

SILVER HERRON



Recipe

Hook.....Nymph 4XL, size 6 - 10
Thread.....Black/Gray, 6/0
Underbody....Flat Silver Tinsel
Body.....Barred Mallard Flank Feather(s)
Hackle.....Hen Saddle

1. Place the hook in the vise.
2. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a thread base back over the front 1/3d of the hook shank. Let the thread hang.
3. Cut a 5-6" piece of flat silver tinsel and tie it in by one end at the 1/3d hook shank point where you left the thread. Wrap the tinsel in touching turns down to the hook bend, then reverse direction and wrap it back to a point about 1/4 of the hook shank behind the hook eye and tie it off. Remove any excess tinsel and let the thread hang. **(At this point, you should have a flat tinsel underbody.)**
4. Select a barred mallard feather and strip the fluff off its base, then stroke the fibers down toward the quill base so that they stand out from the quill. Tie the feather in by its tip with the cupped side facing in toward the hook shank at the front end of the tinsel underbody. The feather fibers should reach back past the hook bend. Wrap the thread forward about half the distance to the hook eye and let it hang.

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Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward
Photography by Bob Cain

5. Grasp the feather by its butt end and lift it up. Stroke the fibers toward back so that they are on one side of the quill. Wrap the feather forward in touching turns to where you left the thread and tie it off. Remove any excess feather. **(Be sure to stroke the fibers back with each wrap to avoid tying them down.)** Wrap back over the end of the fibers to ensure that they stay leaning back toward the hook bend.
6. Now prepare a hen hackle feather in the same manner as you did the mallard feather and tie it in by the tip, with the dull side facing inward, where you tied-off the mallard feather. Wrap it forward toward the hook eye in the same manner as you did the mallard feather, being sure to stroke the fibers back with each wrap. Tie it off slightly behind the hook eye, remove any excess hackle, and form a thread head, being sure to wrap back over the base of the hackle so that they remain leaning back towards the hook bend.
7. Do a whip finish and cut the thread. Apply head cement to the thread head.