Lock Chain Block Tatting © Jane Eborall 2013



A little care needs to be taken with this form of block tatting. In the sample below I have used the easy way of block tatting. This sample shows how to start with a block tatted element but most patterns will have them starting from a previous ring or chain.

To start the threads have to be joined. <u>A weaver's knot</u> is the least bulky way of achieving this. Work over the two ends for a few stitches.

Row 1

First leave a very small picot and work one further double stitch. Make sure that this double is moved close to the end.

Now make a lock chain as stated in the pattern (first half wrapped (unflipped), second half flipped.

In the sample shown it's LCh 4. Ensure that the lock stitches are always snugged up.

Row 2

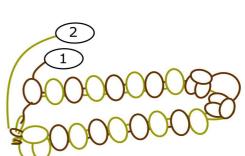
NOTE - the first two doubles are wrapped over the thread. 1 double, vsp, 1 double (make sure you move the doubles close to each other before starting the lock chain).

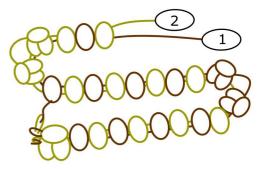
Continue with lock chain of 4 starting with first half flipped, second half wrapped.

Join to vsp of previous rows with the thread closest to the picot.

Row 3

As last row – joining to vsp of previous row with the thread closest to the picot.





A few tips.

It works best if the colour following the full double stitches appears as the other colour (not the one showing as the double).

On **uneven** numbered rows (1, 3, 5 etc) work first half unflipped and second half as normal ds.

On **even** numbered rows (2, 4, 6 etc) first half flipped followed by second half wrapped.

Conversion tips.

To replace ordinary block tatting with lock chain block you need the following 'conversion'. This does not include the double, vsp, double at the start of each row.

8 regular blocks is replaced by 5 lock chains.

7 regular blocks is replaced by 4 lock chains.

6 regular blocks is replaced by 4 lock chains.

5 regular blocks is replaced by 3 lock chains.

4 regular blocks is replaced by 3 lock chains.