

HOW TO TAT:

WINDING SHUTTLES:

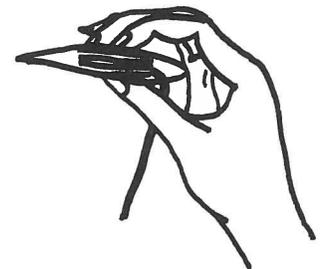
Wind thread around bobbin. The bobbin is in the center of the shuttle. Don't wind thread any farther than the edge of the shuttle. If there is a hole in the bobbin, put the thread through the hole and tie a knot. Sometimes bobbins can be removed from the shuttle.

TATTING THREADS:

For finer tatting use a finer thread; such as Tatting Crochet size 70 or size 50. For heavier tatting use a coarser thread; such as "Knit-Cro-sheen" or Pearl Cotton.

PREPARING TO TAT:

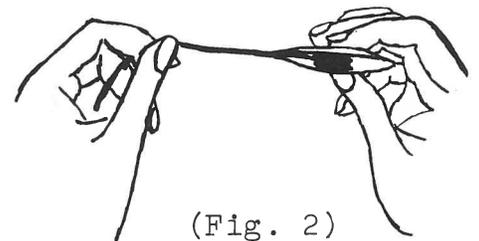
1. Unwind shuttle until shuttle thread is about 13 inches long. (Fig. 1)



(Fig. 1)

2. Hold shuttle in right hand between thumb and index finger, with the shuttle point facing the left hand. (Fig. 1)

3. Between thumb and index finger of left hand, hold the free end of the thread. (Fig. 2)



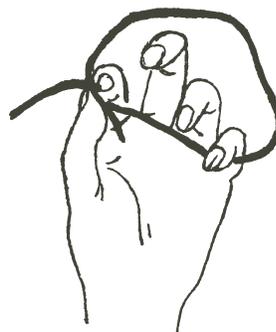
(Fig. 2)

4. Spread apart middle, ring and little finger. Encircle them with the thread. (Fig. 3)



(Fig. 3)

5. Hold both threads between thumb and index finger. (Fig. 4)



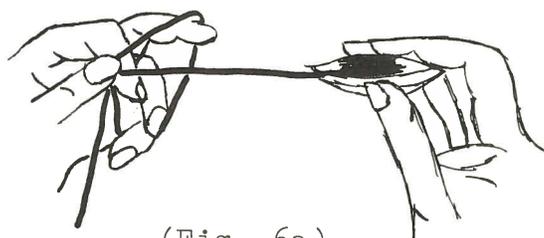
(Fig. 4)

6. Bend finger to keep thread from slipping off of hand. (Fig. 4)



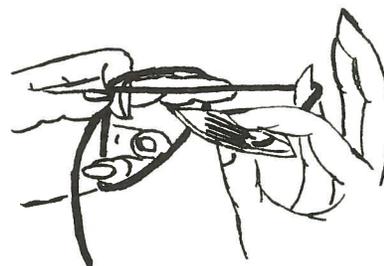
(Fig. 5)

7. Bend middle finger back to tighten loose part of circle. (Fig. 5)



(Fig. 6a)

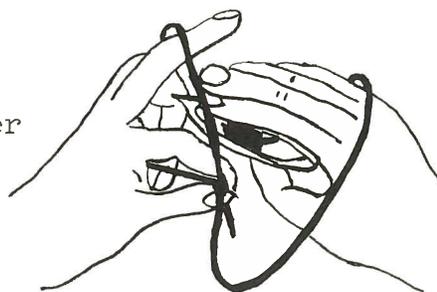
8. Bring shuttle thread across palm and around little finger of right hand. (Fig. 6)



(Fig. 6b)

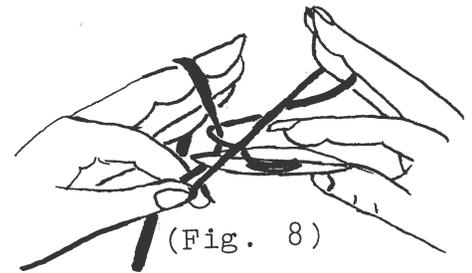
TO MAKE DOUBLE STITCH:

9. To begin double stitch, advance shuttle toward left hand. Bring the shuttle under top thread of left hand. (Fig. 7)

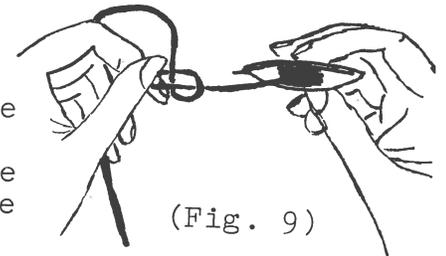


(Fig. 7)

10. Reverse shuttle and go back over top thread, and under thread of right hand. (Fig. 8)



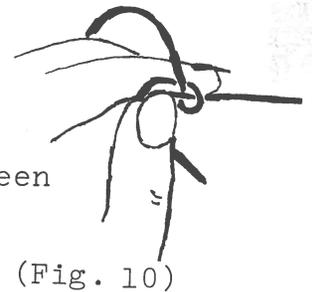
11. On the right hand, drop thread from little finger. Giving a sharp jerk with right hand, tighten shuttle thread. At the same time drop middle finger of left hand. The shuttle thread, now tight, should be running through the center of the loop. (Fig. 9)



Note: All the stitches should always be made onto the shuttle thread - not with the shuttle thread. This enables the stitches to slide on the shuttle thread.

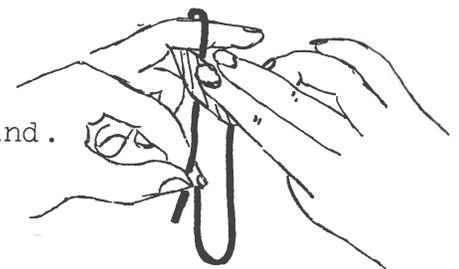
Warning: If the stitches do not slide on the shuttle thread, you have a knot which you must pick out with a pin or the point of the shuttle.

The first half of the double stitch has now been completed. (Fig. 10)

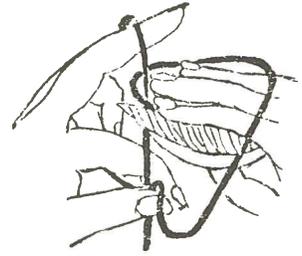


12. To start the second half of the double stitch, repeat steps 5 - 8. Then continue with steps 13, 14 and 15.

13. Bring shuttle over top thread of left hand. (Fig. 11)

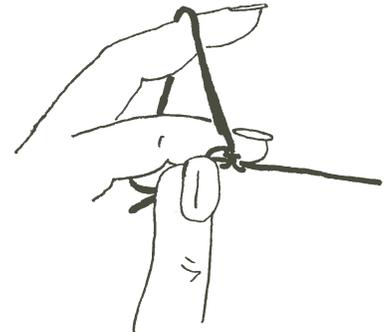


14. Reverse shuttle and go under top thread and over thread of right hand. (Fig. 12)



(Fig. 12)

15. Repeat step 11.
One double stitch has been completed.
(Fig. 13). Continue with step 16.

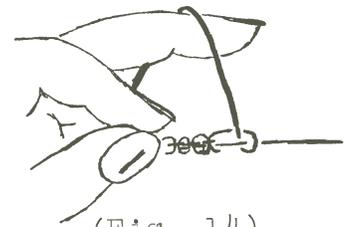


(Fig. 13)

Note: Double stitch must slide easily back and forth on shuttle string.

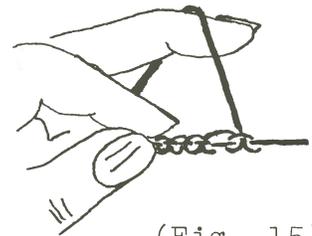
TO MAKE PICOTS AND RINGS:

16. Continue until three double stitches are completed. (Fig. 14)



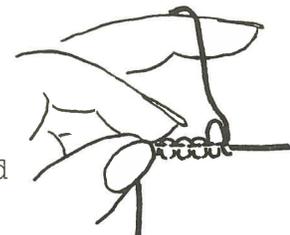
(Fig. 14)

17. Leave a space of about 1/4 inch and make a fourth double stitch. (Fig. 14 & 15)



(Fig. 15)

18. Slide the fourth double stitch next to third double stitch. (Fig. 16)
The first picot has been completed.



(Fig. 16)

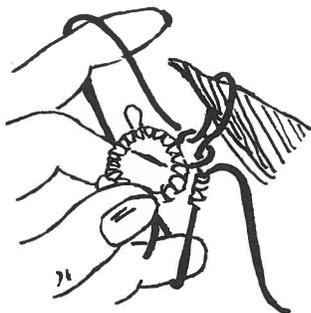
19. Make two more double stitches.
20. Construct another picot as explained in steps 17 and 18. Continue with step 21.
21. Make two more double stitches and another picot.
22. Make two more stitches.
23. Hold tatting stitches between thumb and middle finger of left hand. Pull shuttle thread tight so that first and last double stitches join. The ring is now finished. (Fig. 17)



(Fig. 17)

TO JOIN RINGS:

24. Leave a small space. Repeat steps 1-16. Continue with step 25.
25. Insert shuttle point through last picot of previous ring. Catch the thread encircling left hand. (Fig. 18)



(Fig. 18)

26. Pull thread through the picot until the loop is big enough to pull the shuttle through.
27. Pull the shuttle through the loop and tighten shuttle thread.
28. Raise middle finger of left hand slowly and draw up circle thread.
29. Finish double stitch.
30. Make two more double stitches and a picot. Repeat two more times.
31. Close ring.
32. Repeat entire procedure.

TO JOIN THREADS:

When a new thread is needed, make a square knot near the base of the last chain or ring.
 Caution: Do not cut the ends of the string, the knot may loosen. Cut off loose ends when you are finished.

TO STARCH:

Mrs. Beulah Combs starches her tatted peices in the following way:

1. Make a stiff starch mixture. (Mrs. Combs uses the starch that needs to be cooked.) After the starch comes to a boil, it is ready to use.
2. Wet tatting completely in the starch. Spread out picots of tatted peice and pin them down. (Mrs. Combs uses a plastic covered cushion that pins can be be stuck in.)
3. After the tatting is pinned down, take a cloth and sponge up excess starch. (Mrs. Combs refrigerates the starch she doesn't use.)
4. Let dry and unpin tatting. Tatted peices can be washed in the washing machine. To wash small peices, pin them together. Occasionally, tatted peices will have to be re-starched.

*Mrs. Beulah Combs starches some of her larger tatted pieces and her snowflakes. She doesn't, however, starch her edgings and some of her smaller items.

HAPPY TATTING!