

PRINCE NYMPH (JUST ADD WATER!)

Phil Trautmann



Materials

Thread: 6/0, black

Hook: Regular - 12-10-8-6

Tinsel: Medium gold oval

Water: In a white dish beside you lay the following in bit of water:

Tail: 2 Dark Brown or Black Goose biots, wet. (Biots are from leading edge of goose, or duck wing)

Body: 3 strips Peacock herl, wet.

Wings: 2 White Biots, wet.

Hackle: Dark Brown or Black, wet!

(They will dry out on the hook after fly is tied.)

Method

- Hook in vice. Start thread at MIDDLE of hook, heading to rear, immediately tie in tinsel on top with excess tinsel pointing BACK, continue to wrap thread back to level of barb, tinsel on top all the way. This provides a semi-flat surface to tie biot in on SIDE of hook—dark brown or black biots, one each side, one at a time, tips curving upwards and outwards.
- Run thread forward to about 3 eye-lengths behind eye.
- Tie in wet peacock herl by the butts, wrap herl to rear in touching turns. (Thread is left hanging near the eye).
- Holding end of herl up, at the rear, wrap tinsel rib forward over herl in wide turns. Note how tinsel CROSSES herl wraps; tinsel secures herl to hook.
- Lastly, turn ends just AHEAD of hanging thread, then tug it slightly rearward, first second-third forward wrap of thread locks herl in securely.
- Trim herl excess.
- Now tie in white biots one at a time, pointing upwards and outwards. Tie off.
- Lastly, tie in dark brown (or bawk) hackle, make 3-4 wraps, last wrap AHEAD of thread then pulled gently rearward as thread simply wraps forward to make a head.
- Finish with a 3-wrap half hitch, wraps going forward to eye. Call it a whip finish.
- Trim off TOP HALF of hackle (that's the recipe). Dab of head cement. Done!

The Association is indebted to the late, great Nigel Wood, who taught us the use of water in tying flies.