

SULPHUR QUILL THORAX DUN



Recipe

Hook.....Dry, size 14 - 20

Thread.....Orange 6/0 or 8/0

Wings.....Cream hen hackle tippets, tied upright and **not** divided

Tail.....Cream hen hackle barbs, divided

Rib.....Thread (optional)

Abdomen...Yellow turkey biot

Hackle.....Cream, dry

Thorax.....Cream Fine and Dry dubbing

Head.....Thread

1. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap it back to about mid hook shank, then reverse your wraps and wrap back to a point about 1/4 hook shank behind the hook eye. The wraps should be tight and will serve as a thread base for the wing.
2. Select two hen hackle tippets appropriately sized for the hook. Remove the fluff from the base of the feathers, then strip away the barbs at the base of the feather until you have an appropriately sized wing. (The wing should be the length of the hook shank.) Hold the wings together with their concave sides facing outward, and tie them in tightly on top of the hook shank with the tips facing out over the hook eye at the 1/4 hook shank point. Left the wings upright and wrap the thread tightly in front of them so that the wings stand upright. **(Do not divide the wings.)** Wrap the thread over the wing butts back to the middle of the hook shank, then trim off any excess wing butts. Wrap the thread back to the hook bend and form a small ball of thread, then let the thread hang behind the ball.
3. Now take several cream hackle fibers and align their ends. Tie-in the fibers on top of the hook shank at the hook bend slightly **behind** the thread ball. Then wrap the thread forward over the tail fibers to the back of the ball. *(The ball should divide the tail fibers into two distinct bunches.)* **(The tail should equal the hook shank in length.)** *(If the tail fibers did not split, take a bodkin and split them into two equal bunches, then take a wrap of thread between the fibers, under the hook shank, and back up on the other side of the hook shank, still staying between the tail fibers. Then pull the thread slightly to divide and spread the tail fibers, and make a few wraps around the hook shank at the base of the tail to anchor it.)* Wrap over the tail butts back to the end of the wing butts

Over....>

and trim off any excess tail butts. **(Ensure that the area between the tail and the back of the wings is smooth and even. This area will be the underbody for the biot abdomen.)**

4. Peel off a turkey biot and mount it by its tip at the hook bend. **(The notch in the biot base should point down so that it will wrap a smooth body.)** Clip the biot base in hackle pliers and take one wrap around the hook shank **(be sure to cover the tail tie-in wraps)** passing the pliers from hand to hand to keep the biot flat as it is wrapped. **(Notice that there is a hairy fringe raised at the front of the biot.)** Take a second wrap of the biot, overlapping the first wrap by just enough to cover the fringe of the first wrap. **(Notice that the second wrap also has a fringe.)** Continue wrapping the biot forward overlapping the previous wrap just enough to cover the fringe on each wrap. This should create a well defined segmented appearance. When the wraps reach the back of the wing, tie off the biot with several firm wraps of thread and remove the excess. Let the thread hang..
5. Select one appropriately sized hackle feather and remove the fluff from its base. Tie-in the hackle feather by its butt end behind the wing with its length extending toward the hook bend and its concave side down. Wrap the hackle in a criss-cross fashion in front of and behind the wing for 3-4 turns, then tie it off and remove any excess hackle. Move the thread behind the hackle and **cut a small notch through the bottom of the hackle from front to back.**
6. Dub the thread and x-wrap it around the base of the hackle through the hackle notch created in step 5, forming a thorax and creating a fan-like hackle with all the hackle pushed up on the sides, leaving the bottom of the hook shank with no hackle (*see the picture*). Tie off the dubbing behind the hook eye and remove any excess.
7. Form a small thread head, whip finish, cut the thread and apply head cement.