



The hippo was suggested by Jennifer who's son is a hippopotomaniac (IF there is such a word!). The pattern is worked in one pass and uses split rings and a few rows of chains. Using a number 20 thread he measures 3 3/4" from nose to tail. Richard was also used as the first 'Tat it and See' experiment where the pattern was broken down into 'bite sized' pieces and released at intervals.

### Abbreviations

R	ring	Ch	chain
-	or picot	SR	split ring
p		+	join
vlp	very long picot - size betwn ( )	Lj	join made with shuttle thread
vsp	very small picot (smallest you can make)	DNRW	Do not reverse work
S	start	/	after the / make 2nd half of SR
FP	false picot	T & C	Tie and cut
SS	Switch shuttles		
Cl	close		

LSC lock stitch chain – work first half of the double stitch as usual followed by second half UNFLIPPED to lock it. In the instructions the number of times you need to work this is shown as x and the number. So x 3 would mean you work first half ds flipped (turned) followed by second half ds unflipped (not turned) - three times.

2 shuttles required. Between all the rings up to SR18 leave a small thread space roughly 1/8" NB – I have used italics (and red text) where those who like to do 'front side, back side' tatting need to reverse the order of working double stitches. This does not apply to the second side of a regular split ring.

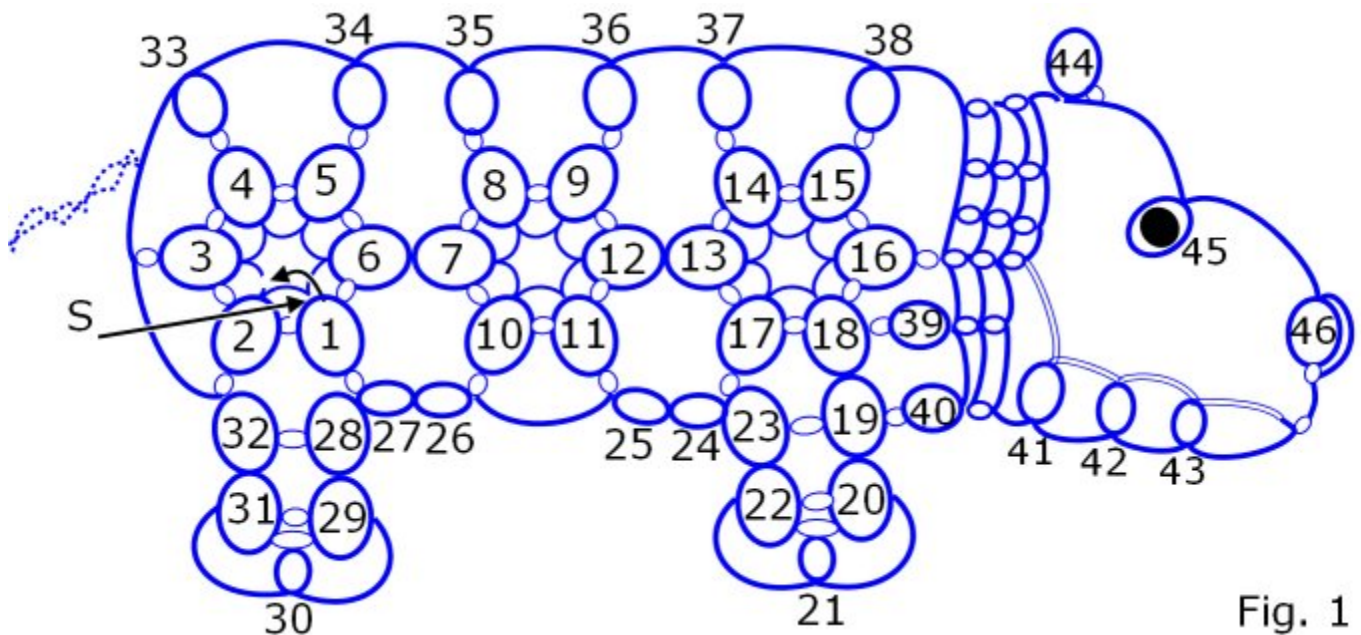


Fig. 1

**Body** - Using shuttle 1

R1: 2 - 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R2: 2 + (R1) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R3: 2 + (R2) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R4: 2 + (R3) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R5: 2 + (R4) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
SR6: 2 + (R5) 6 / 2 + (R1) 6 CI  
SR7: 6 - 2 / 6 - 2 CI  
R8: 2 + (SR7) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R9: 2 + (R8) 6 - 6 - 2 CI RW SS  
R10: 2 + (SR7) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R11: 2 + (R10) 6 - 6 - 2 CI RW SS  
SR12: 2 + (R9) 6 / 2 + (R11) 6 CI  
SR13: 6 - 2 / 6 - 2 CI  
R14: 2 + (SR13) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R15: 2 + (R14) 6 - 6 - 2 CI  
R16: 2 + (R15) 6 - 6 - 2 CI RW SS  
R17: 2 + (R13) 6 - 6 - 2 CI RW SS  
SR18: 2 + (R16) 2 - 4 / 2 + (R17) 6 CI

### **Front Leg**

SR19: 2 - 6 / 4 - 4 CI  
SR20: 4 / 4 - 2 - 6 CI SS  
Ch: 10 RW  
R21: 2 + (last p SR20) 2 CI RW  
Ch: 10 DNRW SS  
SR22: 4 / 6 + (last p SR20) 2 + (next p SR20) 4 CI  
SR23: 6 / 4 + (SR19) 4 + (R17) 4 CI

### **Lower body**

SR24: 4 / 4 CI  
SR25: 4 / 4 CI Lj (R11) SS  
Ch: 8 Lj (R10) SS  
SR26: 4 / 4 CI  
SR27: 4 / 4 CI Lj (R1)

### **Back leg**

SR28: 8 / 4 - 4 CI  
SR29: 4 / 4 - 2 - 6 CI SS  
Ch: 10 RW  
R30: 2 + (last p SR29) 2 CI RW  
Ch: 10 DNRW SS  
SR31: 4 / 6 + (last p SR29) 2 + (next p SR29) 4 CI  
SR32: 6 / 4 + (SR28) 4 CI Lj (R2) SS

### **Back**

Ch: 10 Lj (R3) 6 Vlp (1 ¼") 1 + (Vlp after twisting 12 times) 6 RW  
R33: 4 + (R4) 4 CI RW  
Ch: 14 RW  
R34: 6 + (R5) 6 CI RW  
Ch: 10 RW  
R35: 4 + (R8) 4 CI RW  
Ch: 10 RW  
R36: 4 + (R9) 4 CI RW  
Ch: 10 RW  
R37: 4 + (R14) 4 CI RW  
Ch: 10 RW  
R38: 4 + (R15) 4 CI RW

### **Neck**

Ch: 8 vsp 4 vsp 4 vsp 4 Lj (R16) vsp 4 RW

R39: 4 + (p SR18) 4 CI RW

Ch: vsp 4 RW

R40: 4 + (p SR19 front leg) 4 CI SS DNRW

Ch: vsp 4 Lj (vsp below R39) \* vsp 4 Lj (next vsp last Ch) repeat from \* 3 times RW SS

Ch: \* vsp 4 Lj (next vsp last Ch) repeat from \* twice vsp 4 Lj (next vsp last Ch) 4 Lj (last vsp of last Ch) RW SS

#### **Lower Face**

Ch: 2 RW

R41: 6 vsp 5 CI RW

Ch: 6 RW

R42: 4 vsp 3 CI RW

Ch: 6 RW

R43: 3 vsp 2 CI RW

Ch: 8 vsp 1 DNRW

LSC: x 3 Lj (R43) x 4 Lj (R42) x 4 Lj (R41) x 4 Lj (last vsp on neck – adjacent to R16)  
continue with

Ch: 4 Lj (next vsp neck Ch) 4 Lj (next vsp neck Ch) 4 Lj (next vsp neck) RW SS

Ch: 2 SS

#### **Ear**

R44: 10 – 2 CI SS

#### **Upper Face**

Ch: 2 + (R44) 12 RW

R45: 6 vsp 6 add bead to centre of R before closing by pulling down the core thread from the centre of vsp. Add bead to the core thread, take the shuttle through the loop and close carefully. RW

Ch: 12 RW

R46: 6 vsp 6 CI RW

Ch: 8 Lj (vsp R46) 2 T & C to vsp on lower face chain.

For help with this pattern, please [email me](#).