

# AMY'S ANT



## Recipe

Hook.....Nymph or streamer, 2XL - 3XL, size 6-12

Thread.....Tan or Brown, 6/0 or 3/0

Underbody.....2mm Tan foam or color of your choice

Overbody.....2mm Tan or Rust or color of your choice

Legs.....Brown or black round rubber, medium

Hackle.....Brown or ginger saddle

Body.....Olive or black crystal chenille

Underwing.....Flashabou Accent, Pearl, orange, or rainbow

Overwing.....Cow or Yearling Elk

Thorax.....Bronze Arizona Peacock dubbing or equivalent

1. Place the hook in the vise. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a neat thread base back to the bend of the hook shank. Cut off the thread tag.
2. Cut a strip of tan foam about the width of the hook gap and about 3"- 4" long. Cut the corners off one end to create a flat ended tail. Tie it in on top of the hook shank at the hook bend so that the tail end extends slightly past the hook bend. Make 3-4 tight wraps of thread to anchor the foam but make sure the wraps are on top of one another.
3. Cut a 3" - 4" piece of rust foam **almost as wide** as the first strip of foam. Cut a shallow "v" notch in one end as a tail. Tie this strip down on top of the first strip at the same point being sure to keep the thread wraps on top of one another. The tail end of the second strip should align with the end of the first strip tail.
4. Cut a 2" piece of rubber legging and tie it in by its **middle** on the near side of hook shank at the same point as the thread wraps attaching the foam strips. Repeat this procedure on the far side of the hook shank. This should give you 2 legs on each side of the hook where you tied in the foam strips. The thread should be hanging at the leg tie-in point.
5. Lift both of the foam strips and wrap the thread under them on the hook shank forward to slightly behind the hook eye. Let the thread hang.
6. Fold the legs and the upper, darker foam strip back over the hook bend out of the way and use a scrap piece of lead wire or other material to hold them out of the way.
7. Now fold the tan foam strip forward on top of the hook shank and tie it down with a few tight thread wraps slightly behind the hook eye. Keeping the tan foam strip on top of the hook shank, spiral

wrap the thread over it tightly back to the hook bend, creating several small body segments. Let the thread hang.

8. Select an appropriately sized hackle feather, clean the fluff off its butt end and tie it in by its butt end at the hook bend. The length of the feather should be extending back past the hook bend. Wrap the thread forward to just past the middle of the hook shank.
9. Cut 5"-6" piece of Krystal chenille and tie it in by one end in the middle of the hook shank. (The length of the chenille should go back past the hook bend.) Wrap thread over the chenille back to the hook bend, then wrap the thread back to where you tied-in the chenille. Let the thread hang.
10. Wrap the chenille forward in tight touching turns to where you left the thread (basically the middle of the hook shank). Remove any excess chenille.
11. Grasp the hackle feather and palmer it forward in 4-5 wraps over the chenille. Tie it off in front of the chenille and remove any excess hackle. Now trim the hackle barbs down to short bristles all around the chenille body (the hackle barbs should end up being slightly longer than the edges of the chenille).
12. Now release the legs and foam strip that you folded back in step 6. Fold the darker foam strip over the top of the chenille body and tie it down in front of the chenille body. **DO NOT CUT OFF THE REMAINING FOAM.**
13. Keeping the remaining darker foam strip on top of the hook shank, bind it down firmly with tight thread wraps forward to the hook eye. **Make sure the remainder of the foam strip is centered on top of the hook shank when you're finished.** Return the thread to the front of the body.
14. Cut a small 2" clump of flash material and tie it in on top of the hook shank by its middle in front of the body. Fold the forward half of the flash back toward the hook bend and wrap thread over its butt end to keep it leaning back. Trim the flash even with the end of the foam tails.
15. Cut, clean, and stack a medium sized clump of elk hair. Measure this clump of hair so that it extends from the front edge of the body to the back of the tail, then, keeping it on top of hook shank, tie it in at the front of the body as a wing. **DO NOT LET THE HAIR SPIN DOWN THE SIDES OF THE FLY.** Make several tight thread wraps over the hair butts forward to behind the hook eye. Remove any excess hair butts. The thread should be behind the hook eye.
16. Dub the thread and wrap a fairly thick thorax back to the front of the foam body. Remove any excess dubbing from the thread. The thread should be in front of the body.
17. Now fold the darker foam strip back over the top of the thorax and tie it down tight against the foam body to create a foam head. **DO NOT CUT THE REMAINING FOAM.** Let the thread hang.
18. Cut a 2" piece of rubber legging and tie it in by its **middle** on the near side of hook shank at the same point as the thread wraps binding down the foam head. Repeat this procedure on the far side of the hook shank. This should give you 2 legs on each side of the thorax where you tied down the foam head. The thread should be hanging at the leg tie-in point.
19. Whip finish the thread in the crease **between the head and the body**, then cut the thread.
20. Trim the remaining darker foam behind the head into a point (see picture). Trim the remaining tan foam level with the front of the hook eye.