

JAPANESE BEETLE



Recipe

Hook.....Dry, size 10 - 12 (TMC 100 or Mustad 94840)

Thread.....Olive or Green 6/0

Wingcase.....Copper Swiss Straw

Body.....Black or Olive 2mm closed cell foam

Underbody...Peacock Herl, twisted rope style

Wings.....Kreinik 1/8" flat ribbon, mallard #850

Head.....Peacock Herl

1. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a thread base back to the middle of the Hook shank. Trim off the thread tag.
2. Cut a 3-4" piece of swiss straw and tie it in by one end in the middle of the hook shank with the length of the straw extending back over the hook bend. Wrap over the swiss straw back to the hook bend. Be sure to keep the straw on top of the hook shank. **DO NOT TRIM OFF THE EXCESS STRAW.** Wrap the thread forward 2/3ds the length of the hook shank.
3. Cut a strip of green (or brown) foam approximately 1/8" wide and 4" long. Taper one end of the strip to a triangular point. Tie this strip in by the pointed tip at the 2/3ds point where you left the thread. Keeping the foam on top of the hook shank, wrap over it with thread back to the hook bend. **DO NOT REMOVE THE EXCESS FOAM.**
4. Now take 4-5 strands of peacock herl and tie them in at the hook bend, then twist them slightly and wrap them forward over the foam to cover the rear 2/3ds of the hook shank. Tie the herl off and trim away the excess.

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5. Fold the foam forward over the peacock body and tie it off with several tight thread wraps. Do not stretch the foam during this procedure. Trim off any excess foam and wrap over any remaining butts with thread wraps.
6. Tie-in a 1" piece of the Kreinik wing material on top of the hook shank in front of the peacock body. The length of the material should extend back over the top of the body toward the hook bend. (The wings should be the length of the hook shank.) Cut wings to length and remove any excess.
7. Take a bodkin and divide the wing into two equal parts and pull one part down on each side of the body. (You may need 2-3 thread wraps to hold each part in place on the side of the body.)
8. Now pull the Swiss straw forward over the top of body and between the wings and tie it off. Trim off any excess straw.
9. To finish the head, tie-in two peacock herls tight in front of the wings and wrap them forward to behind the hook eye to form a peacock head. Tie off the herl and remove any excess. Form a small thread head, and do a whip finish. Cut the thread. GO FISH!!

Note: If desired, coat the swiss straw wing case with superglue or head cement to strengthen it and make the fly more durable.