

The RS-2 Emerger

Recipe by Jerry Aldridge

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| HOOK | Dry fly 14-26, Mustad 94840 or equivalent |
| THREAD | Olive 6/0 or 8/0 |
| TAIL | Dun hackle fibers or microfibbets |
| ABDOMEN | Olive superfine dubbing |
| WING | Dun aftershaft (the fluffy part) of feather |
| HACKLE | Olive superfine dubbing |



1. Place hook in vise and lay thread base from eye to bend. At the bend, take several wraps of thread to form a thread bump. Return the thread to mid-shank. Select several long, stiff hackle fibers (actual number depends on hook size - bigger hooks require more fibers) and place on top shank so that tips extend 1 1/2 to 2 hook lengths to the rear of the thread bump. Wrap thread to the rear; as your thread wraps approach the bump, split the fibers in half either side of the bump and finish wrapping up to the bump locking the split tail in place.



2. Dub a slender, tapered abdomen from the bend forward to a point about 1/4 shank length behind eye.



3. Cut a section of aftershaft plumage from the quill of a chicken or pheasant feather. The cut section should be about twice the diameter of the dubbed abdomen. Tie in the plumage just in front of the abdomen to form the wing and trim the excess. Don't worry about the length; you will trim it later.



4. Dub a tapered thorax over the butts of the wing. Leave room for a very small neat head of thread. Hold the wing with left hand and trim the wing with a vertical cut at a point even with the hook barb. Whip finish and apply a light coat of head cement.



TYING NOTES: Mr. Chung, the originator, prefers a straight-eyed hook, the Tiemco 101 model. The Mustad 94859 is similar. He very lightly dubs the abdomen and thorax with a natural beaver fur with the guard hairs removed. Beaver is translucent when wet so the thread base shows through and the fly assumes the color of the tying thread. A pale morning dun emerger could be tied simply by changing your tying thread from olive to light yellow. Beaver dubbing does make a great looking body but is a little more difficult to work with than the artificial dubbing in our recipe. The wing can be tied with several other materials including gray marabou, CDC feathers, antron or Z-lon, to name a few. The tail is longer than usual for emerger or dry flies and can be tied divided or simply splayed. In either case, the "thread bump" is important.