

## Needle Case

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### Requirements:

Two pieces of felt, one  $1\frac{3}{4}$  x  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches (43 x 28 mm) and the other  $5\frac{1}{2}$  x  $3\frac{1}{4}$  (14 x 83 mm),  
Two pieces of flannel  $5$  x  $3\frac{1}{8}$  inches (127 x 80 mm)  
Tatting thread size 20 in colours of your choice,  
3 or 4 shuttles, sewing thread and needle and the usual tatting equipment.

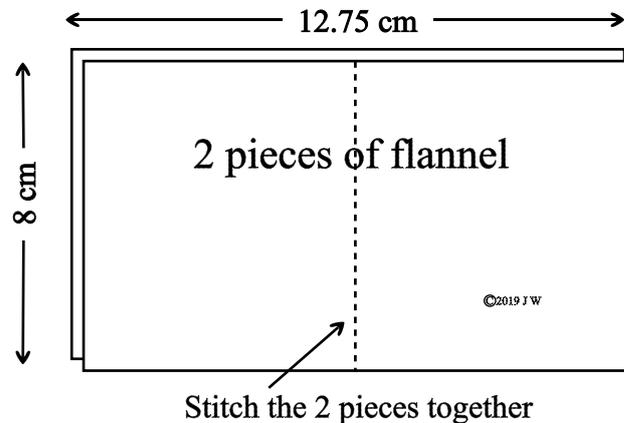


### Abbreviations:

R = ring, p = picot, cl = close ring, CH. = chain,  
RW = reverse work, + = join, sj = shuttle join,  
sp = small picot

### The fabric part of the needle case.

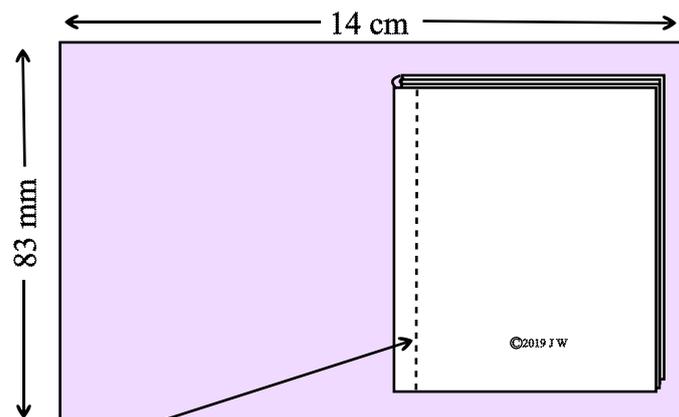
Place the two pieces of flannel one on top of the other and stitch them together (by hand or machine) down the centre from one long side to the other, as indicated in the diagram below.



Fold in half along the stitching.

Position on the right hand side of the larger piece of felt with the folded edge along the centre of the piece of felt as in the diagram below.

Sew in place (hand or machine) close to the fold.



The free style tatted flower motif can be worked first or left until you have completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> row of the needle case but must be sewn in place before starting the 3<sup>rd</sup> row.

## Free Style Tatted Flower For Front of Needle-Case

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### Requirements:

Size 20 thread, 3 shuttles:-

1<sup>st</sup> with 2 ½ metres green thread

2<sup>nd</sup> with 1 metre yellow or lemon

3<sup>rd</sup> with 1 metre pink or colour of your choice

the usual tatting equipment

### Abbreviations:

JR = Josephine ring, cl = close ring, ds = double stitch,

LS = lock stitch (turn the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the stitch but not the second half),

RT = reverse tat (do not turn/flip the stitches)

Start with green thread, leave a 6 inch tail

- 1) JR. 1 double stitch then 16, half stitches, cl,
- 2) Work 6 to 10 Josephine rings making them as close together as you can,
- 3) Join in colours:  
hold the pink and yellow threads together over the back of your hand as you would to work a chain, unwind the shuttles a bit to get them out of the way,
- 4) Work with the 'green' shuttle and make a LS, i.e. turn the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the stitch but do not turn the 2<sup>nd</sup> half, - this secures the threads and stops them pulling through later.
- 5) Work a reverse tatted chain of 3 ds (the stitches are not turned/flipped),
- 6) Using the 'green' shuttle make 8 JRs as before
- 7) Pick up the pink and yellow threads again and, with the green shuttle, RT a 3ds chain
- 8) Pick up the pink thread only and make a JR with 1 double stitch then 18 half stitches, cl
- 9) Hold the pink and green threads together and RT a chain of 1 ds using the 'yellow' shuttle  
Rep steps 8 and 9, 5 times more (6 petals,). Keep the threads in your hand
- 10) Take the yellow thread round the 1<sup>st</sup> petal, to encapsulate it, and make one more reverse tatted double stitch, drop the yellow and pink threads and gently pull the green thread; this will close the centre of the flower
- 11) Put the pink and yellow threads over the back of your hand again and, using the 'green' shuttle, RT a 3 ds chain
- 12) Make 8 JRs of 1 double stitch then 16 half stitches, close the ring, put the pink and yellow threads on your hand and RT another chain of 3ds, and lastly, work 6 to 10 more 'green' JRs.  
Cut the threads and mount the motif arranging the leaves how you like.



This is free style tatting so the pattern is not 'set in stone', the number of stitches, leaves and petals can be changed.

For more inspiration see Tatting – Artistry in thread by Helma Siepmann.

## Row 1

Take the smaller of the two pieces of felt and trim the corners as in Fig 1.  
Make small holes  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch from the edge where the dots are in Fig 2

Wind 1 metre of your chosen colour onto a shuttle. Do not cut.

Work a shuttle join in the small hole at the centre of one of the long sides of the felt.

CH. 4, p, 3, p, 3, p, 4, (3 picots), tension to curve as in Fig 3, sj to the adjacent small hole,

CH. 4, (p, 3) x 3, p, 4 (4 picots) tension to curve as in Fig 3, sj to the adjacent small hole

Continue working chains round the felt, with 4 picots on the chains at the corners and 3 picots on the ones at the sides, top and bottom.

Cut and tie to the start of the row then secure the ends.

Fig 1

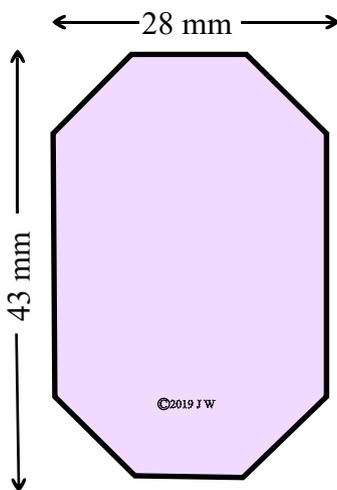


Fig 2

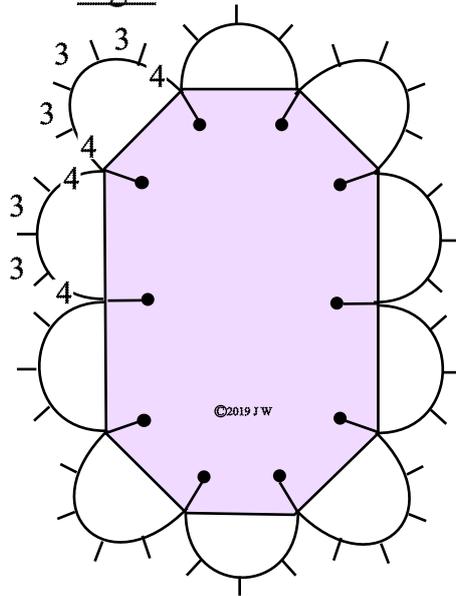
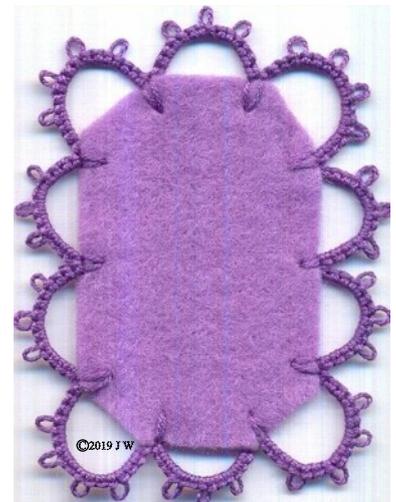


Fig 3



## Row 2

The rings in this row are worked in groups of 3, with 4 rings at the corners.

The 'A' rings have the same stitch count.

The 'B' rings have 5 picots (or joins) separated by 2 double stitches

The 'C' rings have the same stitch count.

For the 4 ring groups the 'B' ring is worked twice.

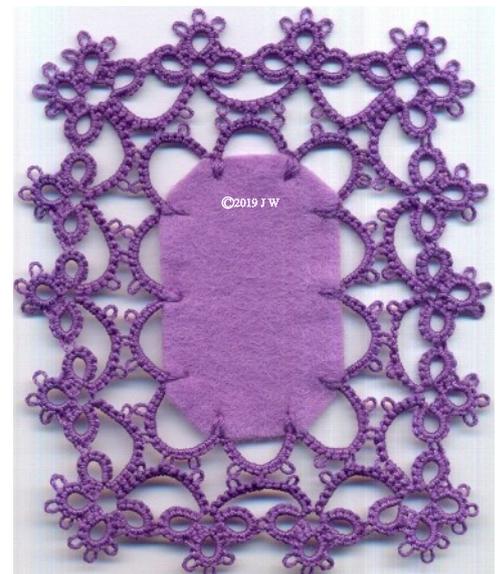
All the chains have the same stitch count:-

4, p, 3, + to row 1, 3, p, 4,

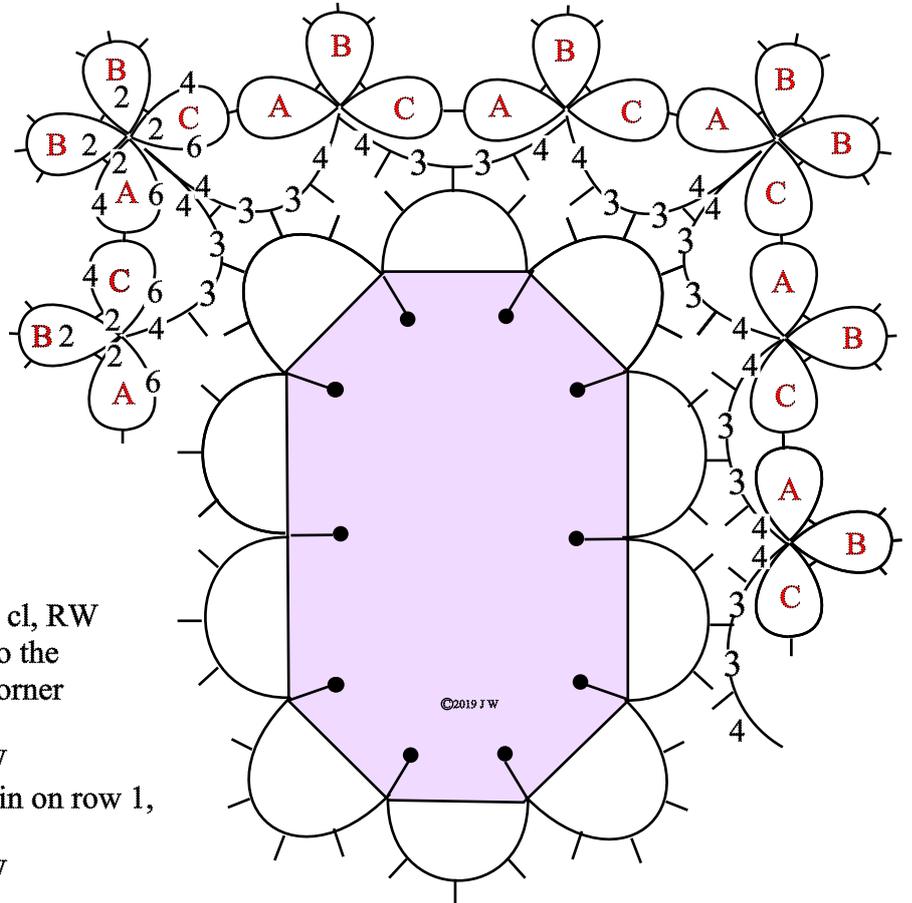
The chains after the four ring corner groups of rings are joined to the previous chain as well as to row 1:-

4, + to previous chain, 3, + to the centre picot of the adjacent chain on row 1, 3, p, 4, RW

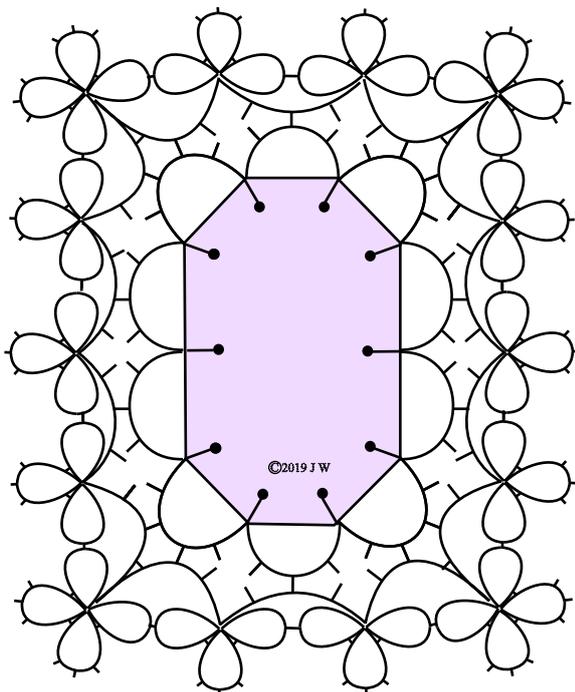
Fill your shuttle, do not cut.



- A ring 6, p (or + to previous ring), 4, sp, 2, cl  
 B ring 2, + to previous ring, 2, p, 2, p, 2, p, 2, sp, 2, cl  
 C ring 2, + to previous ring, 4, p, 6, cl, RW  
 CH. 4, p, 3, + 2<sup>nd</sup> picot on the corner chain on row 1, 3, p, 4, RW  
 A ring 6, + to previous ring, 4, sp, 2, cl  
 B ring 2, + to previous ring, 2, p, 2, p, 2, p, 2, sp, 2, cl  
 B ring 2, + to previous ring, 2, p, 2, p, 2, p, 2, sp, 2, cl  
 C ring 2, + to previous ring, 4, p, 6, cl, RW  
 CH. 4, + to previous chain, 3, + to the adjacent picot on the same corner chain on row 1, 3, p, 4, RW  
 Work a 3 ring group (A, B and C), RW  
 CH. 4, p, 3, + to the adjacent chain on row 1, 3, p, 4, RW  
 Work a 3 ring group (A, B and C), RW



- CH. 4, p, 3, + to 2<sup>nd</sup> picot on the adjacent corner chain on row 1, 3, p, 4, RW  
 Work a 4 ring group (A, B, B, C), RW  
 CH. 4, + to previous chain, 3, + to the next picot on the same corner chain on row 1, 3, p, 4, RW  
 \* Work a 3 ring group (A, B and C), RW  
 CH. 4, p, 3, + to adjacent chain on row 1, 3, p, 4, RW\*\*  
 Repeat from \* to \*\*  
 Repeat from the start of the row to complete the round remembering to join the last C ring to the first A ring at the start of the row. Cut tie and secure the ends.



Make the flower motif and attach it to the felt in the centre before working the 3<sup>rd</sup> row.

**Row 3**

NB this row attaches row 2 to the felt needle case. Work through two thicknesses of felt, as well as the tatting of row 2, along the 'spine' but only the top layer of felt, as well as the tatting of row 2, around the other three sides.

Pin the tatted top in place on the front of the needle case.

Wind about 2 metres on your shuttle - do not cut.

Start by working up the 'spine' of the needle case; sj through the p between the 4<sup>th</sup> ring of the corner group of rings and the 1<sup>st</sup> of the group of 3 rings.

CH. 6, sj through the two layers of felt behind the centre ring of the three ring group,

CH. 6, sj through joining picot between the groups of three rings as well as the two layers of felt on the 'spine' as before

sj behind the group of rings  
1<sup>st</sup> shuttle joining the tatting to the 'spine'  
2<sup>nd</sup> sj joining the tatting to the needle case  
Last sj, behind the 1<sup>st</sup> ring of the corner group



12 double stitch corner chain

Back of 'spine' of the needle case showing the chains and shuttle joins



Continue working along the 'spine' until you reach the shuttle join behind joining picot between the last 3 ring group and the corner 4 ring group.

Work 12 double stitches for the corner chains (all the other chains are 6 double stitches)

The rest of the row (three sides of the cover of the needle case) are worked through just the top layer of felt as you join row 2 of the tatted top to it.

Work the rest of the row of chains with shuttle joins alternately joining row 2 in place and behind the rings into just the felt.

In the most part this row is not visible from the front of the needle case.

At the end of the row cut and tie to the first shuttle join.

Secure the ends.

The photograph on the right shows the inside of the front of the needle case

