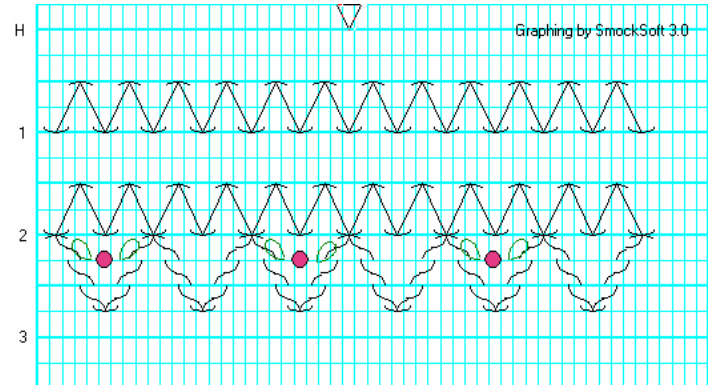




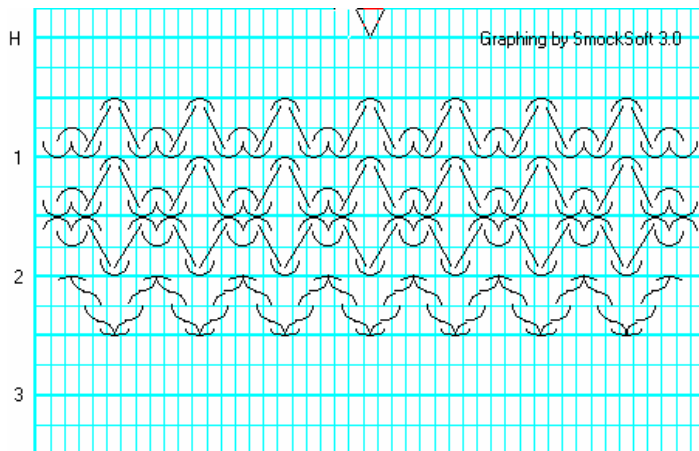
**Wee Care Design #12 with beads**



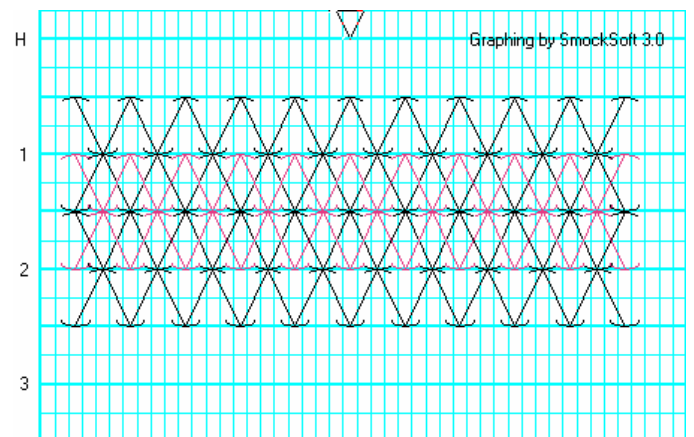
**Wee Care Design #13**



**Wee Care Design #14**

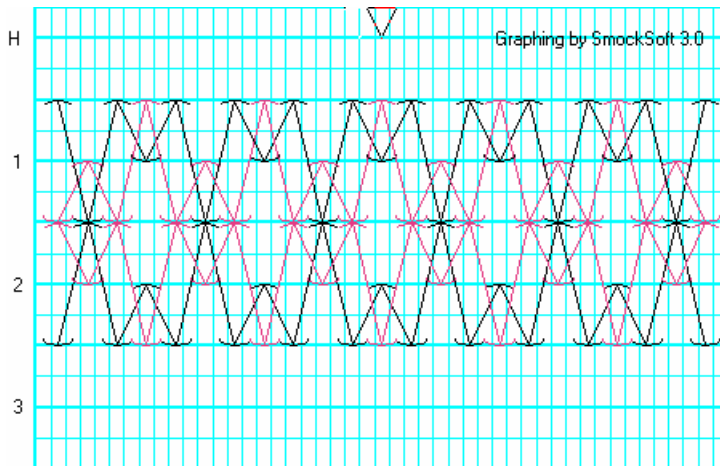


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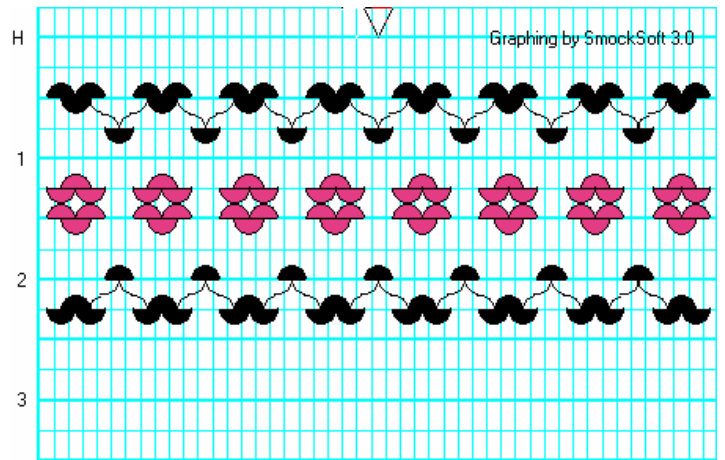




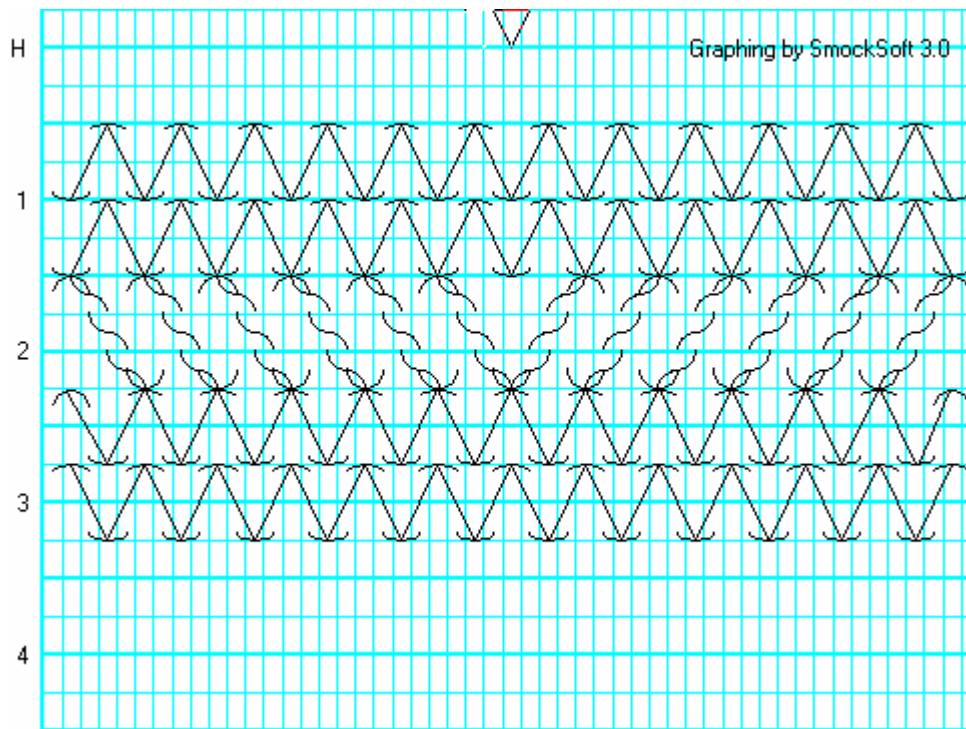
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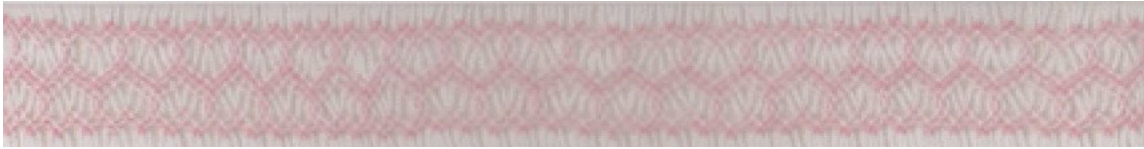


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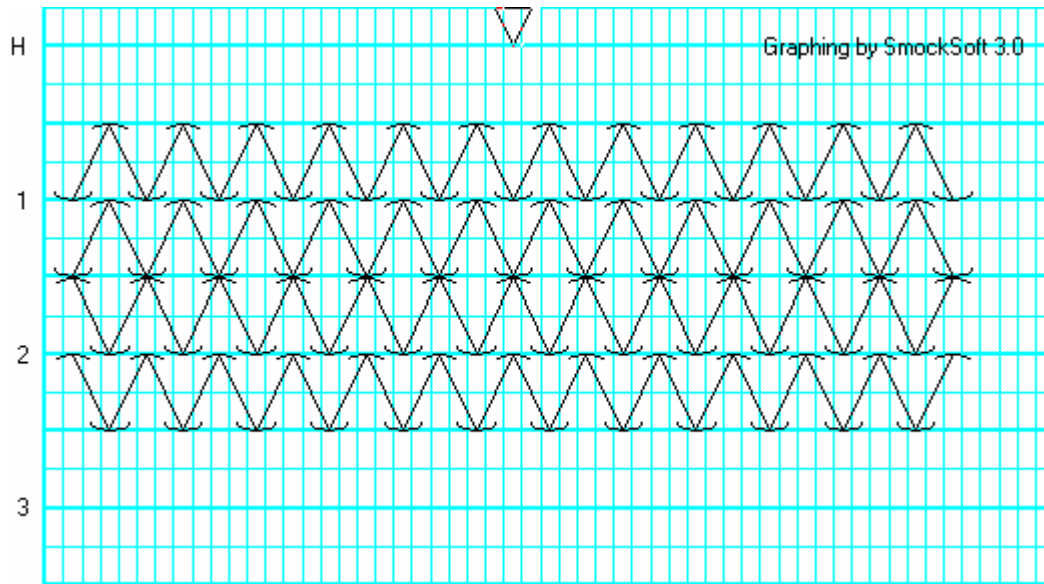


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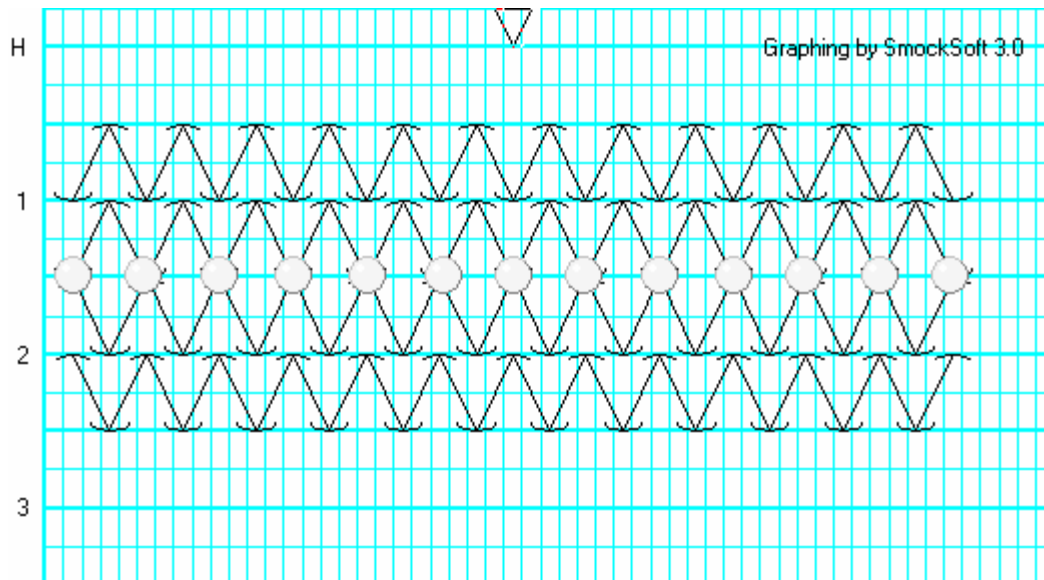


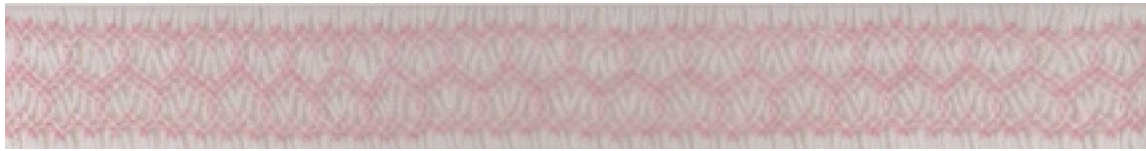


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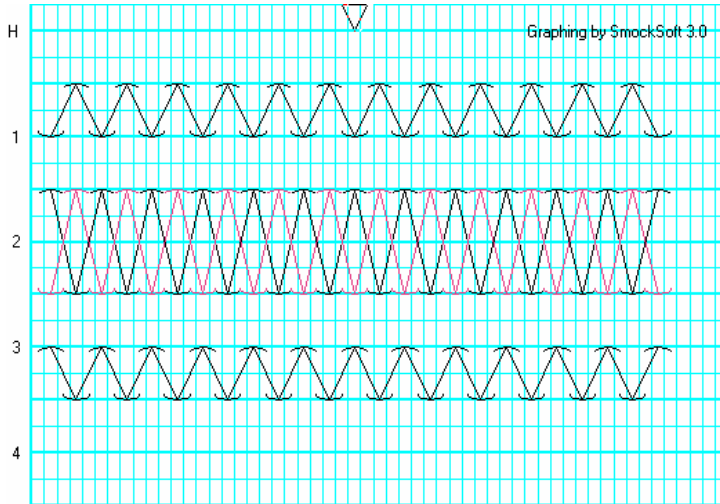


### Wee Care Design #19 with beads

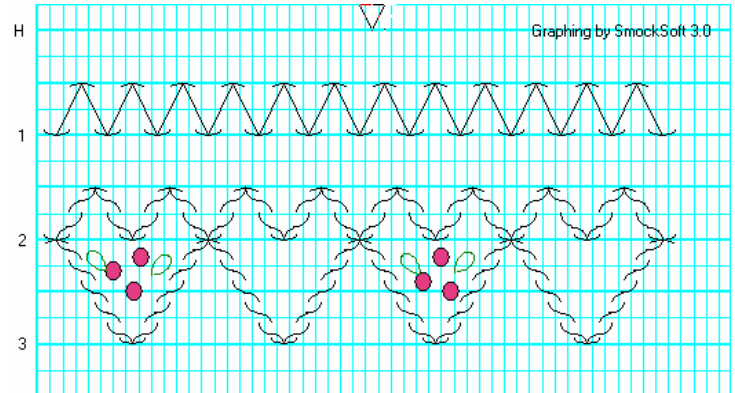




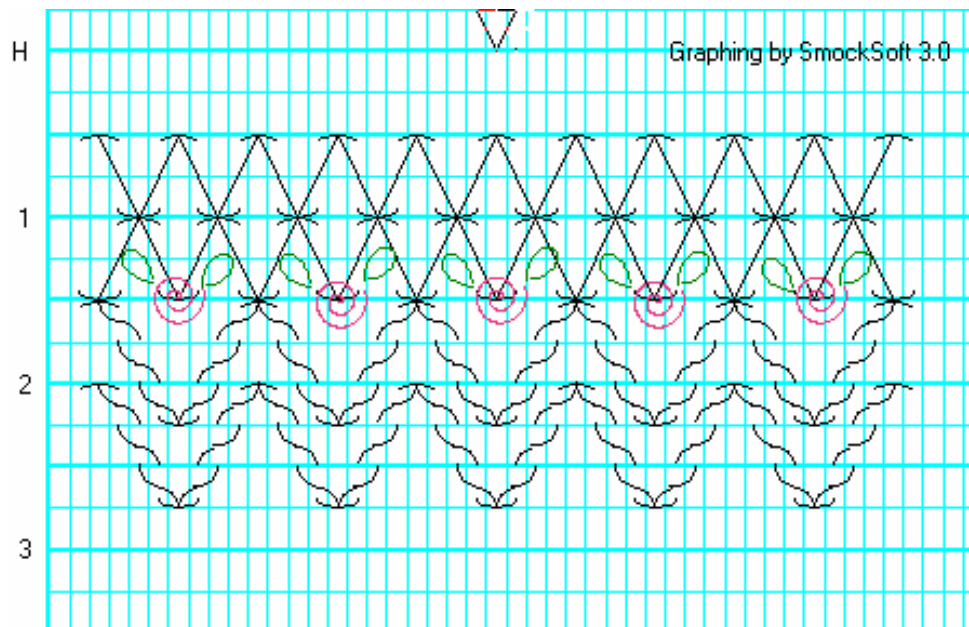
**Wee Care Design #20**



**Wee Care Design #21**

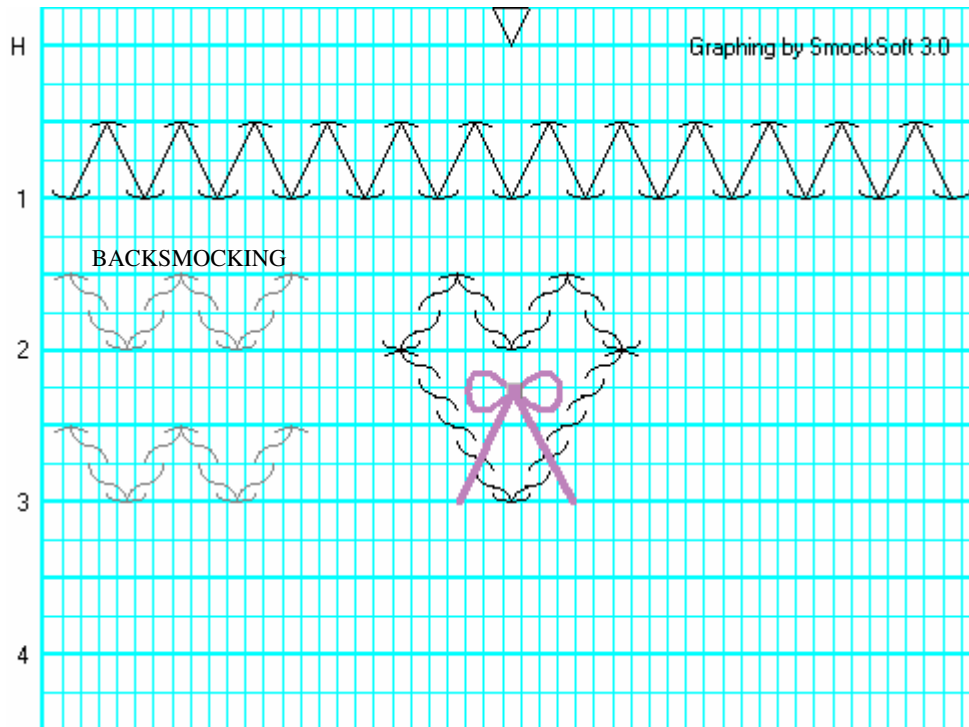


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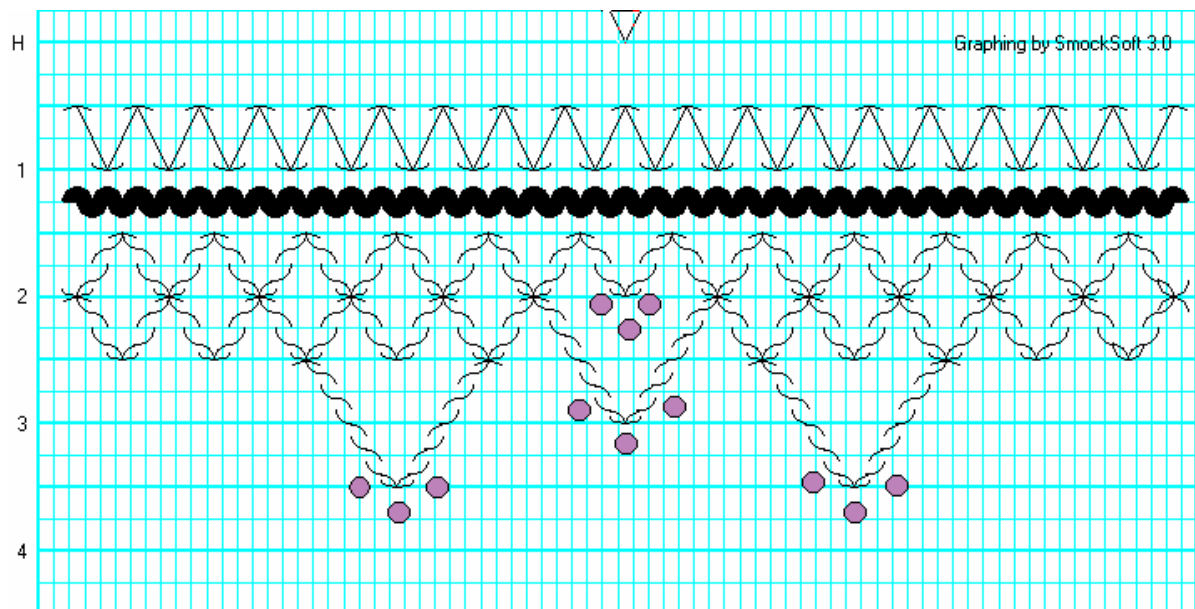




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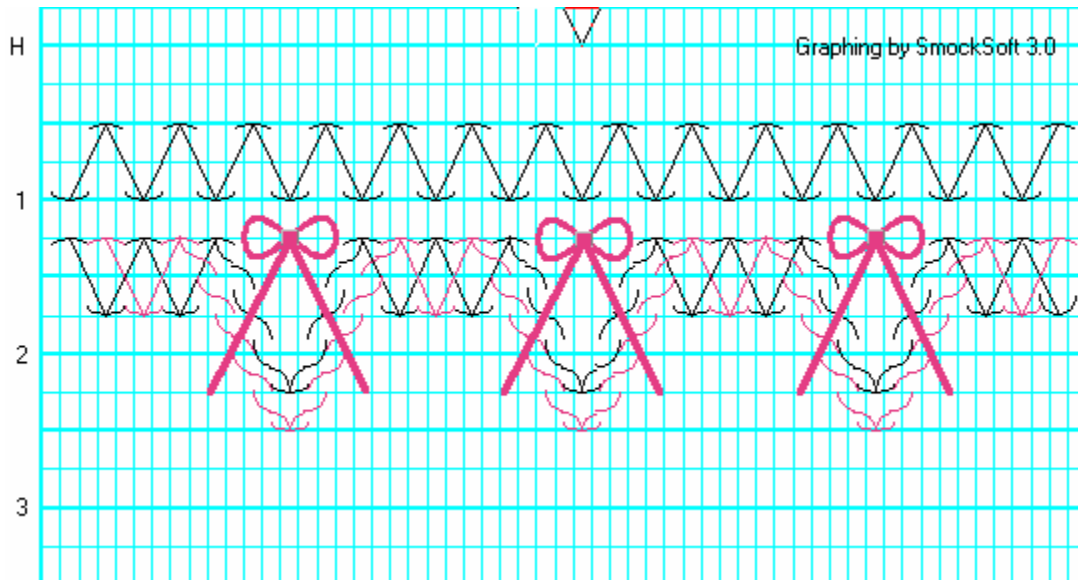


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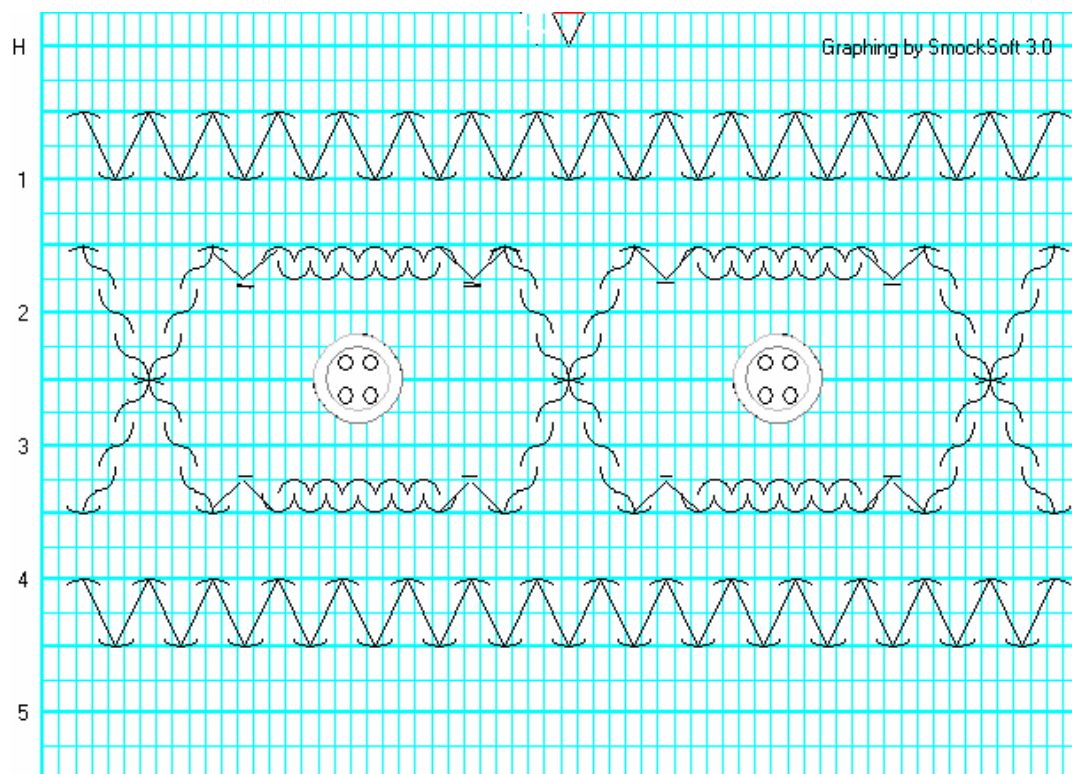




**Wee Care Design #25**

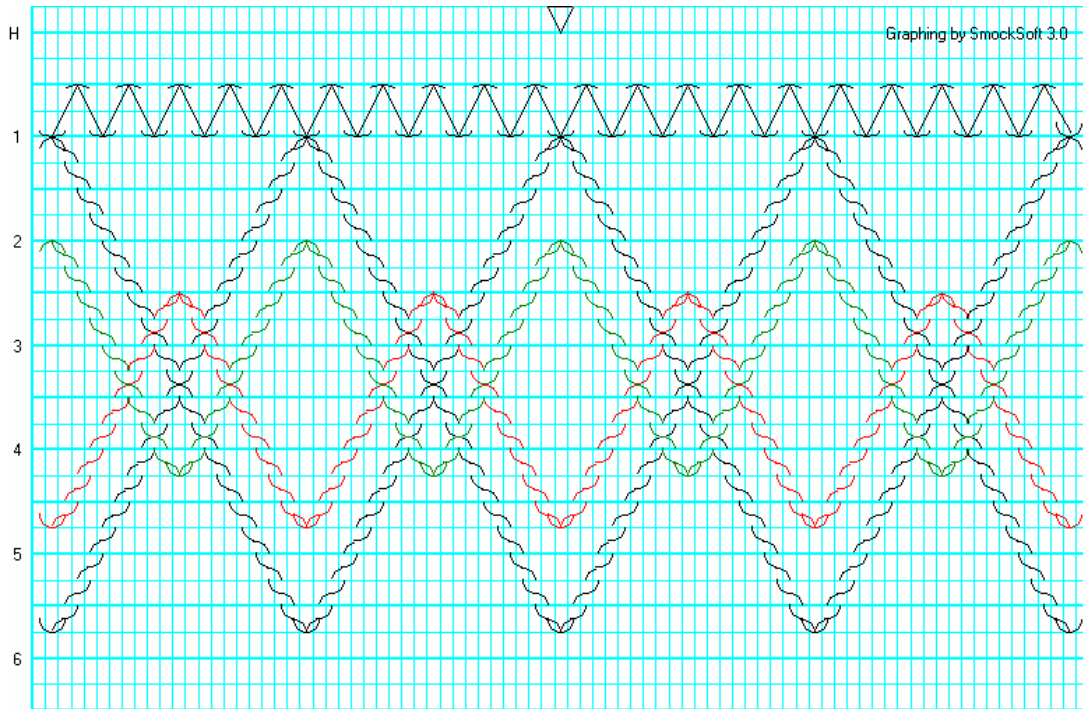


**Wee Care Design #26...Memories by Leslie Brooks**

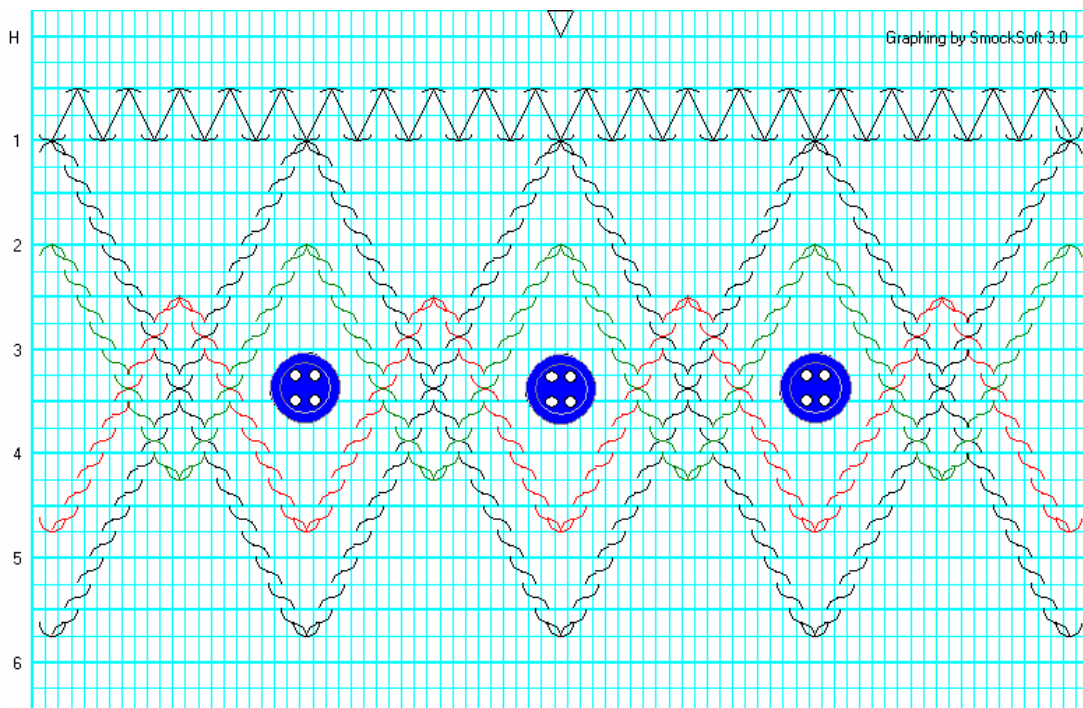




**Wee Care Design #27...Plaid by Linda Richards**

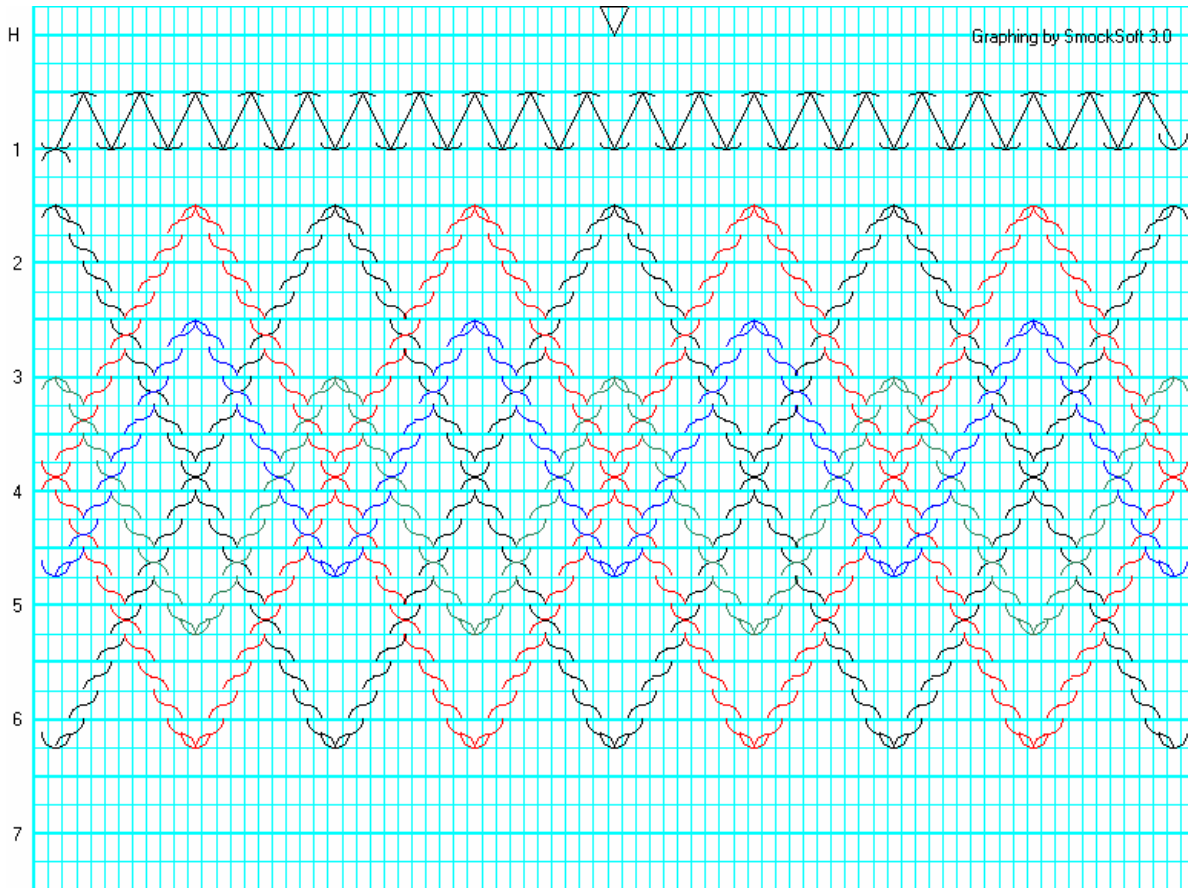


**Wee Care Design #27... Plaid with buttons by Linda Richards**

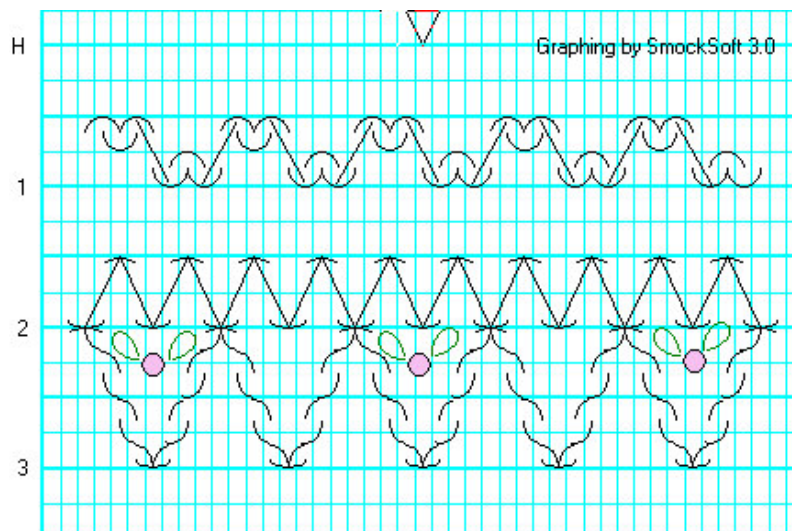




**Wee Care Design #28...Baby Argyle; Southbay Needleplayers, Nov/Dec '95**

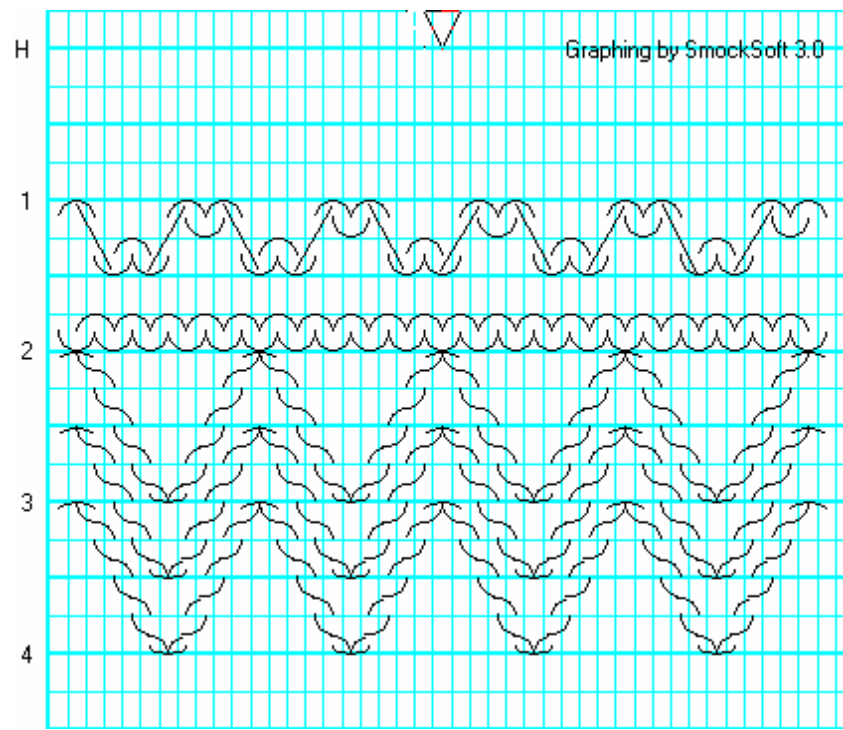


**Wee Care Design #29**

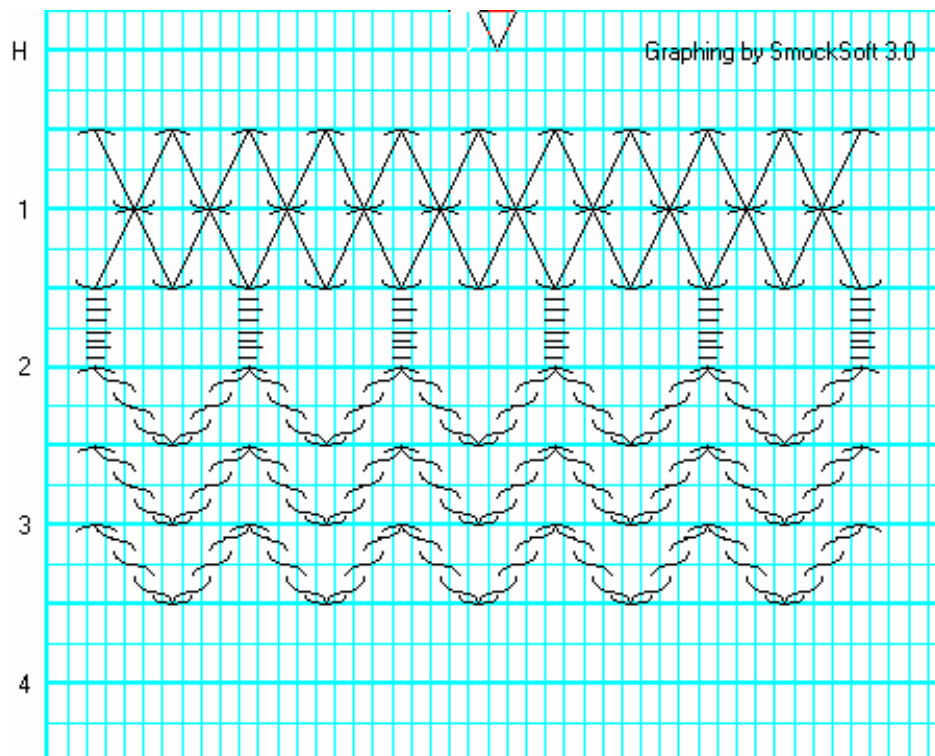




**Wee Care Design #30...J. Mullen**

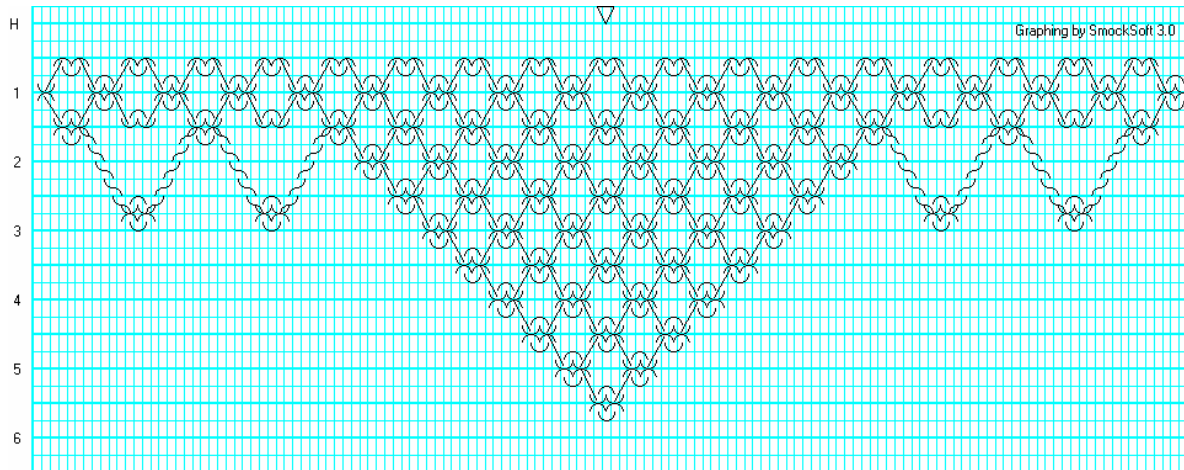


**Wee Care Design #31...Hearts of Lace by Loretta Paxton**

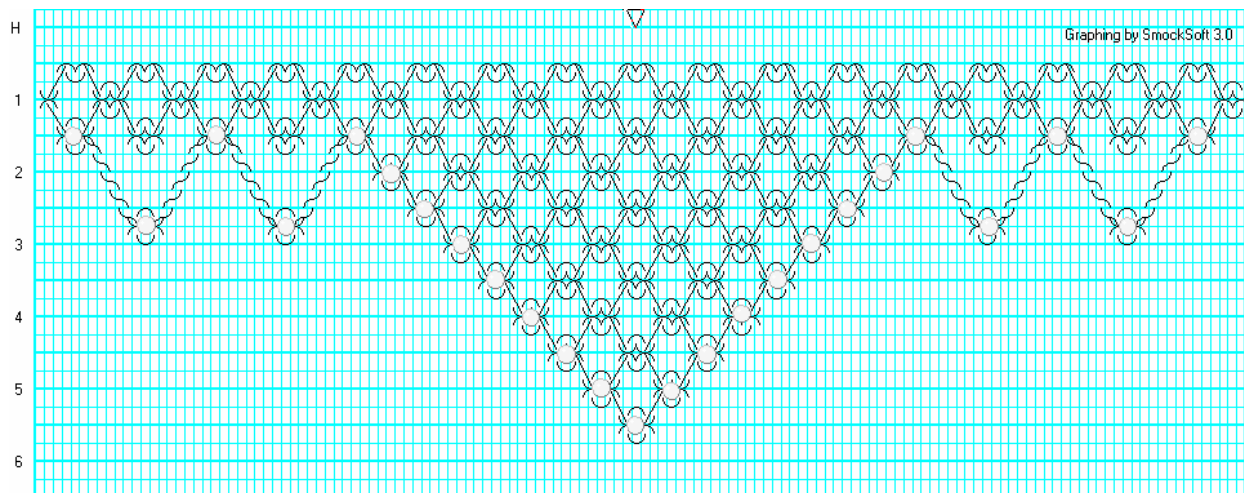




**Wee Care Design #32...Tiffany by Linda Richards**

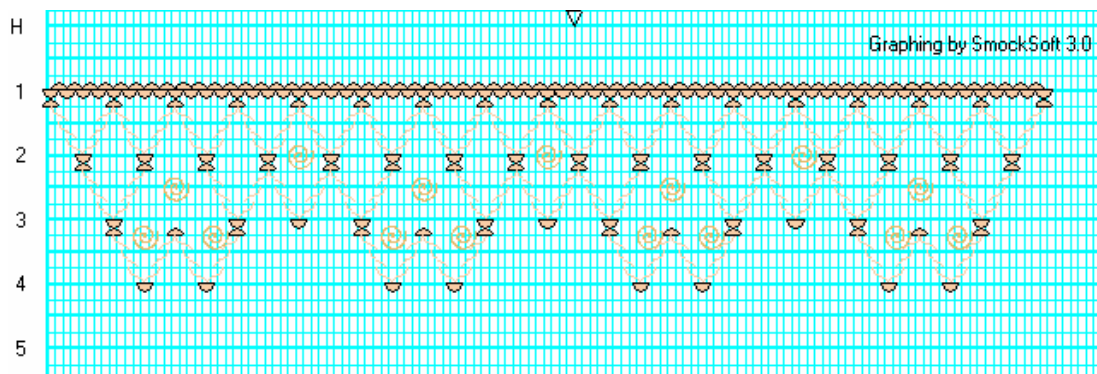


**Wee Care Design #32...Tiffany with beads by Linda Richards**



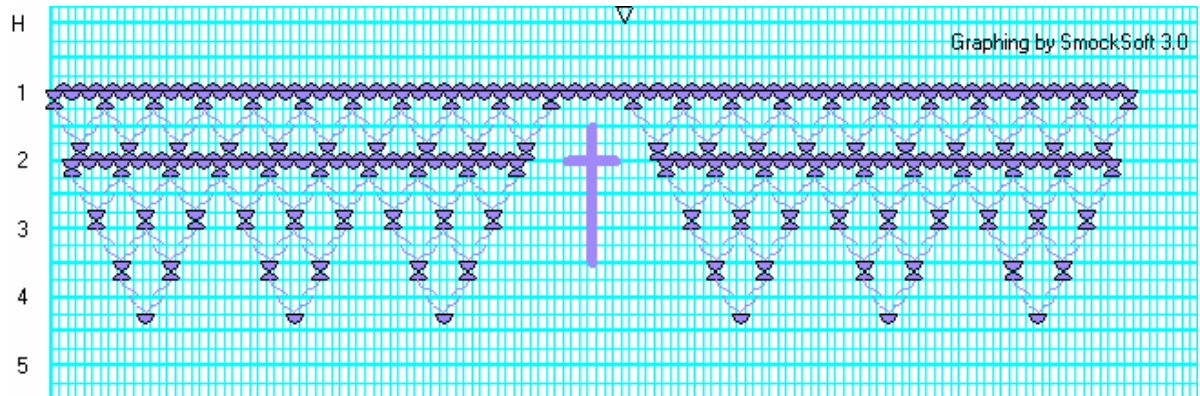
**REMEMBER** – We must add a baby wave row first on the next four designs!!!

**Wee Care Design #33...Charity by Gillian Hanley**

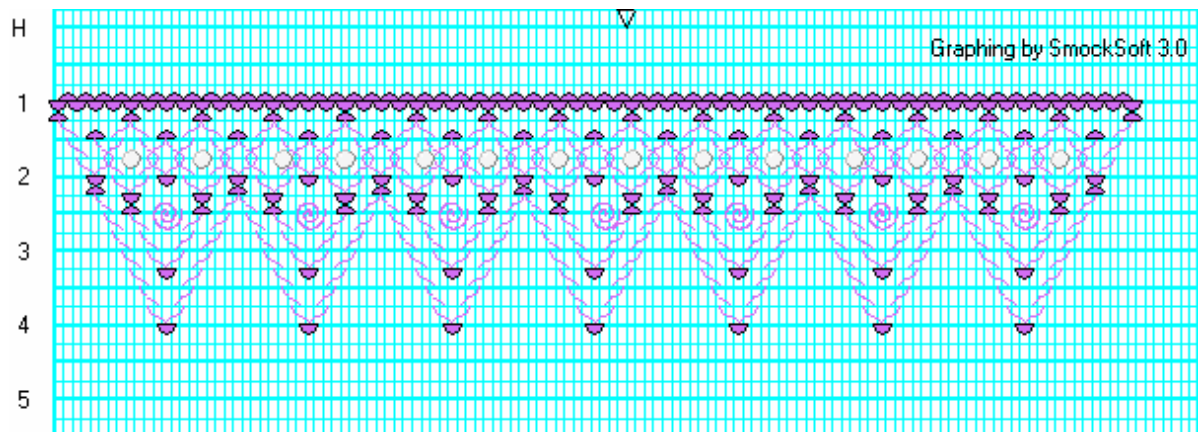




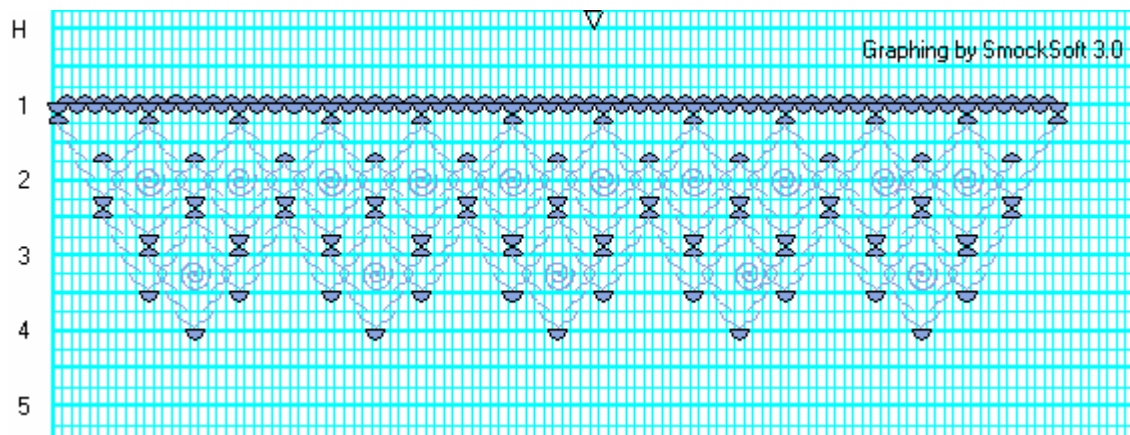
**Wee Care Design #34...Faith by Gillian Hanley**



**Wee Care Design #35...Hope by Gillian Hanley**



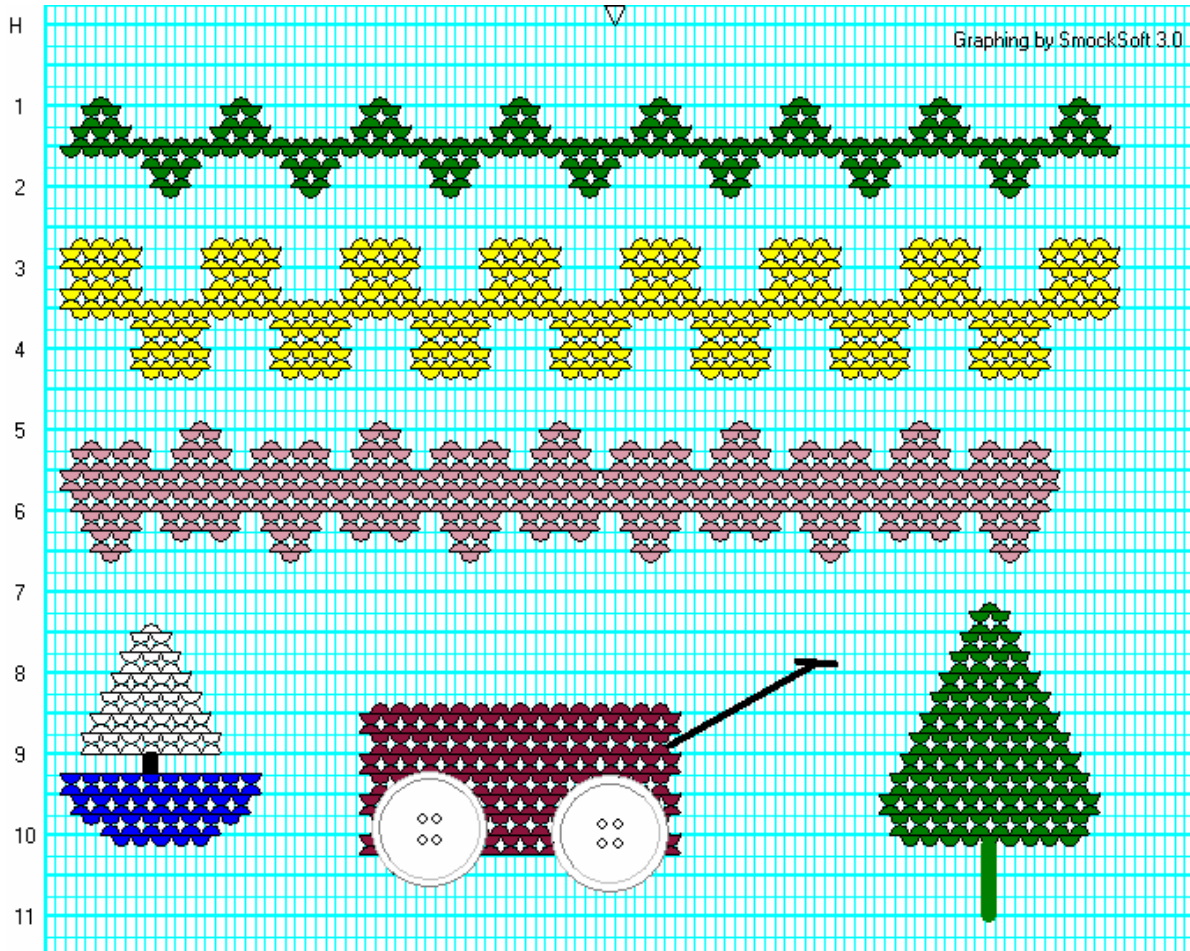
**Wee Care Design #36... Love by Gillian Hanley**





## August Stitch of the Month

### Basic Stacked Cables



This month's stitch is a simple practice exercise in stacking cables. We have so many members who are new to smocking that our focus is on helping them improve their smocking skills.

Bring a sampler pleated with 12 rows (broadcloth works well), a variety of floss colors and a needle. A size **7 long darning** works well for stacking cables. The larger eye makes a hole in the fabric that allows the floss to pull through with less resistance and twisting.



Ουτσιδε της Βοξ...εξχερπτ φρομ Παλμεττο Πλεατερσ Νεωσλεττερ, Γρεενωι  
λλε, ΣΧ Αυγουστ, 2003



**Jeanie Jenkins** works outside the box both professionally (a civil engineer on leave as a stay-at-home mother) and in her creative needlework. Each month our chapter members are eager to see what Jeanie has done this time!

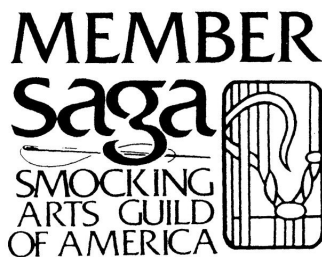
For example, when you look at dishtowels do you think "jumper?" Jeanie did. In fact, she has made a dishtowel jumper for just about every season and holiday that comes around. She bases the jumper of Martha Pullen's jumper pattern with a dishtowel for the front and another for the back. She lines the towel jumper with broadcloth or something similar. Each jumper is finished a little differently, but the basic concept remains the same.

### Cactus Cablers' Smocking Guild

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