

Classic Needle Arts

by
Mary Maynard
315 S 6th Street
Laramie, Wyoming 82070

It was early in December when I first got the request from Joy for permission to use one of my fan designs for the Palmetto TAT days 2005. What an honor! I was so pleased with the request that I suggested creating a special fan design just for the meeting. The offer was accepted with great enthusiasm.

The fan design I created exploits my special technique for making hairpin lace totally tatted. This fan design is worked using 3 basic elements or rows. The fun of this design is that design variations are suggested, mix and match encouraged, so that while the basic design is especially for the TAT days, everyone can and is encouraged to create their own version of this design.

I have worked three examples to show how the three elements given can be combined to make fans which are basically the same, but also leave a lot of options open for the individual tatter to allow personal taste and preference to individualize the final fan.

Just a couple more comments about the fan. Front or public side of this fan is really difficult to designate. I like the appearance of both sides. There are, however, differences to the appearance of each side of each element or row, so when starting the next row or element, just be sure you are working to have the finished design with all the sides or the elements or rows facing the direction YOU, the tatting creator, WANT them to face to achieve the desired finished 'look'. Tatting these fans also goes much faster as the ends are cleverly disguised (tatted over with a padded technique) and used for the tassel of the fan.

Supplies:

2 shuttles
10 thread (bedspread weight thread)
color & content of choice
picot gauges ($\frac{3}{8}$ & $1\frac{1}{4}$)
scissors or thread cutting tool
joining hook

Abbreviations:

ds double stitch by number
p picot -, —, —,
- picot just long enough to join
—, picot of $\frac{3}{8}$ " finished length
—, picot of $1 \frac{1}{4}$ " finished length
j join +
R ring
SR split ring indicated by /

Element # 1

The hairpin element of the fan.

Picots for this 'row' must have $\frac{3}{8}$ inch finished length for the first half of the SR. In the second portion of the ring, they must be $1 \frac{1}{4}$ finished length. It is important for the final 'look' for the picots to be the same length.

Leave all ends (beginning and ending ends) of at least 24 inches: Having ends of this length assures enough thread to work the padded double stitches to finish the tassel.

SR 1—1—1— $\frac{1}{2}$ —2

Repeat 14 times, total of 15 SR



Suggested variation: (illustrated ->)

(A)

SR 1—2—1/2—2

Note: I tried putting more picots on side of the long picots and did not like the way it looked, you may want to try it. I tried twisting the longer picots and did not particularly like the way that looked either, but try it, you may like it.

Leave ends & cut.

Element # 2

Drawing the longer picots together for the 'handle' or tassel' Leave about 6 - 8 inches for these ends. The sample here was my first trial to complete this fan. It has only 13 SR, 15 works better

(a)

R 3+ (long p of 1st element), 1 + x 14, 3

Leave ends & cut

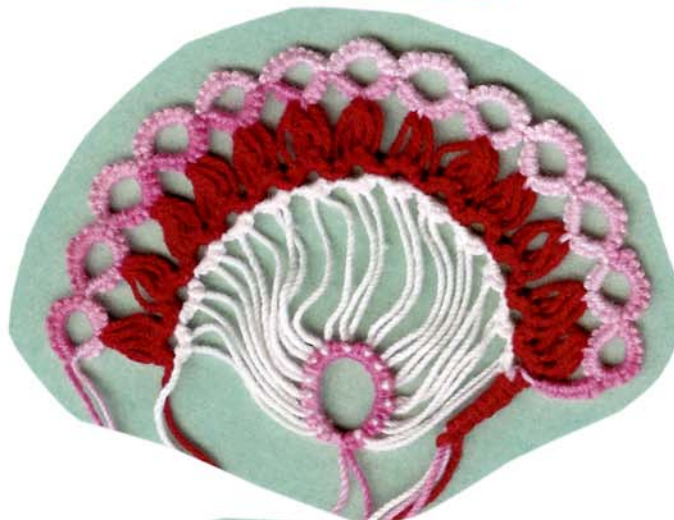
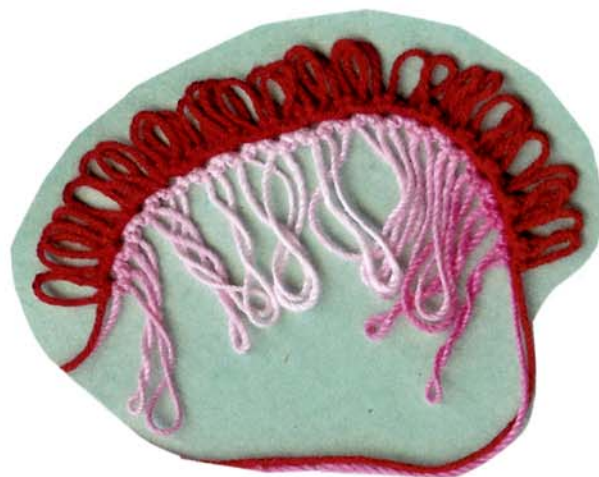
Suggested variations:

(b)

R 5 + (5 long p of 1st element) 3 + (5 long p of 1st element) 3 + (5 long p of 1st element) 5

(c)

R 5 + (5 long p of 1st element) 3-2
R 3 + (p of last r) 7 + (5 long p of 1st element) 7 - 3
R 2 + (p of last r) 3 + (5 p pf 1st element) 5
Cloverleaf made.



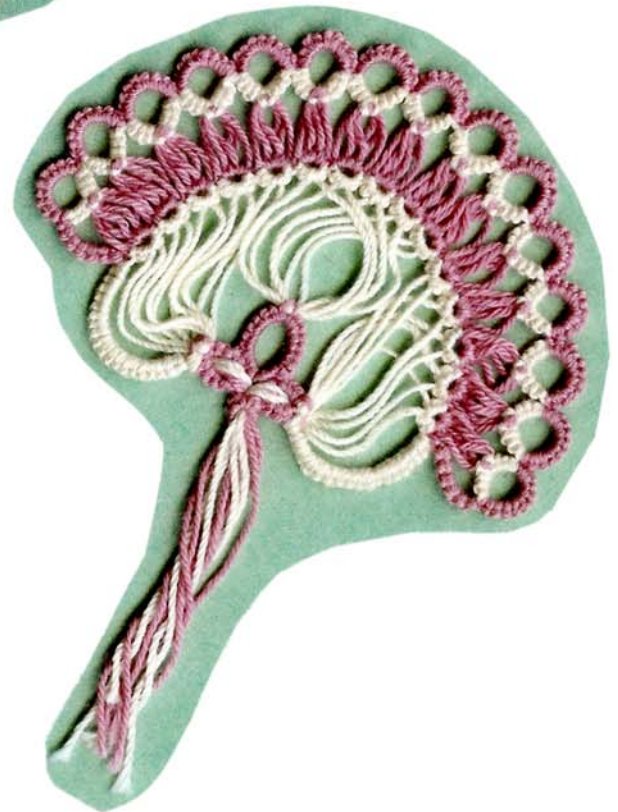
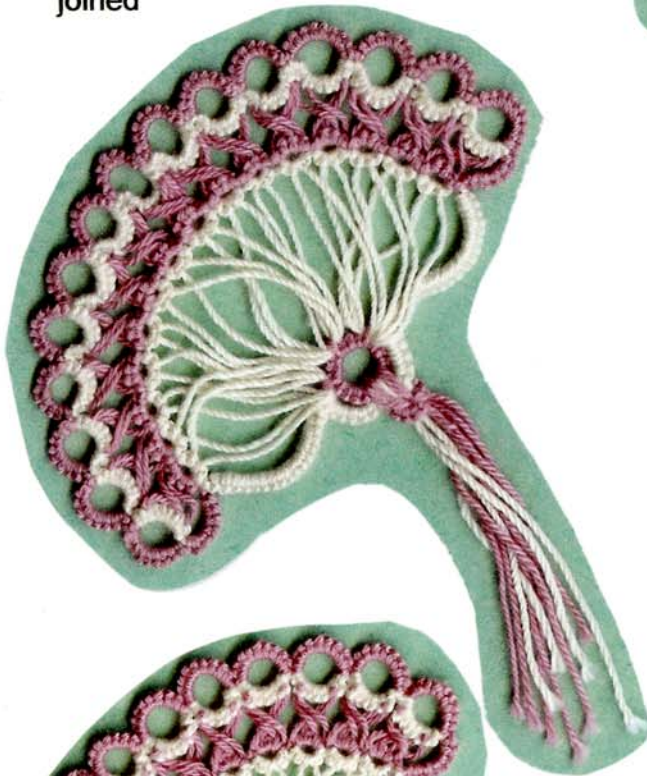
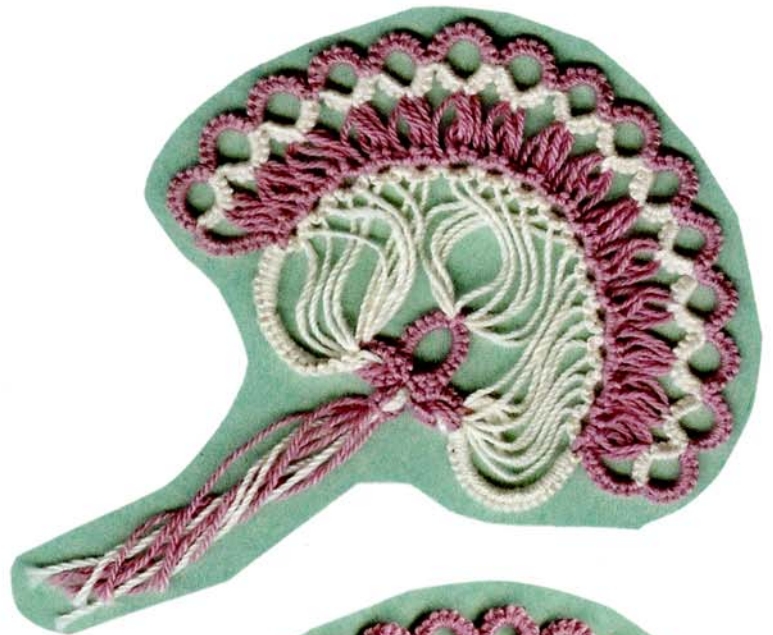
Element # 3

The outer border of the fan
Let's do the simplest first.

(I)

SR 4 + (to 3 p on opposite side of
element 1, all the p of the first SR)
4/9

Repeat 14 times, all p will now be
joined



Suggested variation:

used for variation A element 1

(II)

SR 2 skip 1 p + (to next p) 4 + (to
skipped p) 2/9

Repeat 14 times

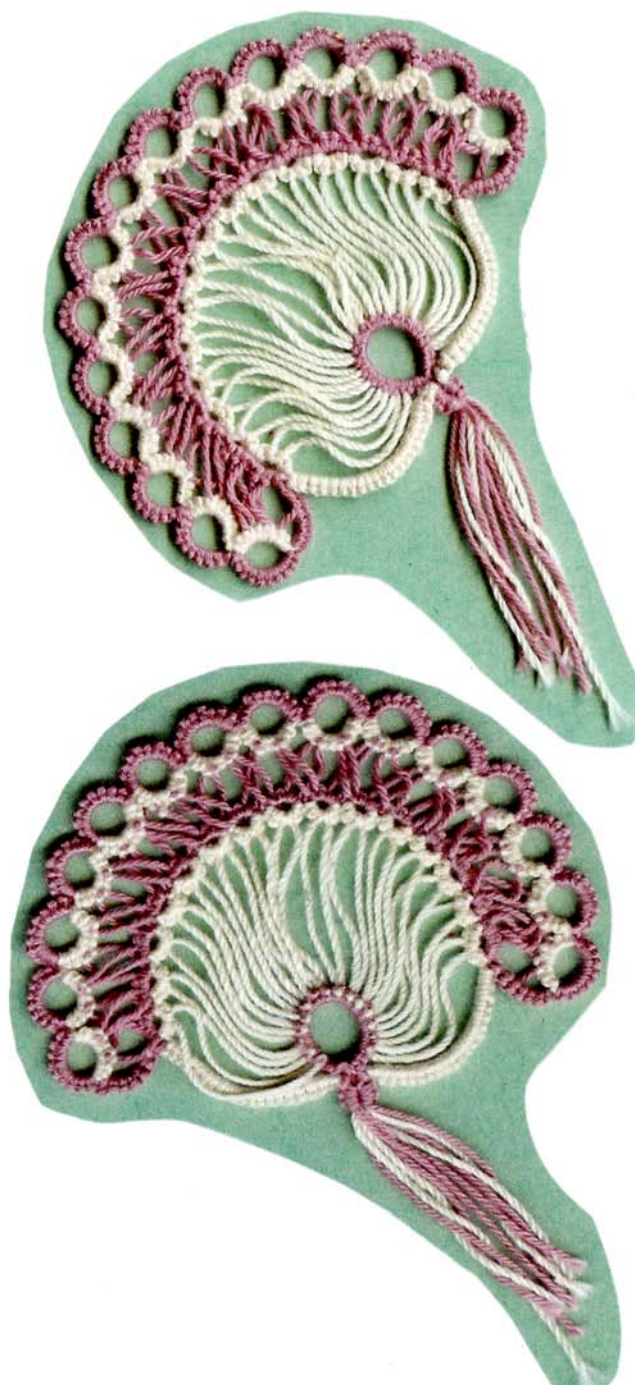


(III)

SR 2 + (to first p) 4 Skip 1 p, + (to first p of next SR) 2/9

SR 2 + (to skipped p) 4 skip 1 p, + (to first p of next SR) 2/9

Repeat to last SR, j final j to last p.



Finishing:

First, decide which side is most pleasing.

Start with the ends to the right as you look at that selected side. Select the color to show, it will be the 'ball' thread. (I just 'finger tat' these quick DS.)

Work 8 or 9 DS.

Lay these ends along side one of the ends which are at the end of element # 1. (again, 'finger tat' using all three ends.) The color of the 'covering' thread may be the same or contrast, whichever is desired.

Work 20 DS

Work the same for the opposing ends, but reverse the order of the DS as they are worked.

Now there should be a whole bunch of ends all together reaching the ring or rings of element # 2. I have worked 3 ways to complete (or disguise them) for a tassel.

Using the ends from element # 2, SR 4/4

BEFORE closing draw all other ends through SR

For element # 2 (b)

+ (to same p of R last) 7 (padded DS over all ends) Draw ends through from the back side of the fan.

Using ends from R of Element # 2, R of 10 DS, Draw all ends through towards the back side before closing.

For the cloverleaf concept of element # 2,

(to same + as long p) draw ends through from the back to the front side of the fan. Using the ends from the cloverleaf, SR of 4/4. Draw ALL ends through before closing.

Trimming the ends completes the fan. All ends can be cut to one length. I prefer to stagger my ends just a little. Do what pleases you most.

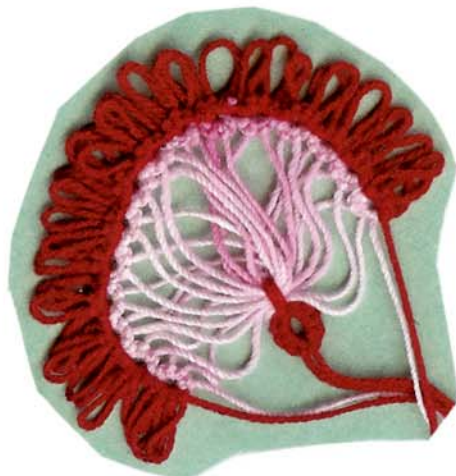
I am showing here what it looked like when I twisted three long picot to work element #2. As I mentioned, I am not really pleased with it. BUT it also demonstrates a different join for the short picots.



These are only suggestions, after working a couple of the fans, you will have fun 'doodling' in your own and they may work better than my suggestions for you.

Final Challenge:

I have pictured here a fourth design variation for the 2nd element of the fan.



Can you figure out how it was done?