

# An Element-al Approach to Tatting Design

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Note from Eliz: If you think about it, tatting is made up of ring shapes (usually a ring), curves (usually chains), and straight lines (traditionally the bare thread). So with those basic elements in mind, what can we substitute or modify to get a new look? This document is divided into 3 sections: General Tips & Techniques, Substitutions, and Simple to Complex Changes in Appearance. As you discover new techniques or methods, write them into your own copy of this list. Above all, let your imagination guide you and have some fun exploring the possibilities.

## SECTION 1: GENERAL TIPS & TECHNIQUES

### 3 Dimensional

- Baubles
  - Demmer technique
- Cluny
- Double Cluny
- Covering a bed (Caruso)
- Creating a tatted setting for a gem or stone (as in Ice Drops)
- Helix Tatting
- Hyperbolic tatting (Patty Dowden)
- Layered Rings
- Snow Drops (encasing a jewel or stone)
- Tatted Beaded Rope

### Creating & Notating Your Pattern

- Designing Leaves
- Designing with visual page of 4-ring blocks
- Direction of Progression (TWOt series by muskaan - an exploration of how and why tatting changes direction)
- This 'n' Tat review of different methods to 'write' your pattern**
- Reading & Writing Patterns by Georgia Seitz**

### Filet Tatting

- Using picots and picot effects ([manda-tory.blogspot.com](http://manda-tory.blogspot.com))
- Using rings (Mary Konior)

### Free Form

- Coiled Chains (Patty Dowden)
- Encapsulation

### Housekeeping

- Adding in a new shuttle or ball without a knot
- Adding a new thread with a Weaver's Knot
- Balanced Double Stitch for large rings and chains
- Cleaning
- Closing a Ring (various methods to end and close a ring)

Direction of Progression (TWoT series by muskaan - an exploration of how and why tatting changes direction)

Front Side / Back Side

Jan Stawalz method

Onion Ring from the Back Side

Split Chain (from back side)

Hiding Ends [Tat over, Using filament & thread loops (Magic Thread Trick), sewing]

Hiding Ends in Ring Only Tatting (Single Shuttle work)

Hiding Ends in Single Shuttle Split Ring (SSSR)

Hiding Ends in SSSR when SSSR is an attached ring

Hiding Ends in Split Cluny

Hiding Ends in Split Rings

Hiding Ends when finishing on a Chain

### **Joins**

Alligator

Blipless

Catherine Wheel

Consecutive vs Simultaneous

Continuous Thread

Double Continuous Thread

JSS or Join to the Smooth Side (by Ann Dyer)

Lark's Head Picot

Lock Stitch (1st half flipped vs 2nd half flipped)

Outer Thread (Teiko Fujito)

Over the Top

Pulled Loop Join

Reverse Join

Sliding Join

Slope and Roll Join

Split Ring

Swirl Join

Tied Double Stitch Join

Up vs Down Joins

Vapor (See Vapor Picot)

### **Loading Beads on Thread**

#### **Move continuously to next round or element**

Block Tatting

Cluny

Continuous Thread Join

Josephine Knot Split Ring

Mock Split Ring (using chain and split chain)

Reverse Ring aka Split Quadruple Direction Ring

Single Shuttle Split Ring with double core

Single Shuttle Split Ring

Split Chain

Split Chain in Half-closed Ring

Split Cluny

Split Ring

ZigZag Split Chain

### **Picot Gauges**

#### **Starting**

Starting with a Chain (for joining later to start)  
Starting with a Dead End Chain  
Starting Rings, Chains, Split Rings, SCRMS without tying knots  
Weaver's Knot

### **Storage**

#### **Thread**

Using blending filament  
Using embroidery floss  
Using fishing line  
Using metallic thread  
Using multiple strands

**Thread Estimation** (estimate amount to load on shuttle to avoid leftovers)

### **Needle Tatting Techniques**

Adding in new thread  
Bicolor Work  
Floating Josephine Knot Chain  
Interlocking Chains Ring  
Interlocking Chains Ring with Floating Rings  
Ring vs Mock Ring  
Treble Tatting

### **Single Shuttle Techniques**

Chain  
Floating Chain  
Loop Made Chain  
Mignonette  
Rings on Ring  
Split Chain  
Split Ring  
Split Ring with Double Core (color control)

## **SECTION 2: SUBSTITUTIONS**

**Move in a Straight Line** (See comparison of some chain options at <http://tipsaroundthehome.blogspot.com/2016/03/lining-up-chains.html>)

Balanced Double Stitch Chains  
Block Tatting  
Braids  
    Block tatted  
    Candy Cane Plait  
    Chain Link  
    False Plait with Beads  
    Four shuttle  
    Half-Closed Rings  
    Interlaced Split Rings  
        Over and Under  
        Under and Over  
    Mac-Tat Braid  
    Purl Chain

### Woven Split Rings

- Cluny
- Cotter Pin Links
- Double Double Stitch Chains
- Double Sided SCMR
- Hairpin Lace or Mock Hairpin Lace
- Half-Closed Rings
- Interlocked Rings
- Lock Chain
- Pearl Tatting
- RicRac
- S Chain
- SCMR Chain
- Split Josephine Knots
- Split Rings
- Z Chain

### Replace a Center

- Button or similar item you can tat into
- Covered Ring (plastic or wire)
- Interlocking Chains Ring (Needle Tatting)
- Interlocking Chains Ring with Floating Rings (Needle Tatting)
- Magic Circle/Ring
- Needle Weaving
- Settings, Tatted (for cabochons, gems, sequins, etc.)

### Replace a Chain

- Bare Thread (single shuttle round, possibly Mignonette rounds)
- Beads (string of)
- Block Tatting
- Cluny
- Convex vs Concave Chains (see S and Z chain tutorial)
- Cotter Pin Links
- Hairpin Lace or Mock Hairpin Lace
- Interlaced Picots
- Interlocked Rings
- Lock Chain
- Padded Double Stitch Chain
- Pointed Chain
- RicRac
- Spiral Knot Stitch
- Split Josephine Knots
- Split Rings or Dora Young Split Rings
- Treble Tatted Chain
- Whipped Chain

### Replace a Ring

- Beads
- Block Tatting
- Bullion Stitch
- Button

Catherine Wheel  
Covered Ring (plastic or wire)  
Curled Onion Ring  
Dimpled Ring  
Floating Ring  
Folded Ring  
Half-Moon Split Rings (chains)  
Hanging Cluny  
Inverted Tatted Chain  
Josephine Ring  
Layered Rings  
Lock Chain Block Tatting  
Maltese Ring  
Mock Ring with Lock Join in Chain (uses a placeholder)  
Mock Ring by Looping Chain Back on Itself  
Onion Ring (Ring within Ring)  
Onion Ring (Ring within Chain)  
Padded Double Stitch Ring  
Ring Element (two, clover, four, etc.)  
Roll Tatting  
Self-closing Mock Ring (SCMR)  
Self-closing Mock Josephine Ring (SCMJR)  
Self-Padded Ring  
Shamrock Ring (Ruth Perry)  
Spiral  
Split Cluny  
Split Ring  
Square Ring  
Treble Tatted Ring  
Whipped Ring  
Wrapped Ring

### **Replace a Round**

Beads (string of)  
Braid  
Covered Ring (plastic or wire)  
RicRac  
Single Shuttle work (possibly Mignonette)

### **Replace a Split Ring**

Cluny  
Josephine Knot Split Ring  
Maltese Split Ring (4 shuttles)  
Mock Split Ring (with Chain and Split Chain) - Color Control

### **Miscellaneous** - Also see Simple to Complex Changes in Appearance

Bullion Stitch  
Butterfly on Clover  
Candy Cane Plait

#### ***Celtic***

Interlaced Split Ring Braid

- Interlocking Chains
- Interlocking Rings
- Interwoven Rounds
- Knotted Picots
- Overlapping Rings & Chains
- Overlapping Split Rings (Faux Celtic Tatting)
- Weaving of Chain in Ring
- Weaving the Knot with a Chain
- Y Ring
- Convex vs Concave Chains (see S and Z Chain tutorial)
- Curled Onion Ring
- Curled Rings
- Finger Tatting
- Floating Chains
- Front Side/Back Side
- Inverted Tatting
- Layered or Ruffled Picots
- Layered Rings
- Overlapping Picots
- Padded Double Stitch (ring or chain or other element)
- Padded Tatting (Encapsulation)
- Raised Beads (in Ring)
- Reverse Ring with Thrown Rings
- Ribbon, Tatting with
- Settings, Tatting (for cabochons, gems, sequins, etc.)
- Spiral
- Treble Tatting (Caruso)
  - Treble DS
  - Half Treble DS
  - Padded Treble DS
  - In Chains
  - In Rings
- Twisted Rope Bookmark Tail

### **SECTION 3: SIMPLE TO COMPLEX CHANGES IN APPEARANCE OR DESIGN**

#### **3D (See specific techniques)**

##### **Beads**

- Adding beads n' findings (jewelry tip)
- ANKARS
  - Over Join (AOJ) and Back Join (ABJ)
- Avoiding Twisted Picots
- Beaded picots (over the picot, in the picot, and over free standing picot)
- BEANILE
- Behind a ring
- Between/over joins
- Covering, creating a setting, etc.: see 3D
- Dangling at base of ring for later joining
- Double Long Beaded Picot

Encircled by a Chain (Rockley)  
Hanging  
In Cluny  
In downward facing picot  
In Pearl Tatting  
In place of rings  
In SCMR  
In Split Rings (on 3rd thread)  
In Treble Tatted elements  
Loading Beads on Thread  
Long Beaded Picot  
Loop tatted rings (provides bead at base of ring surrounding chain joint or  
between ring or Josephine knot and the SCMR or Chain on which they sit)  
On Top of a Button  
Raised  
Settings, Tatted (for cabochons, gems, sequins, etc)  
Surrounding Entering & Exiting Chains at Base of Ring  
Surrounding Mock Picot (can be used between Split Rings & other similar  
elements)  
Using a string of beads

**Chains** - See also Replacing a Chain

*Beads*

In picots  
On base thread (between knots)  
Over joins  
Surrounding entering and exiting chains  
Dimpled Chain (ZigZag Segment)  
Josephine Knots (2nd shuttle)  
Lock Stitch Chain  
Padded Double Stitch  
Picots (change number, size, spacing, or type)  
Rings (2nd shuttle)  
Spiral Knot Stitch  
Treble Tatted  
Whipped

**Cluny** - Variations (including 3D, beaded, lattice, & more)

Double Cluny

**Color Control**

Blipless Join  
Cluny in Two Colors  
Daisy Picots  
Encapsulation  
Ikuta Picots (3 effects)  
Lock Chain  
Lock Chain Block Tatting  
Mock Ring  
Mock Split Ring with Chain and Split Chain  
Reverse Join

Ring, 2-shuttles  
Shoelace Trick  
Single Shuttle Split Ring with double core  
Split Chain (single color when using 2 colors)  
Spiral in 2 colors  
Split Rings vs Dora Young Split Rings  
Splitting a Split Ring  
Taiko Fujito's Outer Thread Join  
Whipped Rings and Chains  
Woven Split Ring Braid  
Wrapped Rings

### **Embellishing with tatting**

#### **Front Side / Back Side**

**Jan Stawalz tatting method**

#### **Josephine Knots (Rings)**

Beaded  
Inward Facing  
Josephine Ring  
Josephine Ring Cluster  
Onion Ring Josephines or Concentric Josephine Rings  
Padded Double Stitch  
Perpendicular Arrangement of Concentric Josephine Rings  
Self-closing Mock Josephine Ring (SCMJR)  
Split Josephine Ring  
With Picots

#### **Picots (or in place of Picot)**

##### *Beads*

Double Long Beaded Picot  
Floating  
in Downward Facing  
In Picots (number effects sharpe)  
On Downward Facing  
Over picots at joins  
Surrounding Entering & Exiting Chains at Base of Ring  
Surrounding Mock Picot

Height - change the height or use varying heights

Number - change the number

Repairing a cut picot

Spacing - change the spacing

Stawalz, Jan Tatting Method

##### *Substitutions*

Hanging Cluny  
Josephine Knots aka Josephine Rings  
Loop Tatted Rings (Carden-Madden)  
Floating Chains  
Floating Rings  
Floating Josephine Knots

Ring (using SCMR or Ring on Ring by Alien)

*Type*

Celtic Knotted  
Daisy Picot  
Dandelion Picot  
Dot Picot (Usha)  
Downward Facing  
Double or Triple  
Double Picots, joined to different ring (Ikuta)  
Fringe (of different thread)  
Knotted Ring Picot  
Layered Picots (Ikuta)  
Mrs. Mee's Pearl Tatted Picots  
Overlapping Picots (Ikuta)  
Ruffled, or layered, picots (Brummett)  
Tuft Picot (Caruso)  
Twisted aka Twisted Cord Picot, Twisted Fringe, or Twisted Picot (Floating)  
Vapor Picot (Caruso)  
Venetian Picots (Caruso)  
Wide Picot  
Woven (or Interlaced)

**Rings**

*Beads*

In center  
In picots  
Over joins  
Number  
On base thread (between knots)  
Surrounding Entering & Exiting Chains  
Over Mock Picot

Catherine Wheel

Floating Ring

*Folded*

Onion Ring

Ring

Josephine Knots on (by substituting SCMR)

Loop Tatted Ring on Ring (LTROR)

Onion Rings

Padded Double Stitch

Perpendicular Concentric Josephine Rings (3D effect)

Picots (change number, size, spacing, type, or joins)

Reverse Ring (RR) or Split Quadruple Directional Ring (SQDR)

Ring on Ring (this is using real rings - method by Aliona)

Ring on Ring (by substituting SCMR)

Single Shuttle Split Rings (SSSR) on Split Rings (SR) - stacking rings

Spiral Ring (Lenka)

Split Quadruple Directional Ring (SQDR) or Reverse Ring (RR)

Treble Tatted

Whipped

**SCMR (Self-Closing Mock Ring)**

Bead inside  
Josephine Knots (also called Josephine Rings) on SCMR  
Ring on  
Self-closing Mock Josephine Ring (SCMJR)

**Stiffening**

Commercial stiffeners (i.e. Mod Podge, Stiffy, etc.)  
Epson Salts  
Hairspray, unscented  
PVC glue (white school glue)  
Spray fabric starch  
Liquid fabric starch (dilute to control amount of stiffness)