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It was a fun challenge to design this little guy's stripes and wings. After tossing a number of attempts, this was the final design.

I liked him so much I put him on the apron I made for my granddaughter. He was so cute with the rainbow colors and the green pockets! I wish I'd taken a photograph, but there just wasn't time.

This is an experienced beginner pattern and requires two shuttles. I used Lizbeth size 40 thread, and the bee is approximately 1 inch (3 cm) from wingtip to wingtip.

You will need:

Thread in your choice of color and size. I used Lizbeth size 40 colors 604 (black) and 613 (golden yellow medium).

2 tatting shuttles

ds double stitch p picot j join lj lock join

Read this article to learn how to do a lock join: http://www.be-stitched.com/lockjoin.asp

Instructions:

Wind about two feet (50 cm) of black thread on a shuttle. On the other shuttle, wind approximately the same amount of the gold thread.

Black: R: 6ds p 6ds, close, turn Gold: Ch: 1ds p 6ds lj to picot on ring, turn Black: Ch: 1ds p 6ds lj to picot on previous chain, turn Gold: Ch: 1ds p 6ds lj to picot on previous chain, turn Black: Ch: 7ds lj to picot on previous chain, do not turn Black: R: 20ds, close, do not turn Black: Ch: 4ds lj to picot closest to ring, 9ds lj to picot on other side of ring, 4ds lj to picot at the base of the last black chain, do not turn Black: R: 20ds, close, do not turn Black: Ch: 5ds long p 5ds Cut and tie. Clip the long picot to make antennae.

Since this is a really confusing visual pattern, I tried something different with it. Each row of the written pattern is indicated by a different color in the visual pattern. Start with the red ring.

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