

Elk Hair Caddis



Recipe

Hook:	Dry fly hook size 10 - 16
Thread:	Tan 6/0
Body:	olive dubbing
Rib:	Fine gold wire
Hackle:	brown saddle
Wing:	Elk hair

Tying Instructions:

Start your thread behind the eye of the hook. Tie in a 4" piece of fine gold wire by bending a 90 degree angle in the very end of the wire. Tie it in on the side of the hook with a couple of thread wraps. Then bend the short end of the wire back over the thread wraps. Bind the wire down as you wrap the thread to the bend of the hook. Dub some olive dubbing onto the thread and wrap a thin body towards the eye of the hook. Stop the body approximately 1/8" behind the eye. Select a brown dry fly hackle (neck or good saddle) and tie it in by the butt. Be sure to strip off the bottom 1/2" or so at the butt of the feather. Palmer the hackle in spaced out wraps to the back of the dubbed body. Remember to wrap the hackle away from you and over the top of the shank. Hold the hackle tip out over the back of the hook and tie off with 3 or 4 tight wraps of wire. Then continue to wrap the wire through the hackle to the front tie in point. Tie off the wire at the front tie off point. Leave a small (1/16") piece of wire when you cut it and bend it over the thread wraps and secure it with 2 tight wraps. This will "lock" the wire in place and prevent it from being pulled out.

Wrap a thin thread base towards the eye and back. Leave the thread in front of the front tie in point. Next, select a small bunch of elk hair and remove the fuzz at the butt ends of the hair and place it in a hair stacker to even the tips. Remove the hair from the stacker and hold on top of the hook. The wing should extend over the body approximately even with the back of the bend of the hook. Use the pinch method to secure the elk hair. Hold the hair tightly so it does not move from the top of the shank. Several pinches should be used, finally securing with 3 or 4 snug wraps before letting go of the hair. Lift the butts and wrap 2 or 3 tight wraps under the butts. Still holding onto the butts, trim them at an angle. Finish the fly by placing 3 or 4 half hitches or whip finishes on top of the wraps securing the elk hair and then cut the thread and place a drop of head cement onto these thread wraps.