

ELK HAIR CADDIS



Recipe

Hook.....Dry, size 10 – 20

Thread....Black 6/0 or 8/0

Rib.....Optional, copper wire

Hackle....Black or brown, palmered

Body.....Black, Gray, or Tan dubbing

Wing.....Elk hair

1. Attach the thread slightly behind the hook eye and wrap a tight thread base to just above the hook barb.
2. If using a rib, tie in the copper wire above the hook point and return the thread to above the hook barb.
3. Select a suitable prepared hackle feather and tie it in by the butt end over the hook barb. Return the thread to over the hook barb and tie a half-hitch.
4. Now sparsely dub a section of thread and wrap it forward forming a small body to within two hook eye lengths of the hook eye and tie off.
5. Grasp the hackle feather and palmer it over the body then tie off and remove excess feather.
6. If using a rib, grasp the copper wire and counter wrap (counterclockwise) it over the body, carefully wrapping it through the hackle to avoid tying down any hackle barbs. Tie off the wire and trim any excess. Tie two half-hitches.

Over....>

7. Cut a small section of elk hair and clean out any underfur with a comb or bodkin. Using a hair stacker, align the hair tips. Remove the hair from the stacker and, with the tips facing rearward, tie in the hair on top of the hook shank with a couple of soft loops in front of the dubbed body. The wing should be the length of the hook shank or slightly longer. If it looks right, hold the wing and press down while applying several tight wraps. (The trick is to get the thread wraps as tight as possible without breaking the thread.) Tie a half-hitch and let the thread hang.
8. Now take your scissors and, while resting the blade against the hook eye, cut the hair butts at a backward angle forming a small hair head. Whip finish over the previous thread wraps, cut the thread, and apply head cement