

Flex-Floss Maggot...Tom Regina

Maggots are soft bodied legless grubs that are the larva of terrestrial insects of the order Diptera, i.e., the common house fly. Maggots emerge from the eggs laid by the adult insect. The eggs hatch in warm weather within 8 to 20 hours of being deposited. Once hatched, the maggots immediately begin to feed on, and grow in, the material where the eggs were laid.

Maggots, which are terrestrial, get into streams, rivers, lakes, and ponds when they fall off a dead, rotting animal carcass adjacent to or partly in the body of water. Maggots may be washed into the water as the result of a heavy downpour or being disturbed by another animal eating the carcass.

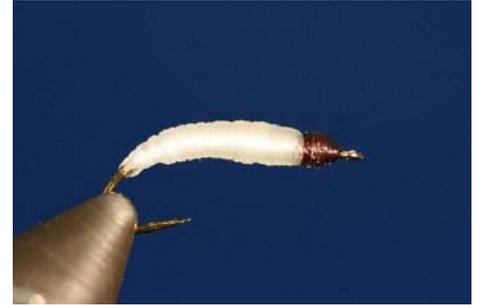
A maggot imitation is fished in the same manner as a nymph but with little or no weight added to the leader except perhaps in fast moving water.

The Flex-Floss maggot we will tie is a simple and quick terrestrial imitation. The Flex-Floss maggot requires only three tying materials - a hook, thread, and Flex-Floss.

Materials

Hook: Mustad C53S size 14
Underbody: 6/0 white thread
Body: White Flex-Floss
Head: 8/0 brown thread

Tying Instructions



1. Debarb the hook and mount it in the vise. Using a jam knot, start the white underbody thread two hook eye distance back from the hook eye. In tight touching turns wrap the underbody thread rearward to a point on the hook bend directly over the hook barb. Return the thread forward to the thread tie on point to form the thread hang point. *Do not encroach on the hook eye.*



2. At the front thread hang point tie on a six inch length of Flex-Floss to the top on the hook shank. While stretching the Flex-Floss, wrap the white underbody thread to the rear in neat, tight, touching turns, binding the floss to the top of the hook shank. Stop the thread wraps at the point on the hook bend directly over the hook barb. *Flex-Floss is relatively strong and stretches well. With a little practice you will learn how much you can stretch it without breaking.* Using touching turns, wrap the thread forward to the front thread hang point.



3. While stretching the Flex-Floss wrap it forward in tight, neat, slightly overlapping turns to the front thread hang point.



4. In the same manner wrap the Flex-Floss to the rear stopping three wraps short of the point on the hook bend directly over the hook barb. Wrap the Flex-Floss forward to a point one wrap forward of the thread hang point. Continue wrapping the Flex-Floss back and forth in tight slightly overlapping turns to form a neat tapered carrot shaped body. The last wrap of floss will be one turn forward of the front thread hang point. Tie off the floss. Stretch the floss and cut away the tag end. Whip finish or half hitch the white thread. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement.



5. Using a jam knot tie on the brown thread adjacent to the hook eye and build a relatively large bulbous neat tapered head. Half hitch or whip finish the thread head. Cut away the thread and cover the entire head with several coats of head cement.