Celtic Knot Wreath

This Celtic wreath is a true Celtic Knot made in two rounds. Each round goes completely around the circle and weaves over and under the other. Add small red beads for berries if you wish. Make a dozen of these and join them together for an unusual placemat, or tat them together with another motif. Enjoy being creative with this piece!

Materials Required:
One tatting shuttle and ball of green thread.

This sample is made with a very large, size 3 Pearl Cotton, and is about 2” in diameter. Smaller thread will make a smaller finished piece.

First Round

Tie an overhand knot in the thread between the shuttle and the ball. Tat the first DS about a picot distance from this knot to make a small loop at the beginning, or start on a paper clip to form a small loop. The end of this round is joined to the beginning at this loop.

Chain (10 – 6 – 10 – 15 –)
Repeat 3 times around. The 10 – 6 – 10 is tatted very tightly so that it forms a loop that weaves over itself. The 15 is fairly straight.

Tie the end to the beginning with a slip knot so that it may be taken out when weaving the second round. It is easy to make a mistake with this, so it’s just to be safe.

Second Round

Follow the same directions as the first round except that instead of making picots in the loop, you join to the picots in the loops of the first round.

Chain (10 + 6 + 10 – 15 –)
Start at the opposite side from where the first round began, and weave over and under as shown here as you tat.
Make certain that all the weaving is correct, and then tie the end to the beginning. Cut and hide ends. The ends from one round can be tied together and used for a loop to hang the wreath.

The first round is easy. Just be certain that each of the three loops have the second part (10) of the loop on top of the first part (10) as shown here.

The second round is a bit tricky because the weaving has to be correct before joining to the picots of the first round.

The first round is flexible enough that the shuttle can easily be passed through the loops. However, it may be easier to use a second shuttle to hold the ball thread when tatting the second round. I prefer the “finger tatting” method, and leave the end very long so there is plenty of thread to complete the tatted chain that is the second round.

Weave the end over and under as shown here before joining to the picots of the first round.

This drawing shows the reverse side of the piece. Notice that the weaving is all backwards. Everywhere it weaves over on one side, is obviously under on the reverse side.

The piece does not have a “front” and a “back”, but you should be aware of which side you are working with if you join several of these into a larger piece.

While this may be tatted with any size thread, I recommend that you start with larger thread, at least a size 20. Once you have made one successfully with Fat thread, and understand the weaving, it will be easier to be successful with smaller thread.