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Shall we say, spiders are not my favorite creatures. But Halloween is the time for scary things, so I decided to create one. I chose a black widow spider because to me they're about the scariest spider that lives in this area.

I decided to find some information about the black widow spider to pass along. I figured they only lived in the western United States. I was wrong! Apparently, they live in most of the world! So I thought I'd pass along this article for those who are interested.

http://www.spidy.goliathus.com/english/article-black-widow-spider.php

This design is beginner level and uses one shuttle. I used size 20 Flora thread in Christmas red and black.

This tip may be useful when making this pattern:

How to make a lock join http://www.be-stitched.com/lockjoin.asp Black and red threads 1 tatting shuttle

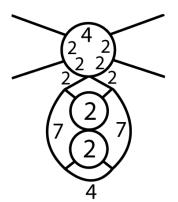
You will need:

ds double stitch p picot j join lj lock join lp long picot

Make each long picot about 2" (6 cm) or more long so that when it's closed it's at least 1" (3 cm) in length.

Instructions:

Hourglass--red thread R: (2ds p) 2 times, 2ds, close R: (2ds p) 2 times, 2ds, close Cut and tie.



Spider--black thread Wind about 2 ft of black thread on a shuttle but do not cut the thread away from the ball before starting to stitch. R: (2ds lp) 2 times, 4ds lp 2ds lp 2ds, close, turn Ch: 2ds lj to top right picot in hourglass, 7ds lj to bottom right picot in hourglass, 4ds lj to next p in hourglass, 7ds lj to last p in hourglass, 2ds Cut and tie.

Cut all four of the lp open. Trim the threads so they are all about the same length.

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