

Steps tied by Clarence Butzbach, Photos by Chuck Wilcox

Perhaps one of the most intriguing patterns to beginning fly tiers is the Humpy. This fly has evolved into a style rather than a specific pattern. I do not know the originator of the Humpy but I believe it is an offshoot of a pattern called the Horner Deer Hair, which has been around for a good many years. The Humpy is still called by some the goofus Bug. The original pattern called for the hump and wing to be made of the same clump of deer hair. It was very difficult for many tiers to get a consistent wing length by this method and discouraged many new fly tiers. The problem can be overcome by using different bundles of deer hair for the wing and hump.



Materials

Hook: Standard dry fly Thread Tail: Moose body hair
Thread: 6/0 or 3/0 Red Body: Red floss
Wing: White Calf body or tail Hackle: Coachman Brown

Tying Sequence

1. Attach thread about 1/3 shank length from eye of hook.
2. Stack a bundle of Calf body hair or tail and tie in on top of hook at the wing position. Lift the hair into an upright position by lifting the hair and wrapping thread 4 to 6 times around the hook in front of the wing. The next step is to divide the wing into two equal sections and figure eight to separate.
3. Stack a bundle of moose body hair and tie in just behind the wing and wrap thread over the moose to the rear of the hook. The tail should be about shank-length. Now return the thread to just behind the wing.
4. Stack a bundle of deer hair and tie it in just behind the wing and wrap the thread over the deer hair to the rear of the fly. (this should be directly above the barb). Make sure the deer hair is long enough so that it can be pulled over the back of the fly. For now, let the deer hair extend over the back of the fly.
5. Tie in a section of red floss and wrap it to the base of the wing, and tie off.
6. Now pull the deer hair over the back and tie it down behind the wing with several wraps of thread. Trim the hair as close to the wraps as possible.
7. Select two dry fly quality hackles and wrap equal number of wraps behind and in front of the wing.
8. Form a neat head, whip finish and cement well.

