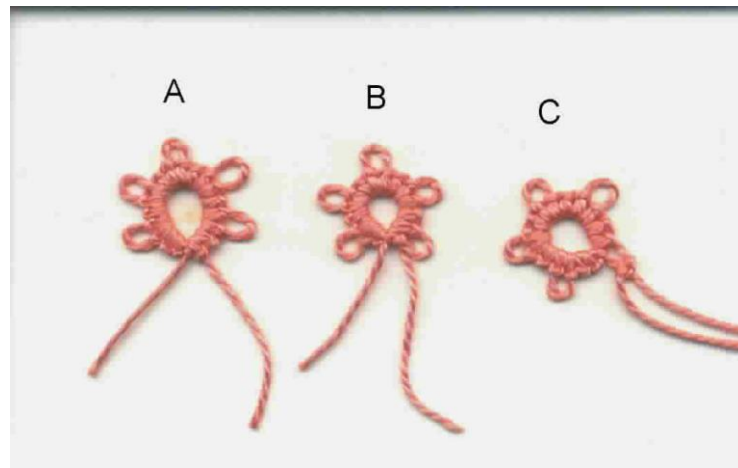


The Classic Tatted Wheel

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!



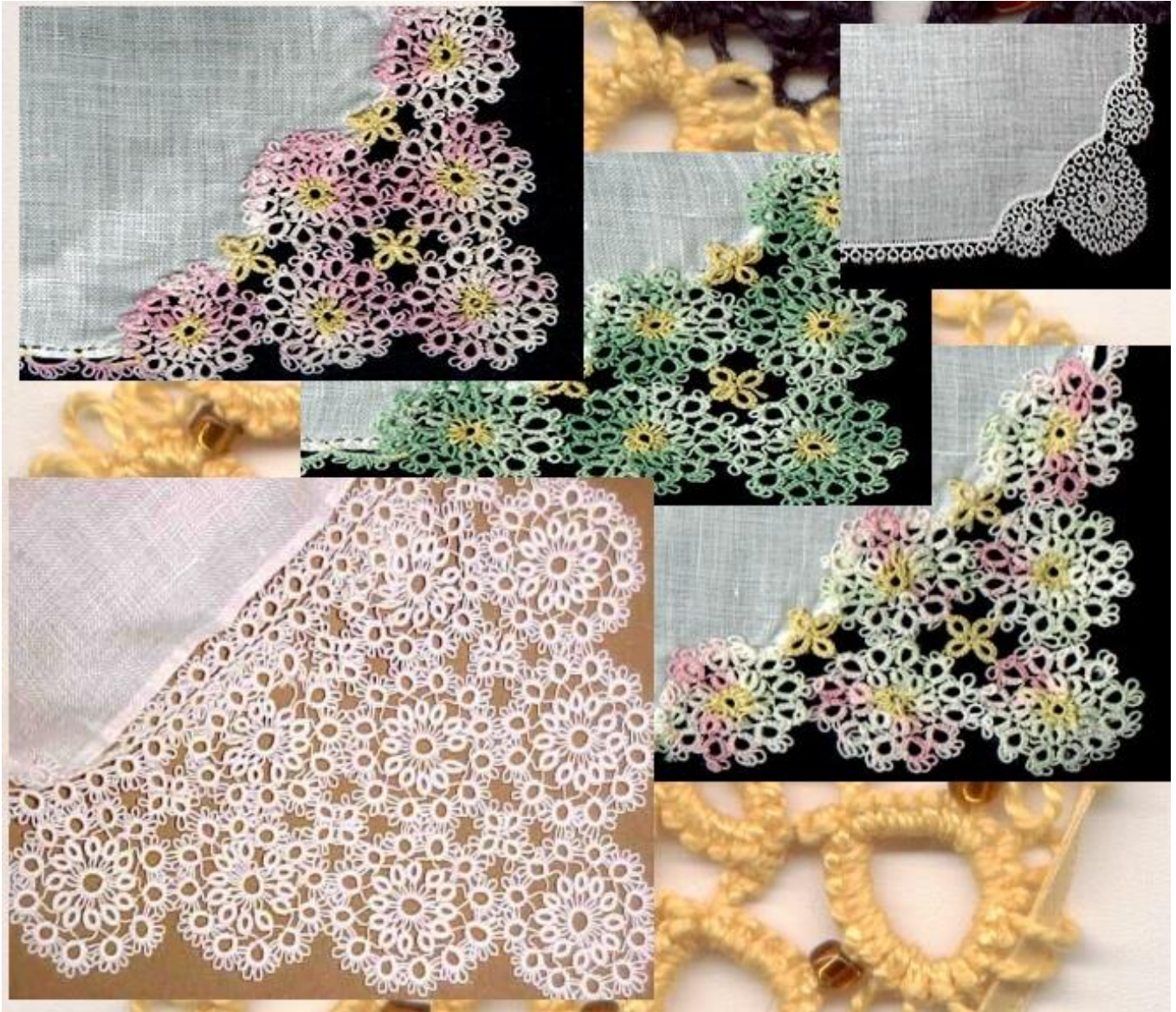
The classic wheel may be used individually as in the decoration on the pink egg above, or combined in groups for edgings, corners, collars and doilies. In the older patterns the [wheels are often enlarged with a row of all one shuttle work](#). Although white and ecru have always been the traditional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

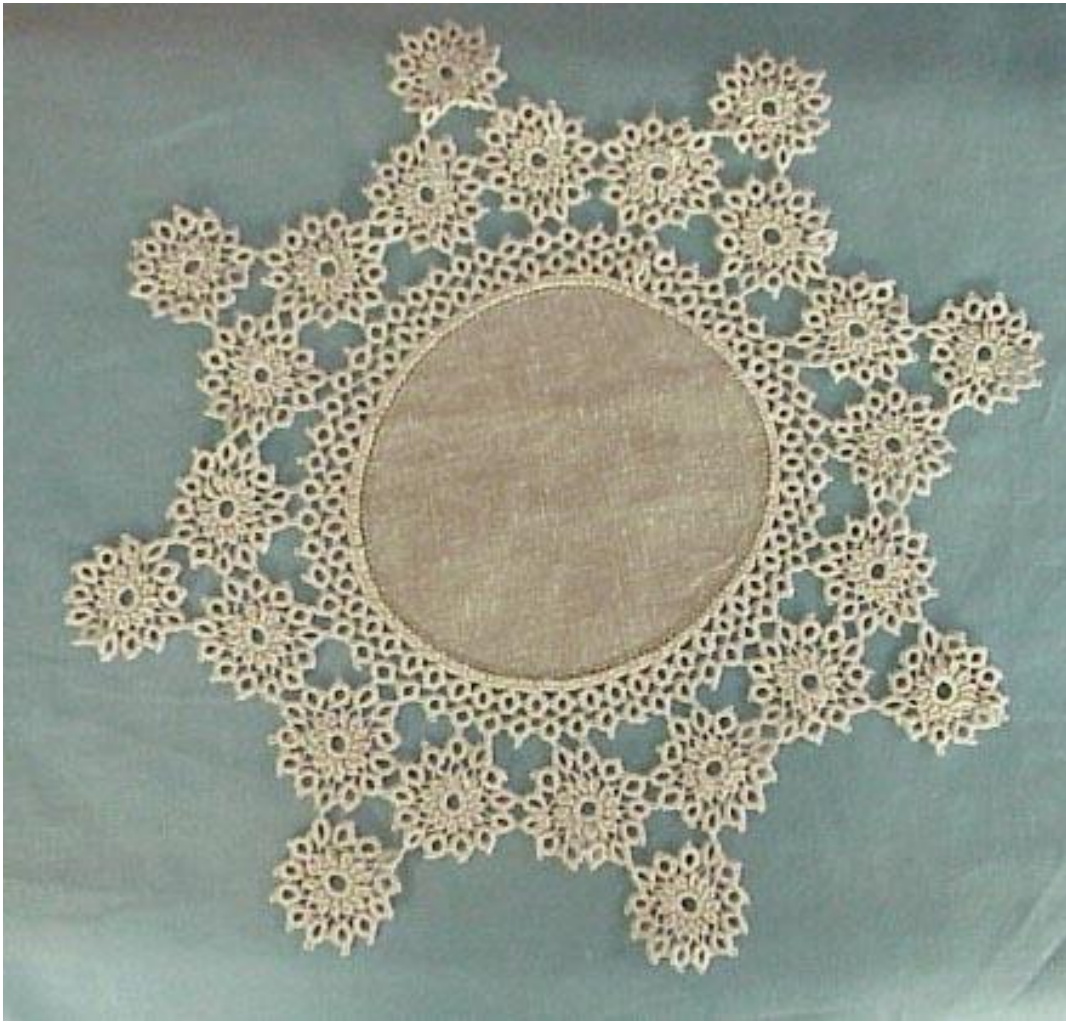
A = Regular tatted ring, ovoid.
B = Traditional tatted round center ring with broken sets and tails to hide.
C = Modern tatted round center ring which climbs out through a mock picot

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](#).



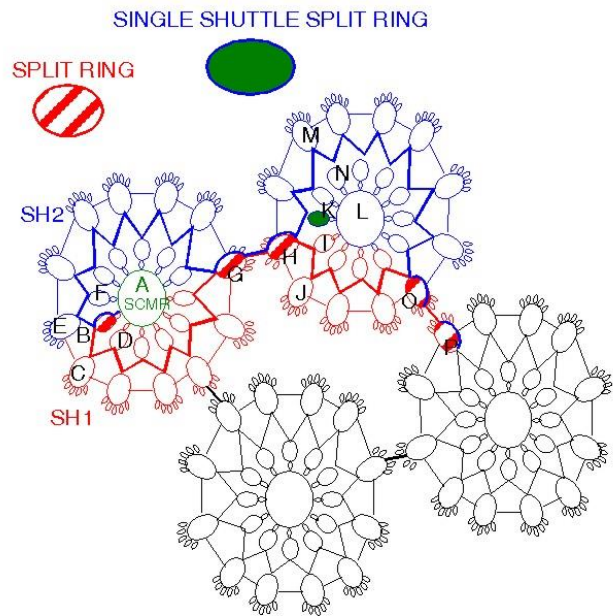
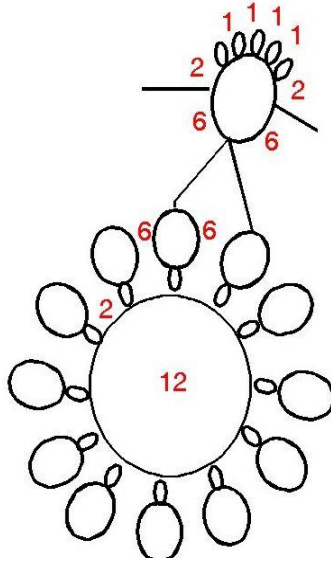
Wheel Examples





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 tatting. 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(s) must be reserved for the tail thread which helps to form the mock picot. Thread the tail and use it to climb out into the next ring/split ring, thus placing beads on both sides of a mock picot.

However, if the bead(s) go over the mock picot then thread the tail on a fine blunt tapestry needle. Move the bead(s) into position on the shuttle thread side of the mock picot. Then run the needle up through the bead(s) pulling the tail out also. Use this long tail to tat the ring/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.

Wheels may be joined directly together and with the use of the scmr, single shuttle split ring and multiple shuttles may be combined into large pieces without tedious cut and tie.



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