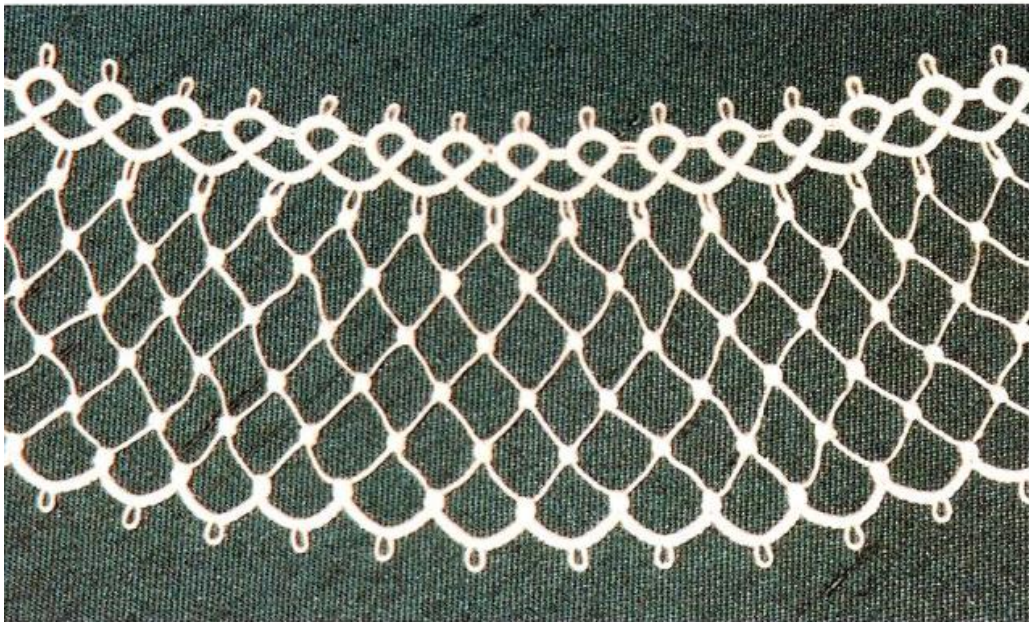


Mignonette Tatting with Judith Connors

MIGNONETTE

While we cannot be sure what exactly inspired the naming of this form of tatting, the word 'mignonette' is derived from the French *mignon*, *mignonne*, 'dainty, delicate, sweet'. There is a mignonette tree grown in Africa, Europe and Asia which has delicate grey-green leaves with a fine network. It is possible that this form of tatting took its name from this plant. The lace also resembles the more familiar, dainty maidenhair fern.

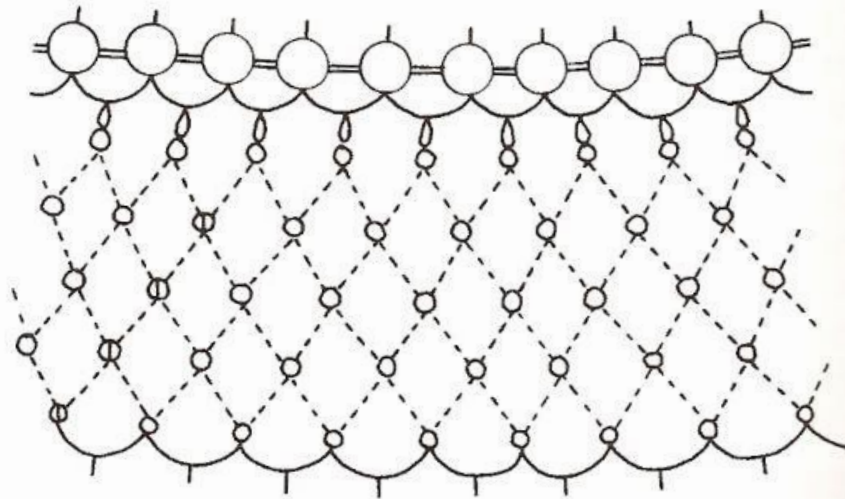
Although mignonette is seldom seen in contemporary tatting, it was relatively common in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Made with one shuttle only, mignonette simply consists of rows of tiny discrete rings joined to precisely measured spaces of considerable length in the previous row. The rings are free to move along the spaces. Mignonette may be tatted on the straight or in a circle. In order to appear delicate it is best done in a fine thread, such as 60 or 80 cotton.



Mignonette

Judith Connors "Tatting Adventures with beads, shuttle and needle"
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To increase in an expanding section of lace, the measured spaces may be made longer, or 2 rings can be joined to the same space. By applying the contemporary technique of split rings, a second shuttle may be brought into use to tat a split ring when progressing from one circular row to the next. This will keep everything regular and eliminate ending off.



Mignonette

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