

Red Midge Pupa... Tom Regina

Tying Materials

Hook: Mustad C49S, size 16
Bead: 5/64-inch copper
Thread: 8/0 Red
Rib: Fine copper wire
Abdomen: Red Flex-Floss
Thorax: Peacock herl



Tying Instructions



1. Place a bead on the hook and fix the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot tie the thread onto the hook directly in back of the bead and lay down a neat touching turns thread base back to a position directly over the hook point. Return the thread to the back of the bead.



2. Tie the rib wire onto the top of the hook with the running part of the wire overhanging the hook bend. Bind the rib wire to the top of the hook with neat touching thread wraps to a point slightly rear of the hook barb. Return the thread to the back of the bead and cut away the wire tag.



3. Directly in back of the bead tie on about a six-inch piece of Flex-Floss for the abdomen. Bind the floss to the top of the hook with neat touching wraps of thread to a point about half-way down the hook bend while at the same time binding more of the rib wire to the same point. Return the thread to the back of the bead and cut away the floss tag.



4. Lift the rib wire and take one turn of Flex-Floss in back of and under the wire. Lay the rib wire back to overhang the rear of the hook. In overlapping turns wrap the Flex-Floss forward to the bead. Tie off the floss and cut away the tag end. *Note: Flex-Floss is a very durable and strong material with great elasticity. The fly dresser can skillfully control the bulk, taper, and segmentation of the abdomen, or other parts of a fly by the amount of stretch and overlap applied while wrapping the floss.*



5. In about eight or ten turns spiral wrap the rib wire forward to the back of the bead. Tie off and cut away the rib wire tag.



6. Select one peacock herl and ruffle the barbs*. Tie the herl on in back of the bead and cut away the herl tag. Take several turns of herl to build the thorax. Tie off the herl between the thorax and bead. Cut away the herl tag. Finish the fly with several half-hitch or whip-finish thread wraps between the thorax and bead. Apply a small amount of head cement to the finish wraps being careful not to get cement on the herl.

*To ruffle a feather, stroke the barbs to make them stand out at an unnatural angle from the quill.