Butterfly Earrings

Requirements:
Size 40 thread, size 11 or 15 beads (64 butterfly colour, 30 flower colour and 4 size 9 or 11 for the centres of the other rings), jewellery finding split rings and earring hooks or studs, a Big Eyed Needle for stringing the beads and the usual tatting equipment.
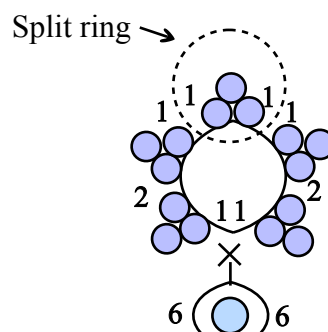
Abbreviations:
R.= ring, B = bead, sp = small picot, cl = close ring, + = join, SR = split ring, vsp = very small picot,

Butterfly
For each earring string 32 of the butterfly colour, 2 'ring' colour then 15 of the flower colour
Wind about 2 metres on your shuttle with the 'flower colour' beads half way along because they won't be needed until you have tatted the butterfly. DO NOT CUT.

R.A   Bring 9 beads into the ring round your hand
      6, B, 1, B, 1, B, 1, 3B, 1, B, 1, B, 1, B, 2, sp, 4, cl
R.B   Bring 7 beads into the ring round your hand
      4, + to ring A, (1, B) x 7, 2, sp, 3, cl
R.C   Bring 7 beads into the ring round your hand
      3, + to ring B, 2, (B, 1) x 7, sp, 4, cl
R.D   Bring 9 beads into the ring round your hand
      4, + to ring C, 1, B, 1, B, 1, B, 1, 3B, 1, B, 1, B, 1, B, 6, cl
      Cut the ball thread 12 inches (30 cm) away from ring A

Head
SR,   3 / 3 (finger tat the second side or tie onto a shuttle)

Hanging rings
R.   6, vsp, 6, move up the bead behind the ring (it should be a snug fit in the centre of the ring), work a shuttle join to the vsp,
     6, vsp, 6, move up the bead behind the ring (it should be a snug fir in the centre of the ring), work a shuttle join to the vsp on the ring.
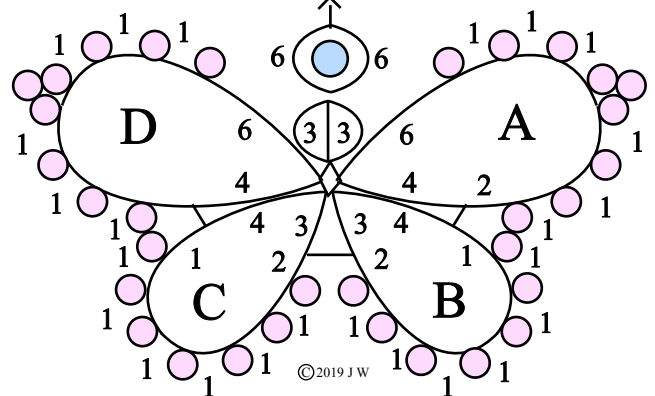
Flower
R.   Bring 15 beads into the ring round your hand
     1, 3B, 2, 3B, 1, + to the metal split ring, 1, 3B, + to the metal split ring again (position it behind the 3B group of beads), 1, 3B, 2, 3B, 1, cl
Cut and sew in the ends.
Attach the metal split ring to the earring finding.

The butterflies can be stiffened if required

Instead of using the metal split rings you can work a long picot (½ inch or 10 mm) high instead of the first join to the split ring and join to it instead of the second join to the split ring.