

BAETIS CRIPPLE



Recipe

Hook.....Dry, size 16-20

Thread.....Black or gray, 8/0

Tail/Shuck.....Tan or olive Antron

Abdomen.....Black or gray thread

Wing.....Dun hackle fibers or light gray poly yarn

Hackle.....Dun

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie the thread in behind the hook eye. Wrap a tight thread base back to the hook bend and let the thread hang. Remove any thread tag.
2. Cut a 2" piece of Antron and tie it in at the hook bend as a tail. (The tail should be the length of the hook gap.) Keeping the butt end of the Antron on top of the hook shank, wrap forward over it with thread to slightly behind the hook eye. Wrap the thread back to a point about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the hook shank behind the hook eye. Trim off any excess Antron.
3. Cut a medium sized bunch of hackle fibers and even the butt ends as much as possible. Tie the bunch in by its **middle** lengthwise on top of the hook shank about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the hook shank behind the hook eye. After tying the hackle in, wrap the thread forward in tight touching turns for 6-7 turns creating a **small** thread base in the middle of the hackle. Now wrap the thread back to the start of this little thread base and let it hang. (*If using poly yarn, cut a 1"-2" length of yarn, then tie it in as described for the hackle.*)
4. Select an appropriately sized hackle feather, clean the fluff from the butt, and tie it in by the butt end at the back end of the small thread base. Wrap the hackle feather forward in touching turns to the front of the small thread base, then tie it down. Wrap the thread under the front of the lengthwise hackle bunch and make several turns of thread around the hook shank to lift the hackle similarly to the way you tie a caddis wing. Do a whip finish, cut the thread, and apply head cement, if desired.
6. Trim the back section of the lengthwise hackle into a short wing stub extending back no further than the middle of the abdomen. Now trim the front end of the lengthwise hackle so that it extends about a hook gap length in front of the hook eye. (See the picture.)

Note: This fly is similar to the Quigley Cripple except that the wing is hackle instead of Deer hair. This fly is intended to float on its side.