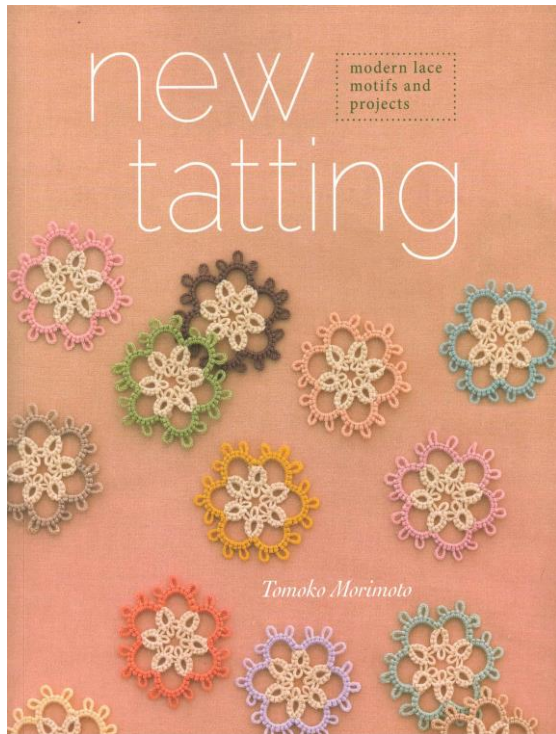


New Tatting: Modern lace motifs and projects

Tomoko Morimoto



New Tatting by Tomoko Morimoto is an instructional book intended for new tatters. She learned tatting from her mother, Teiko Fujito who is a well-known tatter herself, at an early age, and she is currently a tatting teacher in Japan.

The instructions in this book are well illustrated and well explained. She includes instructions on which thread should be tightened to form the correct stitch. She also recommends that a beginner use two different colors when beginning since it will show errors in a chain. While having a teacher at your side when learning is great for instantaneous feedback, here the information is detailed enough for the learner working alone.

The book is roughly divided into three parts, single shuttle, two shuttles, and split ring tatting. Each section has enough exercises to make the reader comfortable in the technique. It covers a lot of technique as it goes along. It covers rings, chains, Josephine knots, and split rings. Additionally, it covers those details that a new learner will need. How tight should the knots be pulled? How can a ring be undone when a

mistake is made? What do you do with the ends once the piece is finished? How can beads be incorporated? This is vital information to a new tatter.

The projects are well chosen. Here is an example from the single shuttle section, a floral scarf. There is a lot to choose from in this book. In addition to the usual mats and bookmarks, there is some wearable tatting. The color selection is well done. The final project is a mat that will challenge a new tatter. All in all, there is much here that will appeal to an experienced tatter.

My one word of warning on this book is that the patterns are diagrammed which is common in Japan and other places. Written-out instructions are still common for even many modern American patterns. If you learn from diagram patterns, there will be some adjustment in going to the other style, but once you have mastered the skills, it is a doable effort.

Sharon Sacco

