

Out of Order!

Double stitches comprise of two half stitches, a first half and a second half. They are usually worked in pairs and balance each other to make a ring or chain 'sit' flat.



However, if you work just first half stitches they will spiral round the core (working shuttle) thread and if you work just second half stitches they will spiral round the core thread in the opposite direction.

Spiral Tatting using just first half stitches



Spiral Tatting using just second half stitches



If you work 3, or 5, first half stitches followed by the same number of second half stitches - and repeat this a few times you will have worked what is known as 'Victorian sets'.

Victorian Sets.....and if you turn your work over.....you have 'Node Stitch'



Continuing with this theme of working 'sets' of half stitches, picots can be made to 'drop' below the core thread either to the back or to the front of the tatting. These are known as 'dropped' or 'downward' picots. To make a picot drop to the back, work 3 second half stitches, leave a picot (space in the auxiliary thread - the one on your hand) then work 3 first half stitches. To make the picot drop to the front, work 3 first half stitches, leave a space in the auxiliary thread, then work 3 second half stitches.

Note: do not work a double stitch after the picot before working the 3 first half stitches.

A picot 'dropped' to the back - and one 'dropped' to the front.



You can see in the photos of the dropped picots above that there is a 'dip' in the stitches above these picots. This can be attractive in most designs but there is another way of making a dropped picot which has no 'dip'.

- 1) work the ring or chain up to one double stitch before where the dropped picot is to be,
- 2) make a picot that is a bit longer than you want the dropped picot to be
- 3) fold the long picot behind the double stitch, that you worked to make the picot, then down between the shuttle thread and the thread that is on your hand
- 4) work a double stitch making sure that the picot is encapsulated between the two threads
- 5) continue as before. There is no dip above the dropped picot.

1) and 2)



3)



4)



5)

