

RUSTY RAT HAIRWING



Recipe

Hook.....Salmon or streamer, size 8-4, 3-4xl
Thread.....Black and red, 6/0
Tag.....Oval gold tinsel
Tail.....Peacock sword
Rib.....Oval gold tinsel
Body.....Orange-yellow floss and peacock herl
Underwing.....Orange-yellow floss
Wing.....Gray fox hair
Collar.....Grizzly hackle
Cheeks.....(Optional) Jungle Cock
Head.....Red thread

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie the thread in behind the hook eye, then wrap a tight thread base back to the hook bend.
2. Cut a 3"- 4" piece of tinsel and tie it in slightly past the hook bend by one end with its length extending back over the hook bend. Pull the butt end through the thread wraps to eliminate any butt end. Now wrap the tinsel forward over the thread wraps for 3-4 wraps and tie it off. **DO NOT CUT OFF THE EXCESS TINSEL AS IT WILL BECOME THE RIB.**
3. Cut 4-5 peacock sword fibers and even the tips as much as possible. Tie them in on top of the hook shank tight against the front of the tinsel tag, then, keeping the butt ends of the fibers on top of the hook shank, wrap **flattened** thread forward over them to a point about a third of the hook shank behind the hook eye. Trim off any excess fibers and let the thread hang. (Be sure to ensure that the thread wraps covering the fiber butts leave an even underbody for the floss body. If needed, use additional thread wraps to even the underbody.) The tail should be the length of the hook gap.
4. Cut a 5"-6" piece of floss and tie it in by one end at the front of the thread underbody. Wrap the floss back to the tail in tight touching turns, then reverse direction and wrap the floss forward in tight touching turns to where you tied it in and tie it off. Remove any

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excess floss. Be sure to cover all the thread wraps with floss and keep the body as even as possible.

5. Now take the tinsel and wrap it forward over the floss in 4 evenly spaced turns to the front of the floss body and tie it off. Remove any excess tinsel and let the thread hang.
6. Select 3-4 peacock herls and tie them in by the butts on top of the hook shank in front of the floss body. Remove any excess herl butts. Twist the herls and thread together to form a herl "rope", then wrap the "rope" forward to about an 1/8th of the hook shank behind the hook eye and tie it off. Remove any excess rope and let the thread hang. Be sure that you have left enough room for the wing, hackle, and head, without crowding the hook eye.
7. Cut a 2"-3" piece of floss and tie it in by one end on top of the hook shank tight against the front of the herl body as an underwing. Trim the underwing so that its end reaches back to the middle of the tail. Trim off any excess floss and return the thread to the front of the underwing.
8. Cut, clean, and stack a small bunch of gray fox hair. Tighten the thread and tie the hair in as a wing on top of the hook shank tight against the front of the underwing, Do not let the wing hair spin down the sides of the fly. The wing tips should reach back to the middle of the wing. Trim off any excess hair butts at an angle toward the hook eye and cover the butts with tight thread wraps. Return the thread to the front of the wing.
9. Select an appropriately sized hackle feather and trim away the fluff at its butt. Tie it in by the butt tight against the front of the wing with the concave side toward the hook shank. Starting tight against the front of the wing, wrap the feather forward toward the hook eye for 2-4 turns and tie it off. Remove any excess feather, do a whip finish and cut the thread.
10. Tie in the red thread behind the hook eye, form a neat red head, whip finish, and cut the thread. Apply head cement to the thread head, followed by a coat of gloss coat or Sally Hansen's Hard As Nails.