

## Notes on Tusk the Elephant

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Notes by Martha Ess

Georgia asked me to look for a variation on Harolah's cute elephant that did not require the tusk beads that might be expensive or hard to come by. She wondered if folded rings would do the trick, and I think they would. I've made a few different versions.

By the way, before we start, at the end of the head, instead of a cut and tie, why not continue and make the trunk all in one pass?

### Additional Abbreviations:

SCMR = Self closing mock ring

Seta = 2 first half stitches

Setb = 2 second half stitches



Version 1: All one color: 2 shuttles wound CTM with 8 beads on Shuttle  
want a different color bead for the end of the trunk, that bead should be  
the shuttle. (You will see in the picture I happened to substitute a larger bead for the 2 beads  
forming the eye, but I am writing the pattern for 2 small beads for the eyes like Harolah's  
original pattern.)

2. If you  
closest to

### Face:

SCMR: With Shuttle 1 in your hand, and Shuttle 2 acting as ball thread, hold back a loop and begin SCMR

Ch: 5 SS

Folded R: seta 10 setb vsp 16. Fold first half of ring inward and close ring, SS

Ch: 6 BB 6 vsp 2 B 1 B 1 B 2 vsp 6 BB 6 SS

Folded R: 16 vsp seta 10 setb. Fold second half of ring inward and close ring, SS

Ch: 5. Pass shuttle through loop at beginning and close SCMR. DNRW

### Ears:

Ch: 5 +LJ (to base of tusk)

Ch: 35 tension chain and +LJ (to vsp)

Ch: 4 - 4 +LJ (to vsp)

Ch: 35 tension chain and +LJ (to base of tusk)

Ch: 5 +LJ (to beginning) DNRW SS

**Trunk:**

SR: 6 + (to LJ over base of tusk) 9 / 6 + (to LJ over base of tusk) 9 clr  
SR: 9 / 9 clr  
SR: 7 / 7 clr  
R: (with 1 bead on thread around your hand) 5 B 5 clr. Cut and tie.



**Version 2: Contrasting color tusks:** Shuttle 1 and Shuttle 2 wound CTM with main color, with 8 beads on Shuttle 1. Shuttle 3 wound with tusk color.

**Face:**

Wrap thread with 7 beads around your hand to begin ring. Add the tusk color thread to the pinch where you are holding the threads, with a couple inches left free. Hold Shuttle 1 and Shuttle 3 together in your hand and tat with both of them so the tusk color thread will be encapsulated inside the main color stitches.

R: 5, drop Shuttle 1, take main color thread off your hand, and with Shuttle 3 wrap the tusk color thread around your hand to begin a ring.

Folded R: seta 10 setb vsp 16. Fold first half of ring inward and close ring. Put the main color thread back around your hand to continue the ring. Hold Shuttle 1 and Shuttle 3 together as before.

Continue R: 6 BB 6 vsp 2 B 1 B 1 B 2 vsp 6 BB 6. Pull on each shuttle separately the way you tension a chain, not enough to close the ring, but enough to remove any slack in the core threads. Drop Shuttle 1, take main color thread off your hand, and with Shuttle 3 wrap the tusk color thread around your hand to begin a ring.

Folded R: 16 vsp seta 10 setb. Fold second half of ring inward and close ring. Put the main color thread back around your hand to continue the ring. Hold Shuttle 1 and Shuttle 3 together as before.

Continue R: 5. Pull on Shuttle 1 to close the ring. Pull on Shuttle 3 to remove any slack. Cut the Shuttle 3 thread only, leaving a couple inch tail. Tie the 2 ends of the tusk thread together. Tying these thread ends will prevent the thread getting accidentally pulled out while making the joins to the base of the tusks. There are 2 ways to handle these thread ends. To be extra careful, you can tat over the ends for several stitches before cutting later. For less trouble, leave the ends for now, but when finished, pick out the knot and clip the threads closely.

**Ears:** Pick up Shuttle 1 in your hand again, and wrap Shuttle 2 around your other hand like a ball thread for a chain. RW before continuing:

Ch: 5 +LJ (to base of tusk)

Ch: 35 tension chain and +LJ (to vsp)

Ch: 4 – 4 +LJ (to vsp)

Ch: 35 tension chain and +LJ (to base of tusk)

Ch: 5 +LJ (to beginning) RW

**Trunk:**

SR: 6 + (to LJ over base of tusk) 9 / 6 + (to LJ over base of tusk) 9 clr

SR: 9 / 9 clr

SR: 7 / 7 clr

R: (with 1 bead on thread around your hand) 5 B 5 clr. Cut and tie.

**Version 3: Different beads:** I wondered if dagger beads could be substituted. It might work with small 10 mm daggers, but the 16 mm beads I had on hand are a bit over powering.

