

## October Quick Ties with Tom Regina....Wolf River Midge (originally tied by Scott Sadil)

**M**idges are essentially mosquitoes “true flies of the order *Diptera* but without the penetrating proboscises”. Most, but not all midges are tiny insects. Some midges may be a half inch long or longer. For this Quick-Ties we will tie a “middle” size midge pupa using a size 20 hook.

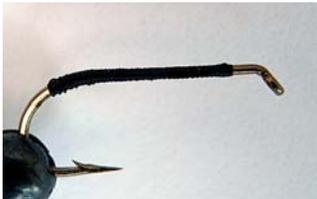
Trout feed on midges between hatches of other insects when other food sources are not as readily available. The late Gary LaFontaine once said “*a midge pupa is never wrong*”. That is to say, trout will nearly always accept midge pupa as plausible food. And there are times when trout feed exclusively on midge pupa.

The Wolf River Midge Pupa can be fished throughout the water column by adjusting the amount of weight added to the tippet. To fish the fly in the surface film, dress the thorax with fly floatant. Midge pupa or duns are also effective as droppers beneath or behind a dry fly.

The materials we will use to tie the Wolf River Midge Pupa are a size 20 hook, black 8/0 thread, fine copper wire, black dubbing and head cement. The tools needed are a vise, bobbin, scissors and a bodkin. Depending on how good or poor your eye sight is a magnification device may be in order.

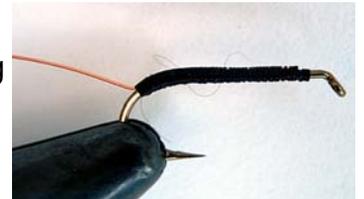
### Tying Instructions

<b>Hook</b>	Mustad 94840 size 20
<b>Thread</b>	Black 8/0
<b>Body</b>	Black 8/0 thread
<b>Ribbing</b>	Fine copper wire
<b>Thorax</b>	Black Hare's Ear Plus dubbing
<b>Head</b>	Black 8/0 thread



1. Debarb the hook and secure it in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread two hook eye distance back from the hook eye. In touching turns lay down an even thread base along the hook shank to a point about one third the way down the hook bend.

2. At the hook bend tie in a piece of fine copper wire on top of the hook shank and wrap an even layer of thread around the hook shank and over the wire tag to the thread tie on point. Make two half hitch or whip finish wraps of thread to tie off the wire. Cut away the excess wire tag. (The body of this midge pupa should not be tapered).



3. Hang the bobbin over the bobbin rest and wrap the wire forward in five or six evenly spaced turns to form the rib. Take three or four turns of thread to secure the wire at a point one hook eye distance back from the hook eye. Cut away the excess wire.

4. Apply a small amount of dubbing to about one inch of the thread. Slide the dubbing up the thread to the hook shank and wrap a neat thorax. Form a small neat thread head. Take several half hitch or whip finish wraps to tie off the thread. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement.



*Caution: When tying small flies do not allow any tying materials or head cement to encroach on or into the hook eye. Any materials in the hook eye will make it more difficult to thread the tippet through the small hook eye.*