

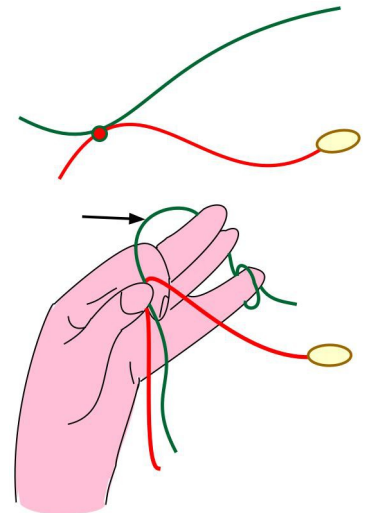
There is only one 'stitch' in tatting which is made in two halves. Both halves are formed around the one thread but transferred (or flipped) over to the other one. This is the only skill which is needed – speed of making the lace is down to practice. Try using two colours so you can see the knot forming as you make it.

First half of the double stitch.

The shuttle thread is going to be your core thread – that's the one that goes through the middle of your stitches.

Tie ball and shuttle threads together and anchor the ball (which will form the chain) thread round the back of the hand, anchoring round your smallest finger. The chain will be green when the knots are formed properly.

The arrow shows where you will be forming the stitches with the following movements.



Take the shuttle UNDER the chain thread and round the back.

Bring the shuttle back over the chain thread and DOWN through the loop you've just made.

Now pull the RIGHT hand with the shuttle tight and towards the right side of your body meanwhile letting the chain thread go loose.

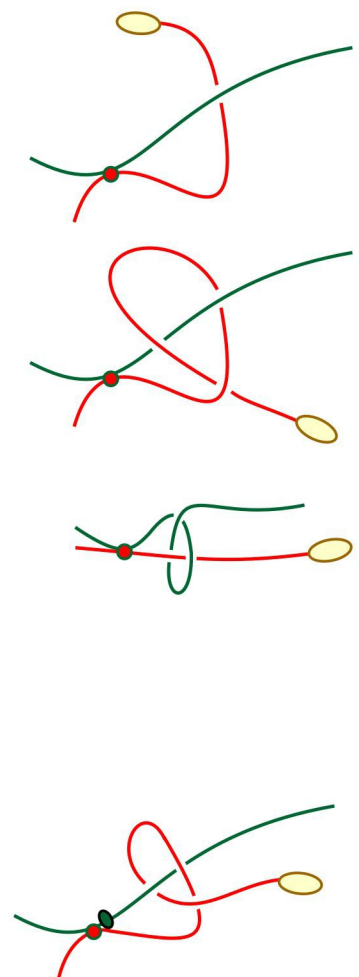
Remember '**RIGHT TIGHT, LEFT LOOSE**'. Your thread should now have 'flipped' over so that it is making the same loop but now over the shuttle or core thread. Gently ease up to the previous knot or completed double stitch.

Second half of the double stitch.

When you have made your first half of the double you will now need to make the second half.

This time take the shuttle thread OVER the chain thread, round the back and UP through the loop you've just made at the front of the chain thread.

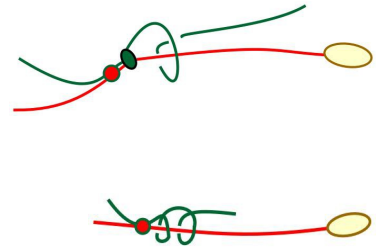
Once again pull the RIGHT hand with the shuttle tight and



towards the right side of your body meanwhile letting the chain thread go loose.

Remember '**RIGHT TIGHT, LEFT LOOSE**'. Your thread should now have 'flipped' over so that it is making the same loop over the shuttle or core thread.

Your double stitch should look like this.



You have now completed one double stitch – also known as a ds.

When learning it is always a good idea to check regularly that the doubles are formed on the right thread. The core (shuttle) thread should always be going through the middle of the doubles. See last diagram on this page.