

POP (Pheasant/Ostrich/Peacock) EMERGER



Recipe

Hook.....Curved Nymph or Scud, size12-18

Thread.....Black 6/0

Shuck.....White Antron or Zelon

Tail.....Pheasant tail fibers

Abdomen.....Pheasant tail fibers

Thorax.....Peacock herl

Legs.....Brown hackle fibers

Wingpost.....Black or Brown Gel spun thread or equivalent

Wing.....Ostrich herl, tied paraloop style5

Head.....Thread

1. Place the hook in the vise. Attach the thread about 1/3 of the hook shank behind the hook eye and wrap a tight thread base back to slightly less than halfway down the hook bend. Remove any thread tag and let the thread hang.
2. Select a small/sparse bundle of antron and tie it in at the end of the thread base as a trailing shuck. The schuck should measure about 1/2 the hook shank in length. Remove any excess antron and return the thread to the schuck tie-in point.
3. Select 4-5 pheasant tail fibers and tie them in as a tail tightly on top of the hook shank at the same point as the antron. The tips of the fibers should reach back to the tips of the antron shuck. Keeping the fiber butts on top of the hook shank, wrap thread forward over them to the thread tie-in point. Trim off any excess fiber butts and return the thread to the tail tie-in point.
4. Cut another bunch of 5-6 pheasant tail fibers and tie them in at the base of tail. Twist the fibers together for 4-5 turns into a "rope" then wrap the "rope" forward for half the length of the hook shank, creating the abdomen. Tie off the "rope and remove any excess fiber.

Over....>

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward

Photography by Bob Cain

5. Cut an 8" piece of gel spun thread and fold into a loop. Tie the loop in tightly against the front of the abdomen. This loop will be the post for the paraloop wing. Trim off any loop butt and pull the loop back over the abdomen out of the way.
6. Now select an ostrich herl and tie it in tightly by its butt at the base of the paraloop post. Remove any excess herl butt.
7. Now for the awkward part--this may take some practice (and patience!). Grasp the paraloop post and insert the second finger of your left hand (for right hand tyers--opposite for left-handers) into the loop and stretch the loop taut (not tight). (This should leave your index finger and thumb free to handle material and help wrap it around the post.) Next, take the ostrich herl and wrap it up the post for 5-6 open spirals, then reverse direction and wrap it back down the post to the loop base and tie it off. (The idea is to produce a thick herl brush the length of the abdomen.) Remove any excess herl and lay the wrapped paraloop brush back over the abdomen out of the way. (If you think you might like to use the paraloop technique frequently, the purchase of a paraloop tool to attach to your vice might be worth consideration.)
8. Cut two bunches of 5-6 stiff hackle feather barbs each and tie one bunch in as legs on each side of the abdomen in front of the paraloop post. The legs should reach back to the hook bend. Trim off any excess leg butts.
9. Tie-in 2-3 peacock herls at the base of the paraloop and wrap them forward to slightly behind the hook eye to form a thick thorax and tie them off. Be sure to cover any thread wraps at the base of the paraloop. Remove any excess herl.
10. Now grasp the paraloop by the top of the thread loop and pull it straight up. Open the loop and pull the thread apart carefully. This will compress the herl downward as you spread the loop. Spread the loop enough to visibly see the herls start to compress, then stop. Do not pull too hard as this will cut the herls and destroy the paraloop. Now let the loop close again and pull the tightened paraloop forward over the top of the thorax and tie it off behind the hook eye. Remove any excess paraloop thread.
11. Form a neat thread head, whip finish, and cut the thread. Apply head cement to the head and shell back, if desired.