

# POPPY - THE FLOWER OF REMEMBRANCE



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November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's day. I tatted this little Poppy flower to share so that everyone who wants to honor those who are serving in the military or have served in the military can tat a remembrance Poppy flower. Make as many as you like. Sell them as a fundraiser to support Veterans services or give them as gifts.

This sample is size 10 Elisa thread. It is about an inch across.

One shuttle with a couple yards of red thread, and one with a dark color (I used purple) for the center. This flower is tatted in one pass. Wrap both threads around your hand for the hand ring leaving about 10" tails. Wind the red shuttle thread around your little finger as if tating a chain. Tat two dark color unflipped DS on the ring as in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of a split ring. Turn the work over and using the red thread shuttle tat two thrown off rings.

Ring ( 2 - 7 - 2 - 2 )

Ring ( 2 + 2 + 7 - 2 )

Turn the work over and put the two-thread hand ring back on your hand with the red shuttle thread wrapped around your little finger again and tat two more dark color unflipped DS on the center ring.

The next petal is two more thrown off red rings.

Ring ( 2 + 7 - 2 - 2 ) The join is to the previous petal.

Ring ( 2 + 2 + 7 - 2 )

Repeat until there are three two-ring petals, and the first ring of the fourth petal.

Pull on the original two tails to close the center ring. The final ring is a Split Ring.

Split Ring ( 2 + 2 + 7 / 2 )

Tat over the two dark thread ends when tating the final 2 stitches. Pull the red thread that tatted over the dark thread through the picot of the first ring. Close the split ring and make sure the threads are all snug. I found that there was an unintended picot in the purple thread of the center so I just snipped it and used a drop of fray check, so it did not unravel. Poppies have dark colored stamen sticking up in the middle, so this just adds to the design.

Hide the ends or use them to make twisted cord for a bookmark.

How the poppy became the flower of remembrance:

It all started with Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae, a Canadian medical doctor. In May 1915 during the Second Battle of Ypres he was working in a dressing station alongside the Yprelee Canal.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> May his friend Lieutenant Alexis Helmer of the Canadian Field Artillery was blown to bits by an artillery bombardment. As many of Helmer's body parts as possible were somehow gathered and buried at Essex Farm Cemetery. At the funeral, McCrae stood in for the chaplain and took the service. Later that day when he came off duty, McCrae sat on the back of an ambulance and, looking over the fresh graves and the wild poppies, penned a poem.

### In Flanders Fields

By [John McCrae](#)

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.