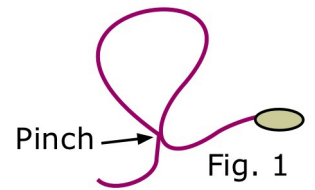


# HOME Starting Rings, Chains, Split Rings and Self Closing Mock Rings Without Tying Knots. © Jane Eborall (amended 2012)

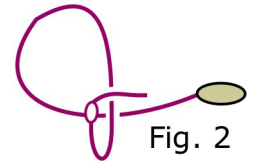
This page is to show how to start rings, chains, split rings and self closing mock rings without tying a knot. In some cases two methods are given.

## Starting a ring – method 1.

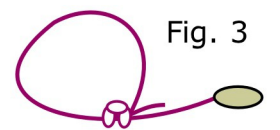
Take the thread round the hand as if starting a ring as usual but turning the end back towards the left.



Work the first half of the double stitch and then bend the end up and over the top as in fig. 2.



Work the second half of the first ds over the tail to hide it and continue working over the tail for a few more double stitches.



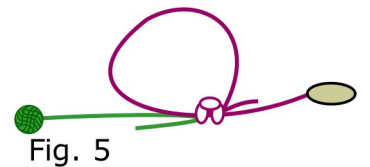
If the ring is to be followed by a chain please skip to fig. 8 or alternatively use the following method.

## Starting a ring followed by a chain – method 2.

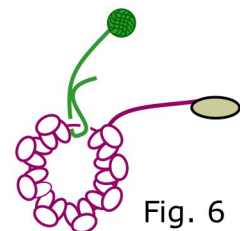
Fold the chain thread and insert the shuttle thread through the loop formed. Hold where they overlap in the pinch.



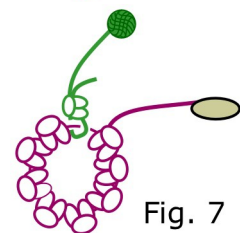
Make the ring whilst tatting over the short end for several double stitches.



Close the ring when complete and reverse work. The chain thread is already in place.



Make the first few double stitches of the chain to cover the tail of the chain thread.

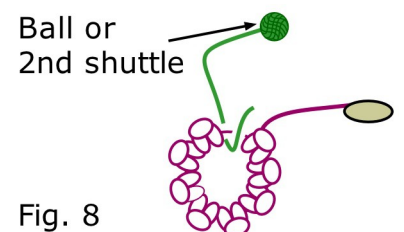


## Starting a chain if using method 1.

Take the end of the ball thread through the ring **JUST BEFORE** completely closing the it – it's probably easier to reverse your work first.

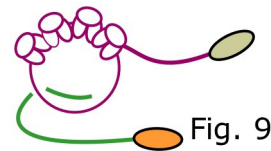
Finish closing the ring which will now pinch and hold the tail of the chain safely in place.

Work several ds over this 'tail' which will then hide it.



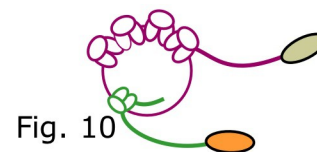
### Starting a Split Ring – method 1.

Work the first half of the ring as normal using method 1 as above. Take the second shuttle and lie the tail end **UNDER** the core thread. See Fig. 9 opposite. Check that the 'tail' of this second shuttle lies along the core thread as shown.



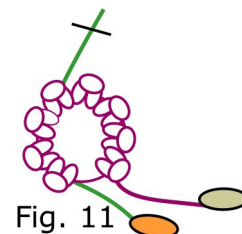
Tat over this 'tail' as before using the ds to hide and hold it.

**Remember** that the second half of the SR always starts with the second half of the ds first.



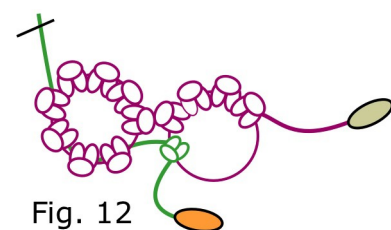
### Starting a Split Ring – method 2.

For this method the second shuttle's end can be hidden alongside the first shuttle in the preceding ring – see method 1 of starting a ring. Take care not to pull this thread out while working the ring. A slip knot round a paperclip will prevent the end pulling out accidentally although with care this shouldn't be necessary.



Start the second half of the SR carefully taking care not to pull the end out.

Once the first double stitch has been formed it's possible to give a slight pull on the hidden end and snip close to the ring. Continue as normal.



**Starting a Self Closing Mock Ring.** Please remember a SCMR is simply a chain with rings thrown off on some patterns. [See this link.](#)

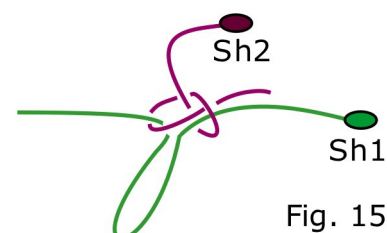
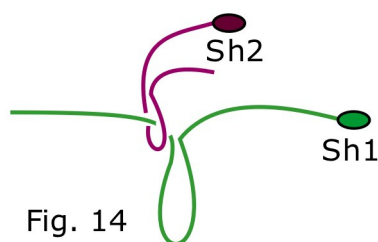
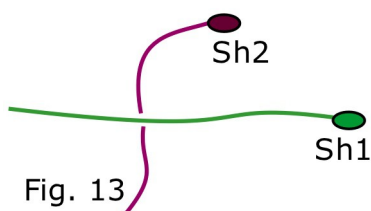
Take Sh2 and wrap the thread over the fingers of the left hand to start the SCMR. Take Wsh1 thread and place it over Sh2 thread at right angles – Fig. 13.

Turn the 'tail' of Sh2 thread up over Sh1 and also make the SCMR starting loop with Sh1 ready to begin the first element - Fig. 14.

Work the first part of the SCMR covering the tail of Sh2 with the ds of the first part of the pattern.

Just before changing to Sh2 to work the first ring in the pattern, gently pull the tail of Sh2 to hold Sh1's thread firmly. Continue with SCMR as usual.

When working the following chain or ring in the pattern – tat over the short end of Sh1.



For further help, please [email me](#)