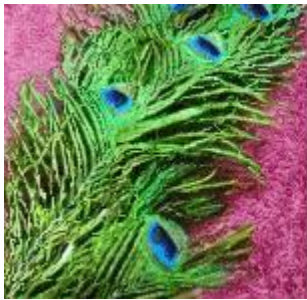


Using Peacock Herl

Peacock Herl has been a long time tried and true tying material, known to have the most natural fish attracting qualities. It's brilliant metallic green/bronze colouring is perfect for hundreds of fly patterns, but most certainly nymph & streamers. It can be purchased as strung herl, tied as a bunch of similar-length strands, or better still, trimmed from a peacock feather. It is a beautiful natural material, but can be fragile and difficult to use. You can strengthen the herl by twisting it onto the tying thread to make a chenille-like rope. This greatly increases the strength of the material used for the body of your flies. One side of the herl is bright metallic green, the other is a dark bronze hue, and twisting the herl onto the thread allows the colours to show well.



To make peacock rope or peacock chenille:

The method is similar to making a dubbing rope. Select several similar sized peacock herls (4-6), trim back the tips, (they are dry and brittle), then tie them to the hook shank by their tips. Create a thread loop (like a dubbing loop) as long as the herls and insert your dubbing loop tool. Slide the herls into the loop and place pressure on the loop with the loop tool so that the herls hold in place. With the loop held tight, spin the tool to bind the herls. Keep spinning the loop until a thick bushy rope with a chenille-like appearance is constructed. Wrap the rope up the hook shank for the fly, creating a nice even peacock body. You can trim this loop when the end is fastened securely.



The flies produced showed a variety of methods and patterns using this versatile material.