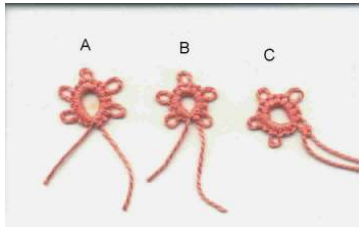


# The Classic Tatted Wheel

By Georgia Seitz, a member of L.A.C.E.

The classic tatted wheel is a familiar pattern to tatters. It must be one of the earliest patterns ever designed. Originally, the tatted wheel began with a round center ring, which was tatted by beginning with a broken set of double stitches (ds.) The thread was cut and tied. Then a new thread was used to tat around that ring joining a line of opposing rings to the picots.



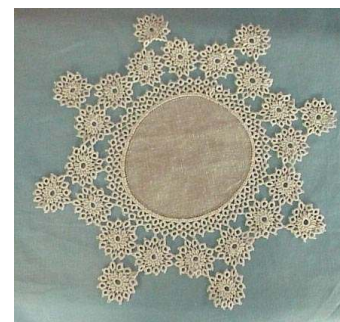
- A - Regular tatted ring, avoid.
- B - Traditional tatted round center ring with broken sets and tails to hide.
- C - Modern tatted round center ring which climbs out through a mock picot



## Climbing out from a center ring.

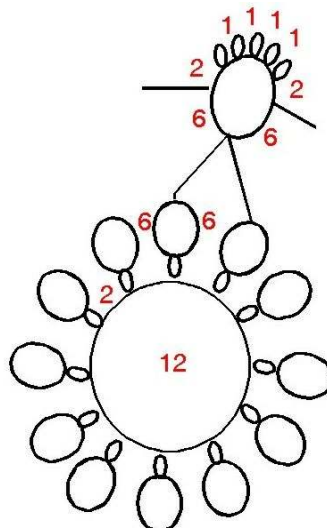
Today's modern tatter, however, avoids cutting the thread whenever possible. Instead, the pattern is tatted from the center out or from row to row without cutting. This is made possible by the use of the [mock picot](#), [split ring](#) and/or [split chain](#).

The classic wheel may be used individually as in the decoration on the pink egg above, or combined in groups for edgings, corners, collars and doilies. In the older patterns the [wheels are often enlarged with a row of all one shuttle work](#). Although white and ecru have always been the traditional colors, more recent work shows brilliant color and even beading.



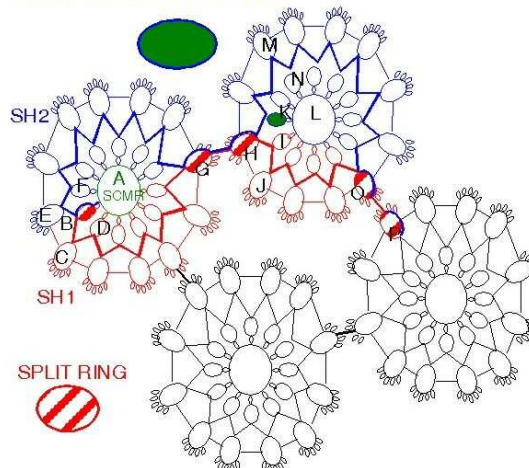
Beading the classic wheel presents one challenge. Although the beads can easily be placed on the picots or over the picots when joining, to ensure that the mock picot is also beaded requires a slightly different start to the tating. Wind the shuttle and leave a tail at least 18" long. Beads to be placed on the picots will be wound up with the shuttle thread. But one bead must be reserved for the tail thread which helps to form the mock picot. Thread this tail on a fine blunt tapestry needle. Move the bead into position on the shuttle thread side of the mock picot. Then run the needle through the bead pulling the tail through also. Use this long tail to tat a split ring which climbs' out in the next round. Tail is also carried outward into the next round

and hidden in the last ring.

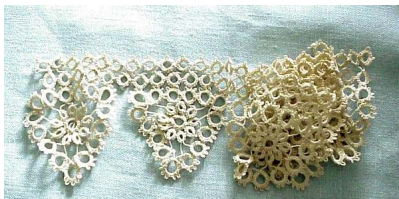


Multiple wheels may be combined to make baby caps.

SINGLE SHUTTLE SPLIT RING



The classic wheel does not have to be round! The same principle has been used to tat triangles for this edging.



Any questions? You are welcome to email Georgia at [AKTATTER@aol.com](mailto:AKTATTER@aol.com). Thanks Georgia, for this lovely project.