

Joining in a new thread

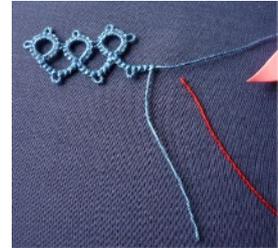
Jennifer Williams

When joining in a new thread you will have to deal with two ends, the old thread and the start of the new one. Whether you need to replace the shuttle or 'ball' this should be done after a chain has been worked, so that the new 'end' can be hidden when working a ring, and then the other 'end' can be hidden when working the following chain.

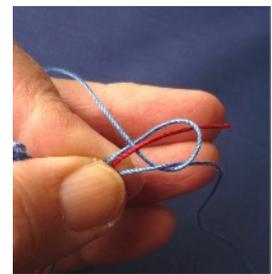
Method 1

In this method the ends are threaded through the stitches, before they are closed tightly, and lay alongside the core (working shuttle) thread. In the pictures a red thread is the new thread and the blue one is the one that is being replaced.

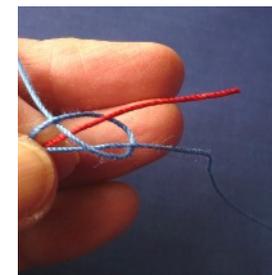
Here a new 'ball' thread (red) needs to be added. —————>



1) Put the shuttle thread round your hand ready to work the ring then make and turn the first half of the stitch but, before you tighten it, pass the new 'end' through the loop next to the core (shuttle) thread.



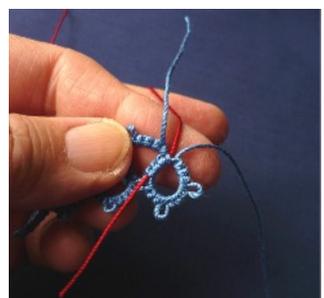
2) Tighten the stitch and move it up into position at the start of the ring.



3) Work the second half of the stitch, turn it, then pass the 'end' through the loop before closing it and moving it up next to the previous stitch.



4) Work over the 'end' for 3 or 4 double stitches then complete the ring according to the pattern.



5) Reverse your work ready to tat the chain.

Make the chain using the new 'ball' thread (red) and hiding the old (blue) thread inside the stitches in the same way as above.



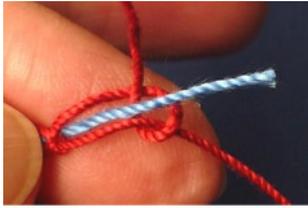
6) In this picture you can see where the new and old ends have been left out of the ring and the chain after they had been hidden inside 3 or 4 double stitches.

Continue according to the instructions in the pattern. When the piece is completed trim the ends fairly close to the work so that when it is blocked they will shrink a little and disappear inside the stitches.

Method 2

In this method the ends are woven between the half stitches as you work.

Here the end is brought to the front...and here the end has been taken to the back



In this picture you can see where the new and old ends have been woven between the stitches then left out. When worked in just one colour the little 'blips' of colour will not be as visible as they are here.

