



Fly Tying and Fly Fishing

Fly Recipes

Elk Hair Caddis

Springbrook Wunder

Wooly Worm

Peacock nymph

Hares Ear

Pheasant Tail Nymph

Mickey Finn

Black Nosed Dace

Adams dry fly

Scud

Elk Hair Caddis



Invented somewhere west of here by Al Troth, the elk hair caddis has over the years proved to be an un-paralleled fish catcher. Primarily I like to think of it as a skater, the perfect fly for imitating both the newly emerged caddis flies' maiden voyage (take off) and the skittering female dropping her payload of eggs under the evening sky.

Materials

Hook - Standard dry hook 12, 14, 16 and 18

Thread - Black, brown, tan

Rib - Small gold wire

Body - Olive, tan, or black yarn.

Hackle - Brown, grizzly, dun, badger, ginger

Wing - Elk



1 - Start the thread and tie in a rib, before winding backwards over it until you reach the bend of the hook. Now trim off the waste.

2 - Tie on the yarn and wind forward, stopping a couple of diameters short of the eye.



3 - Now for the palmer. Tie in the hackle pointing backwards; glossy side facing up, and wind backwards down the body in open spiraling turns, 5 or 6 should do it.

4 - While holding the hackle in place at the end of the body, grasp the rib and take two firm touching turns around the hackle tip to secure in place. While keeping tension on the rib wind it up through the hackle in open spiraling turns, again about five, until the eye is reached. Now tie down and snip off both the hackle tip and waste wire.



5 - Cut a clump of hair from the skin and using a removal device strip away the under fur.

6 - Once fully devoid of fluff, place the clump of hair, tips first, into the hair stacker and tap it a few times on a firm surface.



7 - Firmly take the hold of the tips and transfer to your tying hand. Now line up the prepared wing along the body so it extends just past the bend of the hook. Swap hands, firmly holding the wing in place, and using the pinch loop method take three to four wraps of thread over the hair and tighten down. Of primary importance during this procedure is to keep pressure on the wing by holding it in place.

8 - Now take the thread in front of the hair butts, build up a head that is sufficient enough to prevent the butts from laying flat across eye, whip finish and varnish both the turns over the elk hair and the head behind the eye.

9 - To finish, simply trim the hair butts to roughly match the angle of the wing.



Elk Hair Caddis



The elk hair caddis is one of the most used dry flies. Caddis are found nearly everywhere in the world, and this pattern works.

Materials

Hook: Mustad 94840, TMC 5210, Part. L2A Size 8-18

Thread: Tan prewaxed 8/0, 6/0, or 3/0

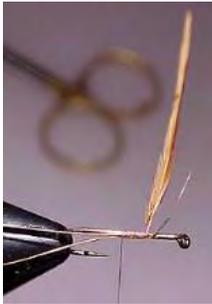
Hackle: Brown or furnace dry fly hackle palmered

Rib: Very fine gold or brass wire

Body: Yellow, Olive, or Natural Hares Ear fur dubbing

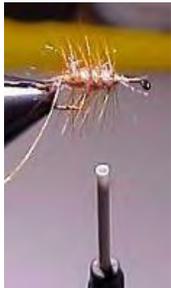
Wing: Bleached or Natural Elk Body Hair fibers

Tying Instructions:



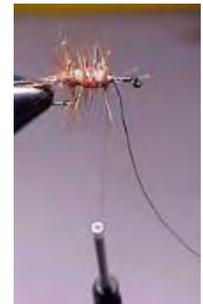
1. Tie in thread onto hook, and add a dry fly hackle at the front of the fly just back of the eye (an eyes length away from the front) make sure that the shiny side of hackle is pointing forward.

2. Wind thread back toward bend of hook, now you can add your rib securing it along the hook shank. Wind thread to back of hook shank to a point at the beginning of the bend.



3. Add dubbing to thread (use either twist-on method or dubbing loop method) and dub on body of fly. Leave the thread at the point of the fly just behind the eye,(as previously discussed) do not return it to the back of the fly.

4. Wind hackle feather palmer style over the body back to the bend of the hook and use the wire to tie off the hackle feather by trapping it (winding the wire the opposite direction of which the hackle feather is wound) and wind the wire forward palmer style to the eye and tie off using the thread hanging there, being careful not to trap too many of the hackle fibers under the wire.



5. Secure a piece of Elk body hair and cut off about the size of a pencil diameter or just a little less and put into hair stacker (tips first) stack this hair and remove. Gauge the wing so that the tips of the elk hair will come back to just above the bend of the hook. Tie in the elk hair with a few wraps of thread around the hook and hair. You can of course take a wrap around the hair and then wrap it to the hook and wrap around the hair. Either way makes it secure.

6. Now hold up the front of the hair before you cut it off and take a few wraps under and up tight against the hair just behind the eye of the hook (wrapping the thread as as close to where the hair was wrapped down as possible). Now take your scissors and trim off the excess hair leaving a bunch of hair like a tassel on the front of the fly. This will form the head and should be even with the eye of the hook, (extended out to the front of the hook). Do not trim the elk hair tight against the wraps of thread that you have placed there. Now whip finish the thread under the elk hair and then I like to take a few more wraps on top of the Elk hair and then whip finish there



Springbrook Wunder



Created at Springbrook by Keith Wunder, instructor at the Conservation Education Center, the Springbrook Wunder has over the years proved to be an un-paralleled fish catcher. It can be a nymph or minnow. It is deadly on crappies.

Materials

Hook – 1/80th or 1/100th oz #10 lead-head jig hook

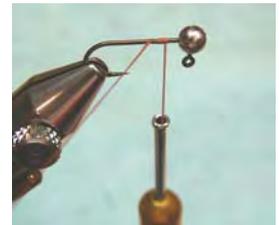
Thread – red 6/0

Body – Silver tinsel chenille

Tail – Grizzly marabou



1 – Mount the jig in the vise.



2 – Tie on thread wrap back to the bend the hook. Trim the excess.



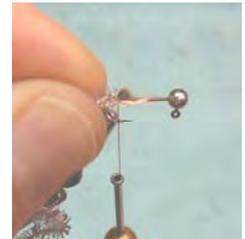
3 – Pinch two grizzly marabou feathers and adjust to the length of the hook shank.



4 - Hold the marabou in place at the end of the hook



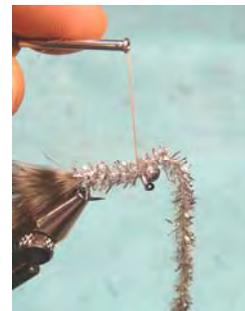
5 - Tie it in on the top of the hook.



6 – Tie in a short piece of tinsel chenille at the start of the tail and wrap the thread forward to behind the head.



7 – Wrap the tinsel forward to just behind the lead head.



8 – Tie in the chenille with the thread.



9 - Trim excess chenille.

10 - Make several wraps of thread to hold the chenille and create a 'red gill', whip finish and apply head cement to the thread.



Wooly Worm



I often think of this fly as the baby brother to the wooly bugger. Lead weight in the body of this fly helps keep it close to the bottom of the stream or lake. It is tied to imitate either caddis larva or nymphs. The long length of the hackle gives the fly dynamic action in the water.

Materials:

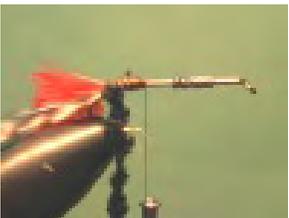
- **Mustad 79580 streamer hook size 8-14**
- **Lead wire**
- **Red wool**
- **Grizzly hackle**
- **Copper wire**
- **Black Chenille**
- **6/0 Uni-thread**



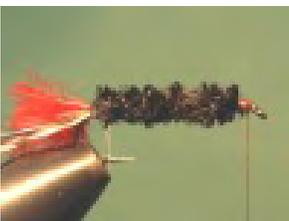
Tie on your thread and take it to the bend of the hook. Tie in a small amount of red wool. Use a pin to tease the wool into a uniform tail shape.



Tie in a piece of copper wire, and a length of grizzly hackle. The hackle should be tied in first, as it will be the last material applied to the fly.



Take about 1 inch of .15 lead wire, and wrap it onto the hook. Add a drop of cement to secure the lead. Take 2 pieces of peacock herl. Tie in the herl by the tips and wrap the herl around the thread.



Wrap the thread and herl around the shaft of the hook to the eye, and tie off the herl. Add a half hitch to secure the herl. Trim the excess herl. Wrap the copper wire to the eye and tie it off. Trim the excess.



Lastly wrap the grizzly hackle to the head of the fly, tie it in and trim the excess. Whip finish the head, and apply cement. Trim the tail to about 1/2 an inch.

Peacock Nymph

A simple but very effective nymph



Materials

Hook - Standard nymph hook

Thread – Green 6/0

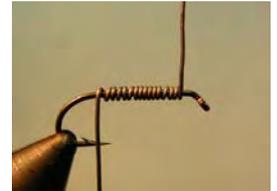
Tail – Peacock sword

Body – Peacock herl, twisted on thread into a rope

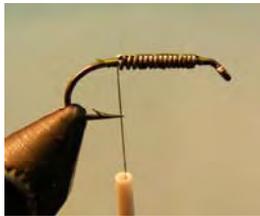
Hackle – Hungarian Partridge (optional)



1 – Mount hook in vise.



2 – Wrap lead wire over shank of hook. Pinch off waste ends.



3 – Attach thread behind hook eye and wrap over lead to bend of hook.



4 – Pinch 4-5 peacock swords and remove from stem. Tie down on top of hook. Tail should be 1 gape long.



5 – Attach 5-6 peacock herls at front of tail.



6 – Twist the herl and thread into a rope.



7 – Holding onto the thread/herl rope, wind to front of hook in close wraps.



8 - Stop behind hook eye.



9 – Tie off the body and trim excess.



10 – Tie a neat head and whip finish. Apply head cement to secure thread.

----- Option of collar for a wet fly -----



1. Prepare a partridge feather by stripping one side.

2. Wrap feather three times forming a collar.

3. Tie off and trim excess.

4. Tie a neat head and whip finish.



Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph



The Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear nymph (GRHE) is used to represent a wide range of aquatic insect larvae. It's useful on still water and running water for targeting numerous species including amongst others: trout, grayling, panfish, carp, roach and chub. The pattern is especially good at representing lighter colored species of mayfly and caddis. To imitate darker insect larvae you might do better with a Pheasant Tail Nymph.

Tying instructions:



1. Start the thread a short way behind the eye and wrap in close turns to the end of the shank.



2. Tie in a small bunch of guard hair to form a tail. Catch in the hair on the near side of the shank and while holding the bunch firmly allow it to roll up on top of the shank. Wrap the thread forward in touching turns being careful to keep the hair butts in line with the shank.



3. Cut away the waste hair and run the thread back to the base of the tail. Catch in the tinsel to the side of the shank and wrap the thread back toward the eye securing the tinsel aligned to the shank. Return the thread to the base of the tail.



4. Dub the thread with a blend of hare's ear fur to form a tapered rope.



5. Wrap the dubbed thread forward to form a tight tapered body.



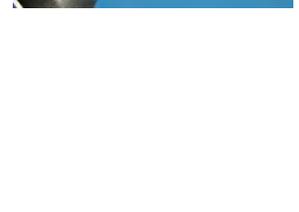
6. Hold the thread one half turn beyond the point where the bobbin hangs at the front of the body, then tease the waste fur from the thread. Put the waste fur to one side for future use.



7. Counter wind the rib with two firm wraps of thread securing it either to one side or at the bottom of the shank. Cut away the waste tinsel.



8. Tie in a small bunch of hen pheasant tail fibers by their tips on top of the hook just at the front of the body.



9. Dub the thread with a course mix of hare's ear fur and wrap a spiky but tight thorax.

10. Bring the pheasant fibers forward over the thorax and while holding with moderate tension secure the feather with a couple tight wraps of thread.

11. Cut away the waste feather fibers and make a three turn whip finish.

12. Add a few drops of head cement. When the cement is dry, if you prefer, you can pick out the fur to produce a more 'shaggy' profile. This is best done with a piece of Velcro

Pheasant Tail Nymph



The pheasant tail nymph (PTN) is used to represent a wide range of aquatic insect larvae and can even be used to imitate fish fry. It's useful on still water and running water for targeting numerous species though originally it was dressed for trout in the River Avon. The PTN is especially good at representing darker species and is considered an especially good match for the nymph of the Blue-winged Olive. On a 2X hook shank it works well as a stonefly. To imitate lighter nymphs you might do better with a Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear.

Materials:

Hook: 20 - 8 Wet-fly or Nymph
Thread: 8/0 black or brown
Tail: Pheasant tail (male)
Rib: Copper wire
Body: Pheasant
Wingcase: Pheasant
Thorax: Hare's Ear
Legs: Pheasant

Tying instructions:



1. Start the thread one hook eye width behind the eye.



2. Take the thread back to the end of the shank in close touching turns. Tie in a small bunch of pheasant fibres by their tips with two tight wraps of thread.



3. Then catch in the copper wire at the same position.



4. Then lift the feather fibres gently and wrap the thread forward in tight touching turns up to the start position. As you bind down the waste end of the copper, be sure to keep it aligned with the hook shank.



5. Then build a tapered underbody of thread before letting the bobbins hang where you want the body to finish.



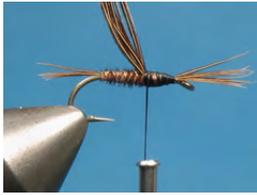
6. Wrap the pheasant forward taking care to cover the tying in point. Tie off with two or three tight turns of thread.



7. After removing the waste feather butts, wrap the copper wire counter to the feather fibres to produce the rib. Make several wraps of copper at the thorax to add bulk and weight. Tie off the wire and remove the waste.



8. Return the thread to the start position.



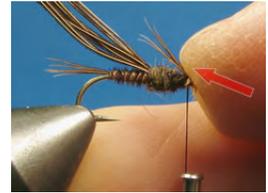
9. Tie in on top of the hook at the front of the thorax, a small bunch of pheasant fibers with their tips even and pointing forward over the eye. The length they protrude later dictates the length of the legs.



10. Take the thread to the back of the thorax and dub the thread with hare's ear fur.

11. Wrap the dubbed thread to form a fur thorax.

12. While the thread hangs at the head of the fly, bring a finger up and onto the eye of the hook spreading the feather tips up and out into a fan.



13. Divide the tips into two equal bunches to form the legs and bring the butts of the pheasant tail fibres forward between them.

14. Secure the pheasant tail butts at the eye to form the wingcase. Use just a single wrap.



15. Pull back the feather fiber tips and make two or three further wraps of thread to fully secure the butts.

16. Remove the waste pheasant tail and make a whip finish. A drop of head cement will finish the job.



Mickey Finn



"One classic, but still popular and effective, bucktail pattern is the Mickey Finn. Designed by John Alden Knight in the 1930s, it was named for the infamous drugged drink. A streamer is designed to imitate a baitfish rather than an insect. Traditional streamers have hackle-feather wings that extend back, or "stream," over the body of the fly. The Mickey Finn is an excellent baitfish imitation. The red stripe of bucktail resembles the lateral line of a small minnow or trout. This fly can be extremely productive for salmon, trout, steelhead, bass and even pike.

Materials

Hook: Mustad 9672; 2-12.

Thread: Black 3/0.

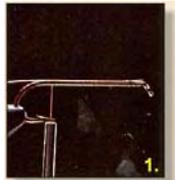
Weight: (optional) Fine lead wire.

Ribbing: Oval silver tinsel.

Body: Flat silver tinsel.

Hackle: Yellow and red bucktail, or calf tail.

Tying Steps:



1. Tie in a four-inch length of oval silver tinsel ribbing on top of hook shank, starting thread just behind hook eye and wrapping back to bend to secure tinsel.



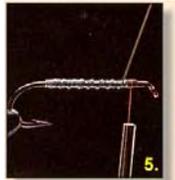
2. Wind thread forward again to tie-in point behind hook eye. Tie in a 6-inch length of flat silver tinsel body material.



3. Wrap flat tinsel back to bend of hook. Each wrap should touch previous wrap so there are no gaps.



4. Reverse direction and wrap tinsel forward to tie-in point, overlapping first layer. Secure with several turns of thread.



5. Wrap ribbing on hook, starting near bend, and wrap forward.



6. Cut a small bundle of yellow bucktail, and another of red. Comb out underfur with dubbing needle.

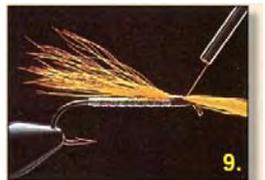


7. Stack bucktail fibers to align tips. Divide yellow bucktail into two equal bundles.

8. Measure first bundle to approximately 1 1/2 times hook-shank length.



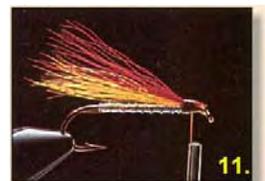
9. Tie in first bundle of yellow bucktail with several soft loops. Apply moderate thread tension for first few warps, then increase tension for several more wraps. If you are having problems getting bucktail to stay on top of hook, reduce amount of bucktail



10. Trim butt ends of bucktail at an upward angle, as shown; then wrap thread forward to cover tapered ends.



11. Measure bundle of red bucktail to same length as first yellow bundle and place it directly on top of yellow bundle. Tie in as in steps 9 and 10. 12. Measure second bundle of yellow to same length as first and tie in as in steps 9 and 10. Whip finish and apply head cement.



BLACK NOSE DACE



With its black lateral line, this fly resembles the dace baitfish. This pattern is very productive for browns and rainbows but really shines for brookies. The pattern is tied with bucktail wings and a tinsel body. The Black Nose Dace can be fished in typical streamer fashion with a floating line, sinking tip for a intermediate depths, or on a full sinking line for deep waters

Materials List

Hook : Daiichi 2220 # 4 - 14
Thread : Uni-Thread 6/0 Black
Tail : Glow Bug Yarn Red
Body : Tinsel Silver Medium
Rib : Oval Tinsel Silver Small
Under-Wing : Bucktail White
Mid-Wing : Bucktail Black
Over-Wing : Bucktail Brown

Tying Instructions:

- 1) Tie on thread at hook eye.
- 2) Tie on red wool and silver oval tinsel and wrap a smooth underbody back to hook bend.
- 3) Tie on silver tinsel at hook bend and advance thread to hook eye.
- 4) Wrap a smooth body of silver tinsel back to hook eye.
- 5) Rib body with silver oval tinsel.
- 6) Tie on white bucktail so that the tips are slightly longer than the tip of tail.
- 7) Tie on black bear on top of the white, so that the tips line up with the white bucktail.
- 8) Tie on brown bucktail on top of the black bear, so that the tips line up with the white bucktail.
- 9) Whip finish the head and coat with head cement.

Adams



A "standard" hackled dry fly is one with the wing set forward on the hook shank and rooster hackle wound on the hook shank on both sides of the wing. Dozens of effective trout flies fall into this category but they all have similar components and proportions.

Perhaps the most famous dry fly of this type is the Adams—a pattern that is a passable imitation of all mayfly duns. You can use the same tying methods and vary the materials to tie patterns with colors that more closely resemble the naturals on your local waters.

Materials

HOOK: #10-18 standard dry-fly (Tiemco 101 shown)

THREAD: Gray 70-denier Ultra Thread

WING: Grizzly hen hackle tips

TAIL: Mixed grizzly and brown hackle fibers

BODY: Gray Superfine dubbing

HACKLE: Brown and grizzly hackle

Tying Steps



1. Prepare the feather-tip wings by measuring a wing length the same as the hook shank. Strip away the feather barbs beyond this point leaving a 1/16" section of bare feather stem as a tie-in point. Mate the feather tips so the outsides of the feathers face each other and the natural curve of the feathers splay the tips outward.

Attach the thread to the hook shank and position the thread at the 3/4 point. Pinch the bare hackle stems to the top of the hook shank directly above your thread and use a pinch wrap to secure the hackle. Raise the wings to the vertical position. The hackle barbs at the base of the quill extend parallel to the hook shank when you kink the hackle stem at a 90-degree angle. Wrap the thread over these hackle fibers and directly against the base of the hackle stem to prop the hackle in the upright position. Continue to wrap over the hackle fibers to create a smooth base for the body.



2. Select long stiff hackle fibers for the tail. Stand them up 90 degrees from the hackle stems to align the tips before you cut them away from the stem. Use a pinch wrap to secure them to the top of the hook shank. Wrap backward over the tail and then forward to create a smooth underbody.

3. Dub a slender body forward to the 50% mark.



4. Match and align grizzly and brown hackle so they both face the same direction with the shiny side facing you. Mount the pair together on top of the hook shank.



5. Wrap the first hackle forward with equal wraps behind and in front of the wing so the wing is centered. Tie off the first hackle leaving a gap behind the hook eye to properly seat the second hackle.



6. Wrap the second hackle forward weaving it back and forth through the previous hackle so as not to bind down any hackle fibers and tie it off just in front of the previous hackle. Use a double hitch or whip finish to complete the fly.



Scud



This is a simple scud pattern that is very durable and has produced a lot of fish for me over the years. It has worked well in the east, the west and in Europe.

Materials List: Scud

Hook - Mustad Signature C49S. Sizes 12 - 20.

Thread - 8/0 Gray.

Body - Wapsi Gray Rabbit Dubbing.

Scud Back - Clear plastic of your choice.

Rib - Small Copper Wire.

Head - Tungsten Bead (optional)

Tying Method: Scud



1. Slide appropriate sizes Tungsten bead onto the shank and up to the eye. Wrap a base of thread to near the center of the bend of the hook.



2. Tie in a piece of copper wire.



3. Tie in a piece of clear scud back, (your choice). The size you use depends on the size of the scud you are tying.



4a. Form a dubbing loop and wax your thread.



4b. Apply your dubbing and spin the dubbing loop.



5. Wrap dubbing around hook shank to head. Bulk up the dubbing in the center to form a hump.



6. Tease the dubbing to form the legs of the scud.



7. Fold over the scud back and secure at the head.



8. Wrap the copper wire around the body. As you wrap, use your bodkin to separate the dubbing for the copper wire so that you do not trap the dubbing on top of the scud back. Secure the wire at the head and whip finish. A light coating of Hard as Nails will help to make the fly more durable.

