

Daisy Chain

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When walking in the park last summer I noticed that the grass was covered with daisies; this took me back to my childhood and making daisy chains. These daisy chains didn't last long of course but a tatted one will. In this pattern there are three rings (self closing mock rings) with long picots for the petals, the centre is a yellow button, with a shank, and the back of the flower is a ring with two rows of chains round it. The stem is worked as an ordinary chain but three threads are wound together on the shuttle for the 'core' to make it a little bit thicker. To make a single daisy use wire for the stem (pass it through the shank of the button before pushing up the flower back) and reverse tat stitches to cover it.

Requirements:

Size 20 thread in white and green, ½ inch (13 mm) yellow shank buttons, glue and the usual tating equipment.



Abbreviations:

SCMR = self closing mock ring,

LP = long picot which should measure 11 mm high (closed measurement) use a lollypop stick as a picot gauge,

vsp = very small picot, mp = medium picot (⅛ inch or 4 mm high) use a cocktail stick as a picot gauge,

cl = close ring, CH. = chain, sj = shuttle join.

NB you can work an ordinary ring instead of the SCMR if you wish but you will need to wind more thread on your shuttle.

Petals make 2 or 3 (Fig 1)

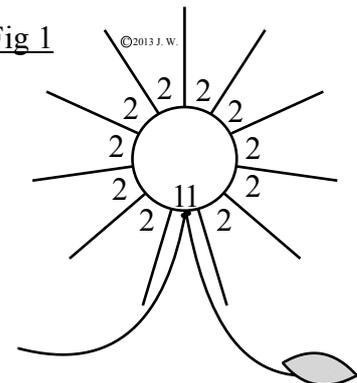
Wind about 3 inches on your shuttle. Do not cut.

SCMR 1, (LP, 2) x 11, cl to fit round the shank of your button.

Cut and tie a reef knot then trim the ends.

There is no need to sew in the ends as they have been secured with the reef knot and will be hidden when the daisy is assembled.

Fig 1



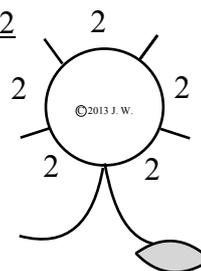
Sepals (back of the daisy)

Wind about 12 inches (30 cm) on your shuttle. Do not cut.

Row 1 (Fig 2)

SCMR 2, (vsp, 2) x 4, cl tightly, RW

Fig 2



Row 2 (Fig)

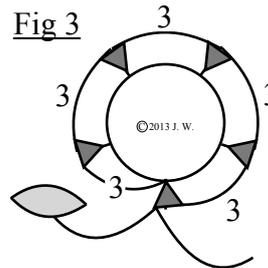
CH. 3, sj to the first vsp on the ring,

*CH. 3, sj to the adjacent vsp on the ring

Repeat from * twice more

CH. 3, sj to the very small space between the SCMR and the first chain

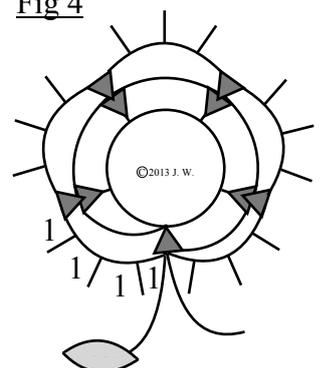
Fig 3



Row 3 (Fig 4)

#CH. 1, mp, 1, mp, 1, mp, 1, sj to the small space above the adjacent sj on row '2'

Fig 4

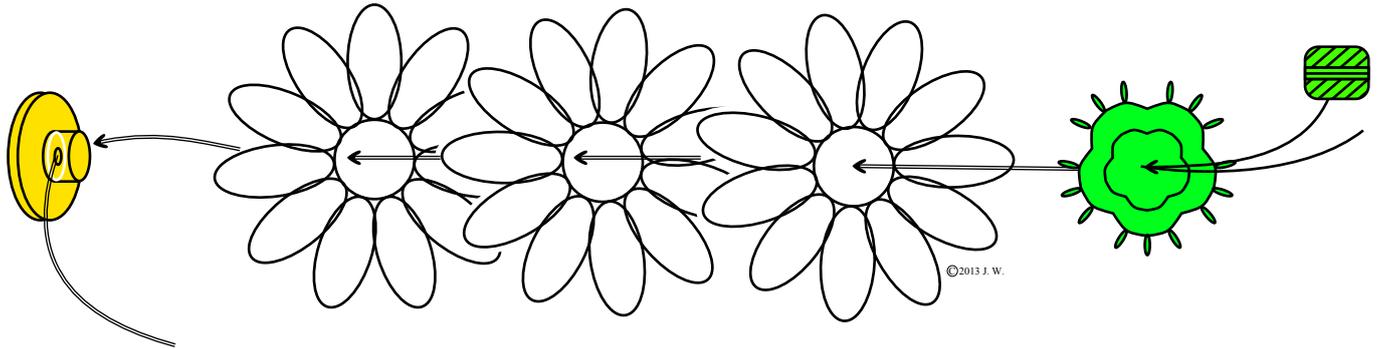


Repeat from # 4 times more omitting the sj on the fourth repeat
Cut and tie to the start of the row. Secure the ends.

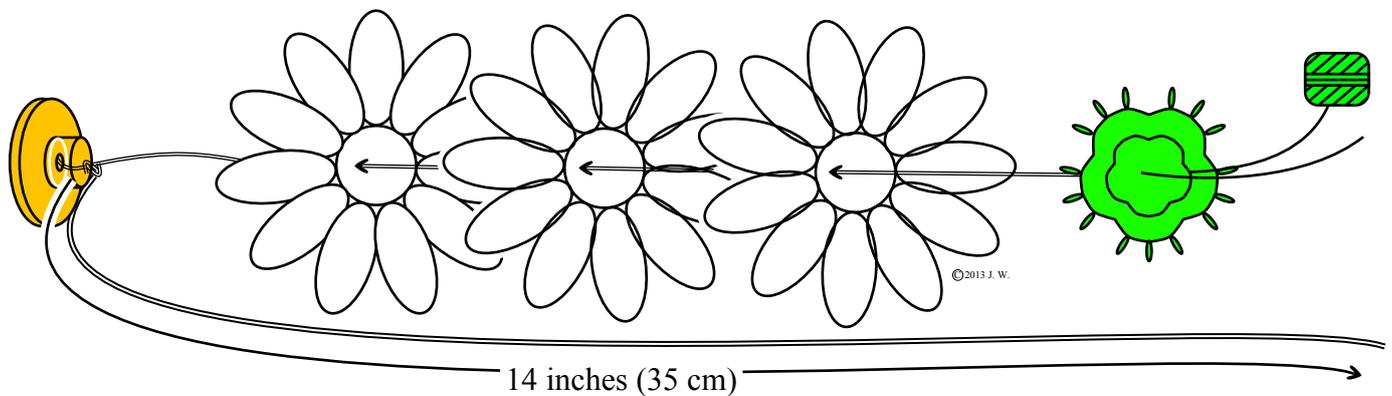
Assembling the daisy

Measure 28 inches (71 cm) from the ball of green thread and cut from the ball.

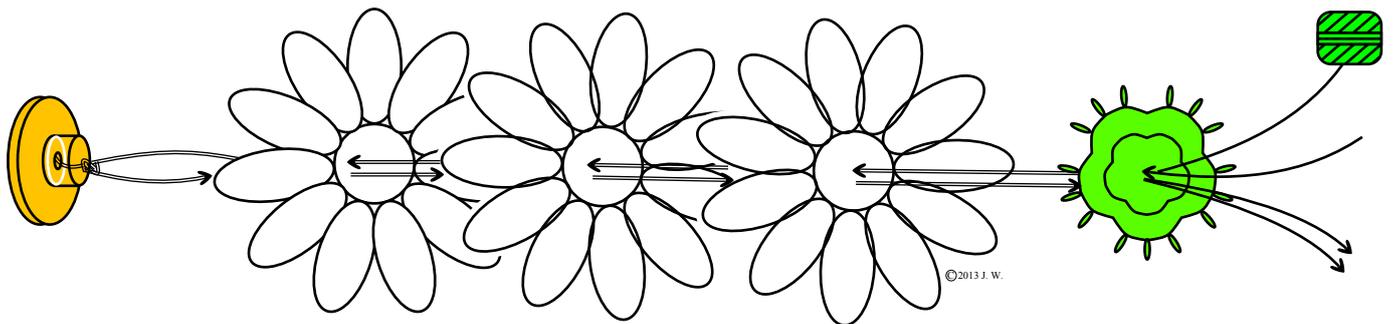
Take one end of this piece of thread and the thread from the ball and pass them up through the daisy sepal, then through the centres of the three rows of petals, then through the hole in the shank of the button



Tie a reef knot to the shank 14 inches from the cut ends.



Take the two threads back down through the rows of petals and the sepal.



Place the button right side downwards on a firm surface.

Put a small amount of glue on the back of the button then move up a row of petals. Ease in place with the end of a cocktail stick.

Add a little more glue on the petals then bring up the second row and then repeat for the third row of petals.

Add a little more glue then bring up the sepals for the back of the daisy.

Press the flower together onto the firm surface.

The petals should cup round the button and sit nicely inside the sepals - see the picture overleaf.

Allow to dry.

You should have 4 threads coming from the centre of the back of your daisy, one is the ball thread and the other three should be approximately the same length. Tie these three threads, together as one thread, and wind on a shuttle, then work a chain for the stem of your daisy, tie an overhand knot with all the threads together and trim.

To make a 'daisy chain' make the first daisy and the chain about (2¼ inches 7 cm) long, then leave. Make the second daisy and the stem about 2¼ inches (7 cm) long then take the ball thread one side of the head of the first daisy and the shuttle threads the other side then work another inch (25 mm) of stem. Cut and tie the four threads together using an overhand knot, then trim. Add as many daisies to your chain as you wish finishing the first daisy in the same way as the others to complete the circle.

