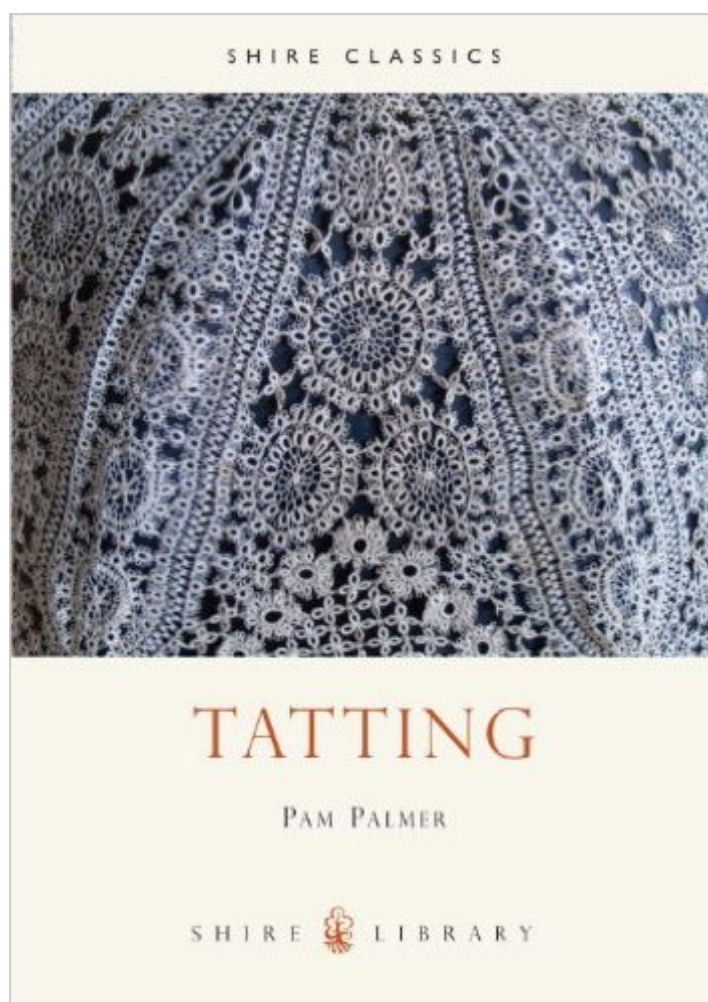


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# Tatting (Shire Library)



## Synopsis

Tatting is the craft of making lace with a shuttle. Often thought to be a difficult lace to learn, it is based almost entirely on two movements and, once mastered, can become a pleasant relaxing hobby. Much of its charm lies in the repetition of simple motifs. When working in fine thread, it is aptly described by its French name 'frivolite', although it is surprisingly strong, being formed of knots rather than stitches. This title traces the development of tatting from the eighteenth-century pastime of knotting, through its emergence as a craft in Victorian times, to more recent innovations. The text is illustrated with examples from museums and private collections. A description of the basic technique and elements of construction will assist the reader to recognise and identify tatting.

## Book Information

Series: Shire Library (Book 323)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Shire Publications (March 4, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0747803129

ISBN-13: 978-0747803126

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 1 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #199,719 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Lace & Tatting](#)

## Customer Reviews

There are so few books written on the history of tatting, and this one book is a short but sweet synopsis of the origins and development of tatting over the past two hundred years. Pam Palmer has written a small book that's big on information, covering many aspects of tatting, from its relative, knotting, to modern achievements during the latter part of the twentieth century. This book is filled with interesting photographs of tatting work, shuttles and other illustrations that add to the easy-to-read text. A must-have for any tatter's library.

I gave the book a 4 for history, though I would probably give it a 3 for craft content. It certainly cleared up a lot of confusion I've had over the difference between "tatting" and "knotting"--although I still suspect that those 18th Century shuttles could have been used for either art. This is a book for

the individual specifically interested in the history of the craft, not those interested in learning it or finding useful modern patterns. There are better books for that. The photos of the early tatted works are really too small and indistinct to actually pick out a pattern and there are no actual written instructions or schematics accompanying any of the works presented. The experienced tatter should be able to intuit them, but most are a little too fussy for modern tastes, while some of those from the early to mid-20th century will probably seem a little quaint (who wears gloves these days?)

I already had a copy of this little book. It has a lot of historical and technical information on the art of tatting. Not a good source of patterns, but very readable. Excellent for beginning tatters to learn about the craft and folks who just want to know what tatting is about.

Pam Palmer is one of the first people, who was not only very good at tatting and a very good designer, she is one of the first people who ever did scientific research on tatted lace. All her work is good and essential if you want to know more about this trade. Her books teach you how to tat, how to design tatting and what to look for when you collect tatting shuttles. She is also one of these teachers who taught (still teaches in her books), in a gentle and efficient way. She does not want to show off her own skill, she wants us to learn. A great person.

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