

FLUTTER BUG



Recipe

Hook.....Dry, size 10-16
Thread.....Tan, 6/0
Abdomen.....Beaver dubbing, cream
Rib.....Brown 6/0 thread
Thorax.....Peacock herl
Fore wing.....Deer hair, natural
Hind wing and back.....Deer hair, natural
Head.....Thread

1. Attach the thread slightly behind the hook eye and wrap a tight thread base back to the hook bend.
2. Cut a 4"- 5" piece of brown thread and tie it in by one end at the hook bend as a rib. The length of the thread should extend past the hook bend. The tying thread should be at the hook bend.
3. Dub the tying thread and wrap it forward in a reverse tapered abdomen (i.e. fatter at the tail) covering the rear 2/3^{rds} of the hook shank. Remove any excess dubbing and let the thread hang.
4. Grasp the thread ribbing and **counter wrap** it forward in evenly spaced wraps over the abdomen and tie it off. Remove any excess ribbing. *(It is helpful to twist the thread ribbing before wrapping it to prevent it from flattening out when wound.)* Wrap the tying thread forward to one hook eye length behind the hook eye.
5. Now comes the fun part—tying-in the deer hair wings. *Clip, clean, and stack a bundle of hair about a matchstick in diameter and tie it in on top of the hook shank slightly behind the hook eye. Be sure to select hair as long as possible as it will later be pulled back over the thorax to become the back and hind wing of the fly. Tie the hair in by the **tips** (at this stage the butt ends of the hair should extend like a fore wing out over the hook eye). **DO NOT ALLOW THE HAIR TO SPIN AROUND THE HOOK SHANK.** Trim off any excess tips and wrap the thread forward tightly over the hair to behind the hook eye.*

Over....>

(Make sure to cover any exposed clipped ends with thread wraps.) Move the thread to the middle of the thorax area (ie: half way between the front of the abdomen and the hook eye), then apply a drop of head cement to the thread wraps.

6. Cut, clean, and stack a bundle of hair about one and a half matchsticks in diameter **for making a second wing on top of the hook**. Measure the hair to equal the length of the hook shank plus the hook eye. Tie it in with tight thread wraps on top of the hook shank slightly in front of the abdomen. (The hair tips should be going toward the hook eye.) **DO NOT LET THE HAIR SPIN AROUND THE HOOK SHANK**. Lift the hair butts and clip them off as close as possible. Cover the remaining butts with tight thread wraps. Now lift the tips and bring the thread in front of them and wrap it tightly against the hair to hold it upright. There should be a small open space between this upright wing and where you tied in the first wing.
7. Now divide the **upright wing** into 2 even bundles, then x-wrap the thread through the middle of the bundles to keep them separated. Finish the thread wraps with the thread behind the divided wings.
8. Select 2-3 peacock herls and tie them in just behind the divided wings. Twist the herls to form a rope, then wrap it forward to behind the hook eye and back again to behind the divided wings. Tie off the herls behind the divided wings and remove any excess. Be sure that the herl has covered all the thorax thread wraps. The thread should now be behind the divided wings.
9. Grasp the fore wing fibers and gather them all together, then **pull them back between the divided wings** on top of the hook shank and tie them down tightly behind the divided wings. **DO NOT ALLOW THE HAIR TO GO DOWN THE SIDES OF THE HOOK SHANK**. After being tied down, the part of hair extending toward the hook bend (behind the thread wraps used to tie it down) is called the hind wing.
10. Take 2-3 more tight turns of thread over the other wraps behind the divided wings, then do a whip finish right on top of these wraps and cut the thread.
11. Lift the **hind** wing fibers and measure them for a length about the width of the hook gap. From that point, cut downward at a 45 degree toward the hook bend, creating a wing shape that tapers down to a point slightly past the back of the hook bend (see the picture). Now use your finger to flatten this wing.
12. See the picture. From the side, the wing you just cut should taper down from behind the divided wing to a point just past the hook bend. From below, the aft wing should look somewhat rounded, with fibers near the divided wings about $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{rds} the length of the divided wing fibers and tapering back to a point back just past the hook bend. This should provide the illusion of the aft wings fluttering. It is okay to let some of the hairs vary in length to add to the illusion.
13. Apply head cement to the thread wraps behind the divided wings and to the hair that was pulled over the top of the thorax.