Large Mermaid - © Jane Eborall 2005
Amended in 2018

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Skills required – split rings, rings on split rings

Materials
No. 20 thread in two colours.   Size 11 seed beads and two slightly larger beads for the eyes..Two shuttles.

Abbreviations

R	ring	Ch	chain	- or p picot
SR	split ring	B	move bead in place of picot	RW reverse work
Lj	lock join	Cl	close	Btwn between
SS	switch shuttles	vsp	very small picot	Sh1 shuttle 1 in right hand
Sh2	shuttle 2 in right hand	S	start	T & C tie and cut
RoSR	ring on second side of split ring			+ B add bead to picot before joining
MB	move bead along core thread			

Note – for those who prefer front side/back side tatting the text in *italics* and red indicates where the worker needs to use the second half of the ds first

Head
1 shuttle with green thread and 1 shuttle blue. Start with Sh1.
R1:   1 vsp 5 vsp 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 + B centre of R bringing core thread down through second vsp Cl RW [see this method.](#)
R2:   (nose) 1 + (1st vsp R1) 3 vsp 3 vsp 1 Cl RW
As the second sides of SR3 and SR4 are the only times a second shuttle with green thread is required on the head, I used an 8" length of thread and finger tatted both 2nd sides.
SR3: 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 / 1 + (vsp R2) 5 + B (centre of SR pulling core thread down from start of SR) Cl. [See this method.](#)
SR4: 4 / 4 Cl RW
Replace Sh2 with blue thread. Continue round head.
Ch: 4 vsp 2 vsp 2 RW
R5:   6 – 2 Cl RW
Ch: 2 vsp 2 vsp 2 vsp 2 Cl RW
*R6: 2 + (last R) 4 – 2 Cl RW
Ch: 2 vsp 2 vsp 2 vsp 2 RW Repeat from * 3 times
R10: 2 + (R9) 6 Cl RW
Ch: 2 vsp 2 vsp 4 RW
R11:   4 + (vsp R1) 4 Cl RW
Ch: 10 vsp 2 RW
SR12: 5 + (vsp R2) 5 / 10 Cl RW
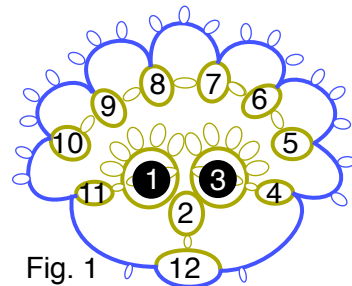*Ch: 2 vsp 10 + base R4* T & C

Fig. 1

Centre of Body – two shuttles both with green thread.
R1:   1 vsp 5 - 5 vsp 1 Cl
R2:   1 + (R1) 2 – 3 - 3 - 2 vsp 1 Cl
R3:   1 + (R2) 3 – 3 vsp 1 Cl

SR4: 1 +(R3) 4 vsp 1 / 1 + (R1) 4 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R5:   1 + (SR4) 6 – 6 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R6:   1 + (SR4) 3 – 3 vsp 1 Cl
SR7: 1 + (R6) 5 vsp 1 / 1 + (R5) 5 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R8:   1 + (SR7) 7 - 7 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R9:   1 + ((SR7) 3 – 3 vsp 1 Cl
SR10:1 + (R9) 4 vsp 1 / 1 + (R8) 4 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R11: 1 + (SR10) 8 – 8 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R12: 1 + (SR10) 3 – 3 vsp 1 Cl
SR13:1 + (R12) 4 vsp 1 / 1 + (R11) 4 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R14: 1 + (SR13) 5 – 5 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R15: 1 + (SR13) 7 – 7 vsp 1 Cl
SR16:1 + (R15) 4 vsp 1 / 1 + (R14) 4 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R17: 1 + (SR16) 3 – 3 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R18: 1 + (SR16) 6 – 6 vsp 1 Cl
SR19:1 + (R18) 4 vsp 1 / 1 + (R17) 4 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R20: 1 + (SR19) 3 – 3 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R21: 1 + (SR19) 7 – 7 vsp 1 Cl
SR22:1 + (R21) 4 vsp 1 / 1 + (R20) 4 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R23: 1 + (SR22) 3 – 3 vsp 1 Cl RW SS
R24: 1 + (SR22) 8 – 8 vsp 1 Cl
SR25: 1 + (R24) 7 / 1 + (R23) 7 Cl
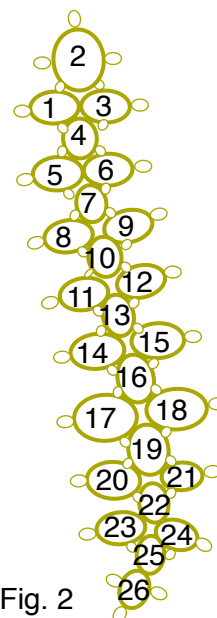R26: 2 – 2 – 2 – 2 Cl T & C

Fig. 2

Outer body starting at left arm
Using green on Sh1 & blue on Sh2.
Add 23 beads to Sh2 – further beads needed to add to picots
With wrong side of head facing join to vsp before SR12 on face and start with short chain.
Ch: 2 RW
R1:   4 – 2 – 2 Cl
SR2: 3 – 3 / 6 Cl
SR3: 3 – 3 / 8 Cl
*SR4: 3 – 3 / 6 Cl Repeat from * 4 times
SR9: 6 / 6 Cl RW SS
R10: 2 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 2 Cl SS
Ch: 6 RW
*SR11:   2 + B (SR8) 2 / 4 Cl
Repeat from * twice joining to SR7 & SR6
SR14:1 + B (SR5) 1 / 2 Cl
*SR15:   2 + B (SR4) 2 / 4 Cl
Repeat from * twice joining to SR3 & SR2
R18: 2 + B (R1) 2 + B (1ˢᵗ p R2 of body) 2 + B
(R1 of body) 2 Cl RW
Continue down left side of body
all joins to inner body
Ch: 5 Lj (R1 - right side of bead) SS
Bead at back of hand
SR19: 2 B 2 / 4 Cl
Bead at back of hand
SR20: 4 B 4 / 4 RoSR [2 + B (R 5) 2 Cl] 4 Cl
Bead at back of hand.
SR21: 4 B 4 / 6 Cl
Bead at back of hand
SR22: 4 B 4 / 4 RoSR [2 + B (R 8) 2 Cl] 4 Cl
Bead at back of hand
SR23: 4 B 4 / 6 Cl
Bead at back of hand
SR24: 4 B 4 / 4 RoSR [2 + B (R 11) 2 Cl] 4 Cl RW SS
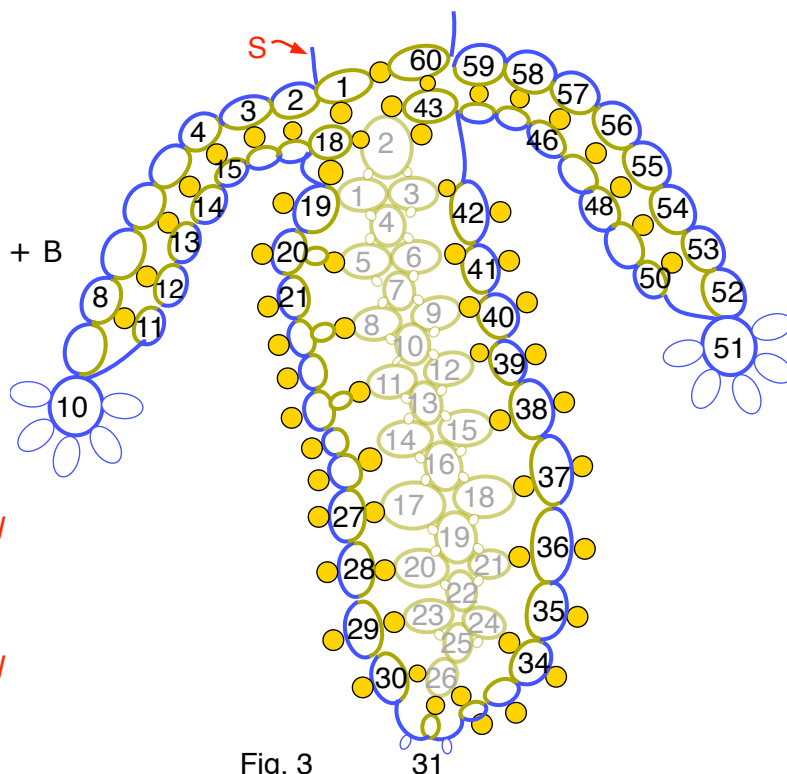

Fig. 3

SR25: 6 / 4 MB 4 Cl
*SR26:   4 + B (R14) 4 / 4 MB 4 Cl Rep from * twice joining to R17 & R20
*SR29:   3 + B (R23) 3 / 3 MB 3 Cl Rep from * once joining to 3rd p on R26 RW
Ch: 4 – 2 RW
R31:   3 + B (2nd p R26) 3 Cl RW
Ch: 2 – 4 RW
SR32: 3 + B (3rd p R26) 3 / 3 MB 3 Cl
SR33: 6 / 4 MB 4 Cl
SR34: 4 + B (R24) 4 / 4 MB 4 Cl
SR35: 6 / 4 B 4 Cl
*SR36:   4 + B (R21) 4 / 4 MB 4 Cl
Repeat from * twice joining to R18 & R15
*SR39:   6 + B (R12) / 4 MB 4 Cl
Repeat from * once more joining to R9
*SR41:   4 + B (R6) / 2 MB 2 Cl
Repeat from * once joining to R3 RW
Ch: 5

Continue with right arm
R43:   2 + B (3rd p R2 of body) 2 + B (2nd p R2 of body) 2 – 2 Cl
*SR44:   2 – 2 / 4 Cl Repeat from * twice
SR47: 1 - 1 / 2 Cl
SR48: 2 - 2 / 4 Cl Repeat from * twice RW
Ch: 6 SS
R51:   2 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 1 – 2 Cl RW SS
SR52: 6 / 6 Cl
*SR53:   3 + B (SR50) 3 / 6 Cl
Repeat from * 6 times joining to SR49, 48, 47, 46, 45 & 44
R60:   2 + B (R43) 2 + B (R1) 4 Cl RW
Ch: 2 T & C to vsp after SR12 on face.

Tail Fin
Row 1 - 1 shuttle with green thread. Blue on ball.
R1:   4 + B (p on Ch btwn R30 & R31 on outer body) 2 –
2 Cl RW
Ch: 3 – 3 RW
R2:   2 + B (R1) 4 – 2 Cl RW
Ch: 3 – 3 RW
R3:   2 + B (R2) 2 + B (Ch btwn R31 & R32 on outer body) 4 Cl T & C
Row 2 – 2 shuttles add 4 beads to Sh1 (green thread)
*Bead at back of hand
R4:   3 B 3 Cl RW
Ch: 8 – 8 RW Rep from * twice
Bead at back of hand
R7:   3 B 3 Cl SS
*Ch: 10 Lj + B (p on last Ch) 5 + B (p on 1st Ch of row 1 holding body with back facing) 5 Lj +
B (p on next Ch) 5 + B (p on 2nd Ch of row 1) 5 Lj + B (p on next Ch) 10 + (base of R4). T & C*

Hair
Using Blue on both shuttles. Tie an overhand knot leaving short ends before starting.
*SR1: 6 / 6 Cl Repeat from * three times
SR5: 6 / 3 + (1st vsp of 1st chain of head on left side) 3 + (next vsp of head) Cl
*SR6: 6 / 3 + (next vsp of head) 3 + (next vsp of head) Cl
Repeat from * until last vsp of head has been used (NB the last SR will only join to one vsp of head)
*SR: 6 / 6 Cl Repeat from * 3 times Tie an overhand knot and cut. Both ends of the hair can be frayed if required. For help please email me.
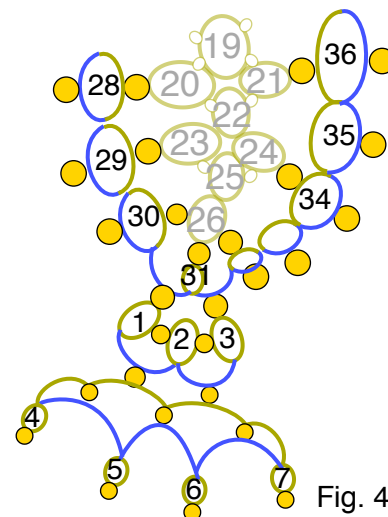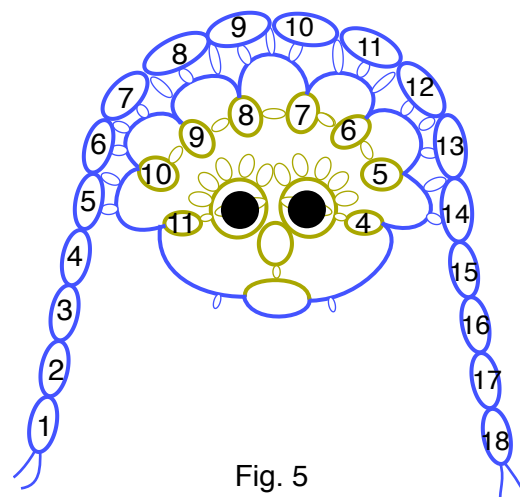
Fig. 4

Fig. 5