

June Quick Ties with Tom Regina... Caddis Larva

Staying with the Quick-Ties theme of quick and easy ties using a “new” material we will tie a bead head Caddis Larva. Materials include hook, bead, thread, non-lead wire, antron yarn, dubbing wax, fox squirrel fur and head cement. Tools are vise, bobbin, bodkin, and scissors. Other tools that will make tying this caddis larva easier and quicker are tweezers, electrical test lead clip, dubbing loop twister, dubbing teaser and a whip finish tool.

Tying Instructions

Hook	Mustad C49S, size 10
Bead	Gold 1/8"
Weight	.020 non-lead wire (Lead wire is heavier than non-lead wire, however in some national parks, California and some other places lead is not allowed).
Thread	6/0 olive
Abdomen	Olive antron yarn
Thorax	Natural fox squirrel fur



1. Crush the hook barb and place a bead onto the hook. Secure the hook in the vise. Wrap 4 to 6 turns of wire on the hook shank. Cut away the wire tag ends. Slide the first few wraps of wire into the back of the bead with the bead up against the hook eye. Using a jam knot start the thread in back of and up against the wire. Build a small thread dam to prevent the wire and bead from sliding back on the



shank. Wrap a few turns of thread over the wire then cover the hook shank with touching turns of thread back to the hook bend. From the skein of yarn cut about a 3" piece of yarn and separate it into two strand segments. At the hook bend tie in two strands of yarn and tie it down to the hook shank with thread wraps going forward to the back of the wire. Cut away the yarn tag end.



2. To produce a neat segmented abdomen, use the electrical test lead clip to tightly twist the yarn. Wrap the twisted yarn in touching turns forward to the back of the wire. (*Twisting the yarn after each wrap keeps the yarn from untwisting and produces a neat segmented abdomen*). Tie off the yarn with several thread wraps and cut away the yarn tag end.



3. Apply a small amount of dubbing wax to the first 1 to 2" of thread just below the hook. Cut a small pinch of fur from the squirrel hide. (*Tying tip: When cutting fur or hair from a hide or tail, always cut the material as close to the hide as possible. This serves two purposes - the hide stays neat so you can see where to cut the material from the hide with subsequent cuts and it reduces material waste.*) Remove



the short underfur from the clipping leaving the long fur and guard hairs. In the palm of your hand, mix the fur and apply the fur to the waxed portion of the thread in the usual manner. Leave the dubbing “buggy”. Form and twist a dubbing loop. Wrap the dubbing loop forward over the wire to the bead. Catch any excess dubbing loop under several thread wraps just in back of the bead and cut away the loop tag end. Form a whip finish between the dubbing and bead. Cut away the thread. Apply a small amount of cement. Do not get cement on the dubbing. Tease out the dubbing.