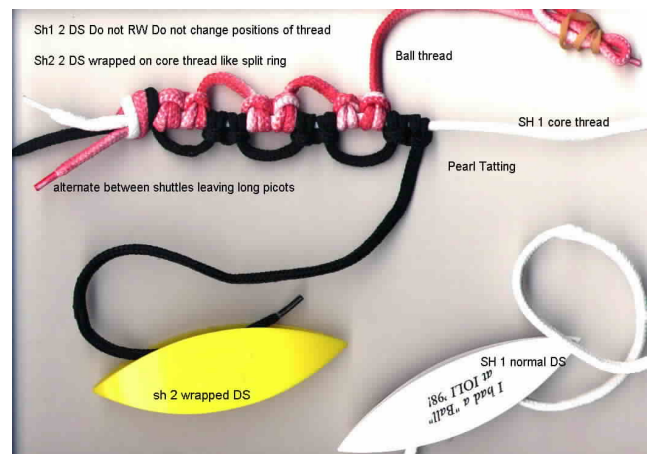
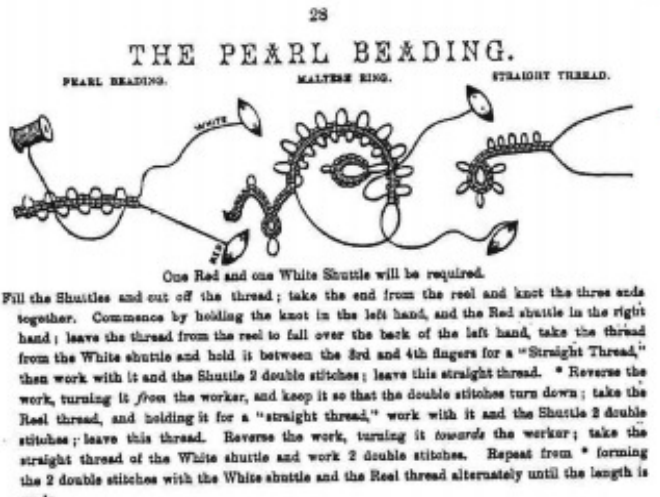
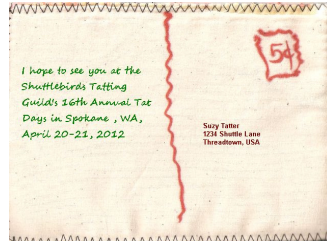
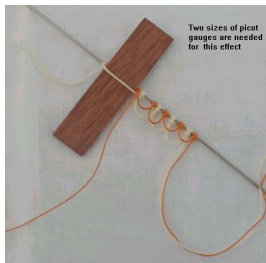


Pearl/Maltese Tatted Chains

The pearl tatted chain is also called maltese tatting. I believe this terms comes from an illustration in Mlle. Riego De La Branchardiere's "The Pearl Tatting Book", 1867 pg. 28. Here Riego shows the basic pearl tatted chain, called pearl beading, followed by a ring in the same style but called a maltese ring. A normal ring and chain segment is also shown for comparison. (See below.)



The pearl tatted chain requires three threads, shuttle 1 (the core thread), shuttle 2, and shuttle 3 or a ball thread for shuttle tatting. In the above photo, shuttle 1 is the core thread. Shuttle one "tats" with the shuttle 3/ball thread in the normal fashion. Shuttle 2 "wraps" ds onto the core thread without flipping the stitch. Designs are made by alternating the colors of thread and the addition of picots.



For needle tatting, three threads are also required with one of the working threads used as the core by putting the tail through the eye of the needle. The needle itself represents the core thread while the work is in progress. Normal needle tatting as shown on the left will have the ds facing only one way on the needle. By wrapping the thread onto the needle with both hands, the ds will face both ways on the needle, also. It only takes a few minutes to get the rhythm.

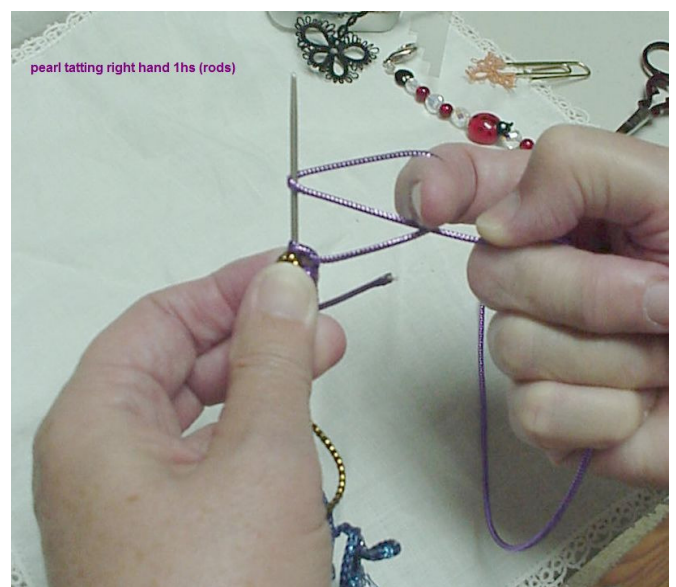


Pearl or Maltese Tatting on the Tatting Needle using Two Hands.

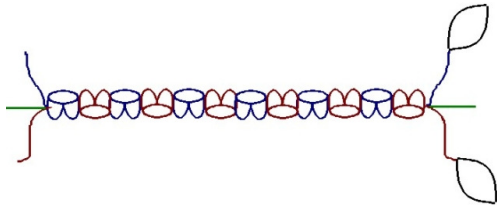
Normal wrapping method is used to place the ds onto the needle using the left hand with the needle held in the right hand. Each double stitch consists of two half stitches, first half and second half. To switch to the other side of the needle, lay down the wrapping thread and pick up the second thread, using mirror image movements, the thread is wrapped onto the needle one half stitch at a time.

However, for the second side, the ds are wrapped in reverse double stitch order, i.e., second half stitch is wrapped first; first half stitch is wrapped second.

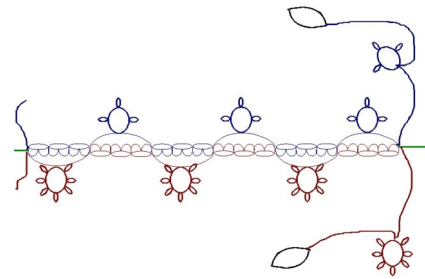
Picots and beads are added in the normal manner.



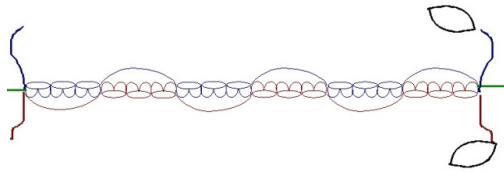
Sample Pearl Tatting Patterns



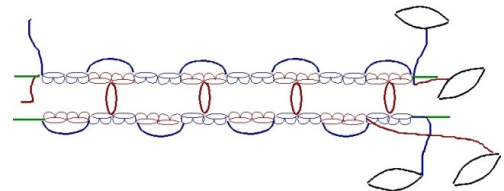
Pearl Tatted Chain Basic



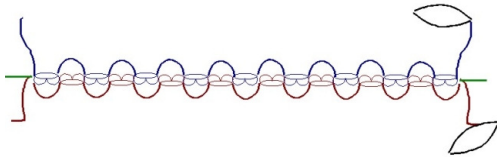
PTC with Floating Rings



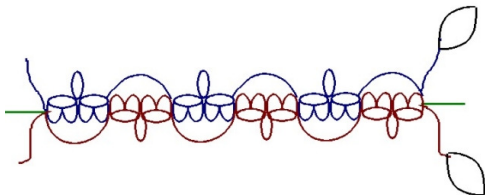
Pearl Tatted Chain Classic



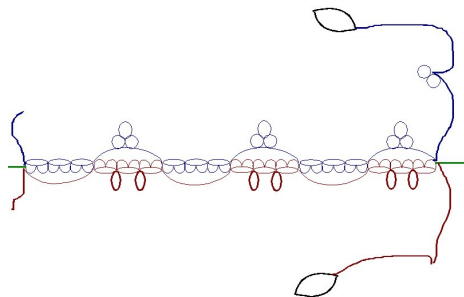
Joined Pearl Tatted Chains



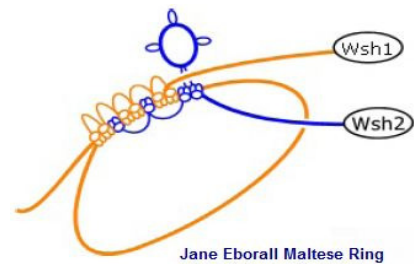
PTC Alternating Picots



PTC with Wide and Regular Picots

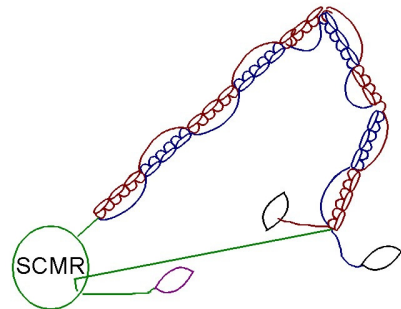


PTC w/Beads and Picots



Jane Eborall Maltese Ring

Used by permission



Pearl Tatted Chains may be turned into Maltese Rings by using the Self-Closing Mock Ring