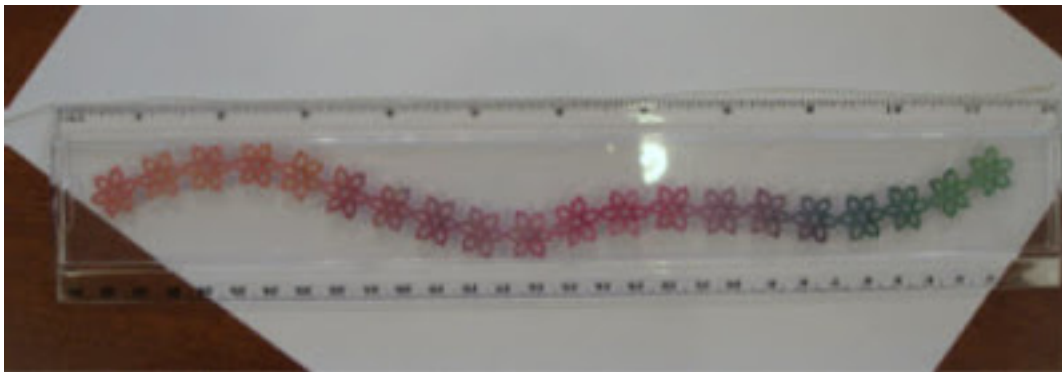


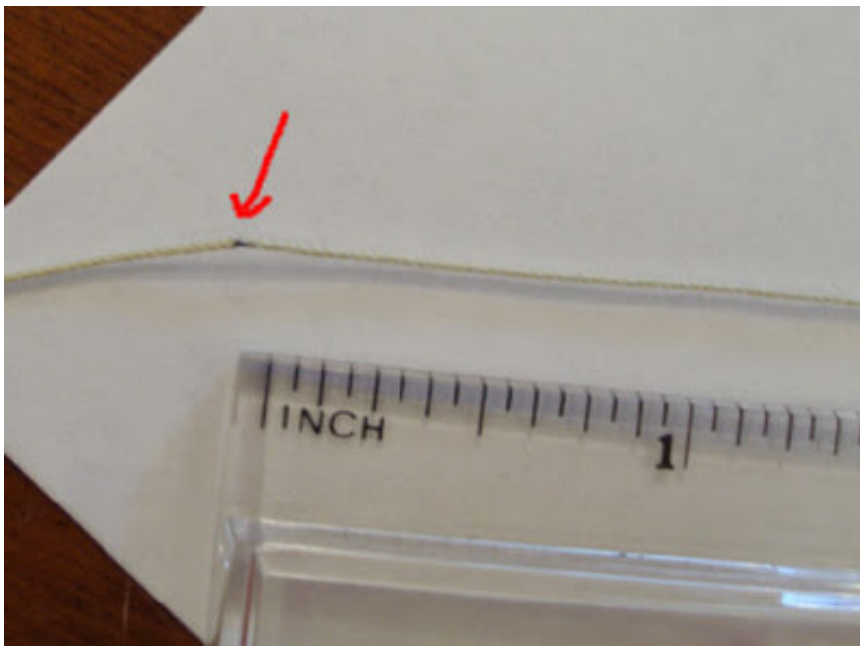
## Predict the future / Save your thread: Thread Tutorial

Do you hate not having enough thread on your shuttles when you start a project or having too much thread left over on your shuttle after you complete your project? I might be able to help you. I have discovered a way to predict how much thread you will use in a project before you even begin to wind your shuttles. You can do this for any size thread. You can predict how much thread you will need to use in project before starting. This is ever so helpful for determining projects, especially those big ones. Also, this method is individualized to your style of tatting whether your tension is tight or loose, you can determine how much thread YOU will use.

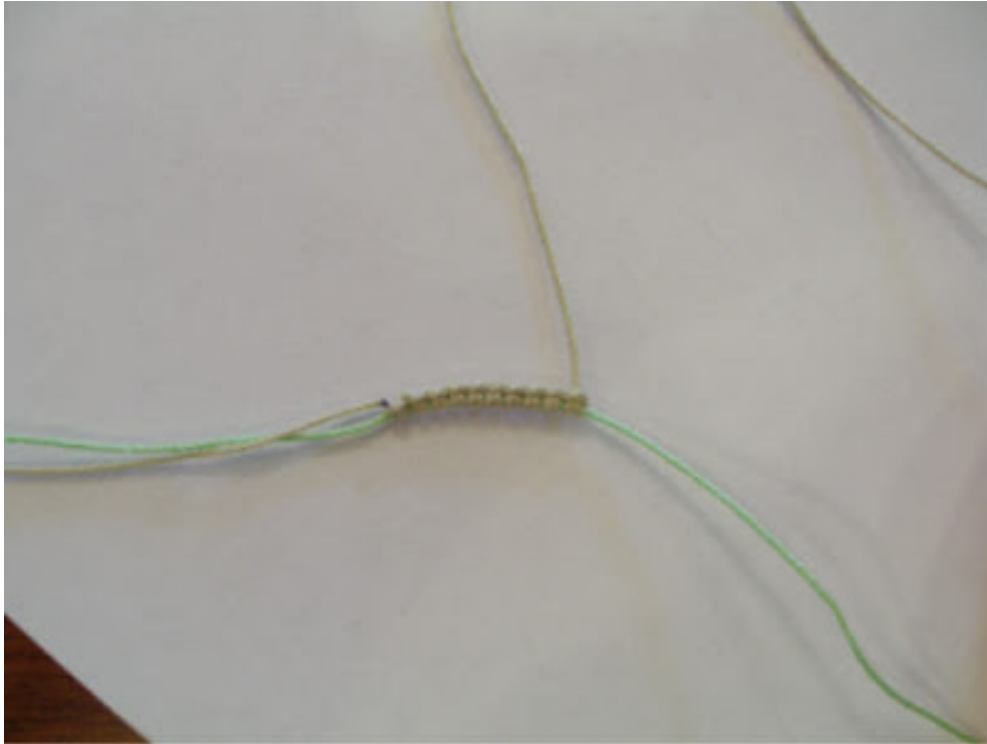
Please do not get scared away by the math. It really is pretty simple.



Take your ball thread and measure a 12" length of thread. Do not cut.



Mark the thread at the beginning.



Tat 10 double stitches. (See the mark on the thread?)



After tatting 10ds, measure how much thread is left and subtract from 12". In my case it takes 4" of size 20 thread to make 10 stitches. So now I know that for every 10 ds in a pattern I will need 4" of thread.



Let's take this pattern and predict how much size 20 thread we will need to use.

One inner pink ring is 12 ds, so let's multiply 12 ds X 6 rings = 72 ds  
 Since 10 ds = 4" of thread you can divide 72/10 = 7.2 and multiply that by 4" = 28.8 inches. You'll want to include room for picots, core thread and tails so I would round this up to 1 yard (or 36 inches). So I would wind my shuttle with one yard of pink thread for the inner rings.

Break it down, now let's do the brown thread:

One chain = 16 ds, multiply that by 6 chains = 96 ds  
 One ring = 14x6 =84 ds  
 96+84=180 ds  
 180/10=18  
 18x4=72 inches  
 72 inches divided by 1 yard (36 inches) = 2 yards  
 Add a little room (maybe 1 foot) for core thread, picots and tails.  
 So you'll wind your second shuttle with 2 yards and 1 foot of thread.

Whaddya think? Bloody Brilliant...that's what!  
 No more wasting thread!

Posted by [LadyShuttleMaker aka MadMadPotter](#)