

Amy's Ant



Fly Patterns brought to you by Charlie's FlyBox

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step: 1

Pattern Description

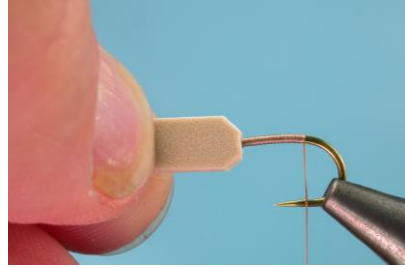
Amy's Ant comes from the vise of the illustrious Jack Dennis and is named after his daughter. This fly is a foam laden, rubber-legged creepy crawly bug and has come on strong as a Guide's favorite in Cheesman Canyon lately. While this fly is about the last thing us old time Cheesman veterans would think to throw up there, it seems that the AA has been pulling fish up quite regularly. Keeping an open mind can be a good thing! This fly is a little complicated but really doesn't require anything in the way of special tying skills. Just keep an eye on the proportions and you should be fine. Go tie!

Materials Needed:

Hook: TMC 5262 or 5263 #6-12..... Thread: 3/0 tan or brown Monocord..... Underbody: 2mm Tan Fly Foam..... Overbody: 2mm Tan or Rust Fly Foam..... Legs: Medium Brown round rubber legs..... Hackle: Brown rooster neck or saddle, trimmed short..... Body: Olive Krystal Chenille..... Underwing: Rainbow Krystal Flash..... Overwing: Cow or Yearling Elk Hair..... Thorax: Bronze Arizona Synthetic peacock Dubbing

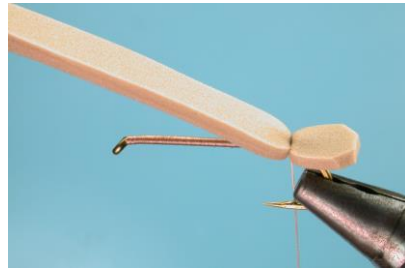
step: 2

Start the thread behind the eye and wrap a thread base back to the bend. Cut a strip of tan foam that is just slightly narrower than the hook gap, and clip the corners off as shown. This strip of foam should be at least a couple inches long at this point.



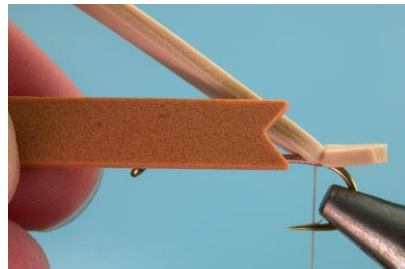
step: 3

Tie the cut end of the foam in at the bend of the hook with the rounded end extending just past the bend. Use three or four tight wraps to anchor the foam in place, and make sure they are one on top of the other.



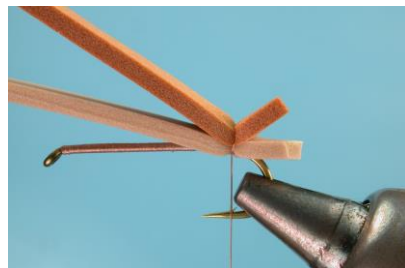
step: 4

Cut a strip of the darker (rust or brown) foam that is just about AS WIDE as the hook gap. Notch the end as shown into a V-shape.



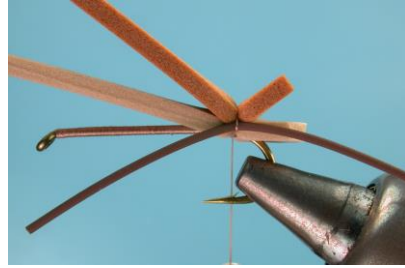
step: 5

Tie the second strip of foam down on top of the first piece in the same manner. The tips of the foam pieces should overlap as shown here.



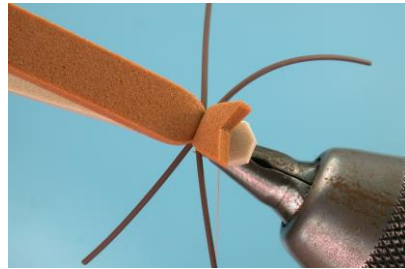
step: 6

Tie in a single strand of brown rubber leg material in the thread notch on the near side of the hook.



step: 7

Tie another strand of rubber leg in on the far side of the hook in that same notch.



step: 8

Fold the darker foam strip as well as all the rubber legs back over the bend of the hook. Use a scrap piece of lead wire to bind these parts to the vise collar temporarily. Move the thread forward to the hook eye.



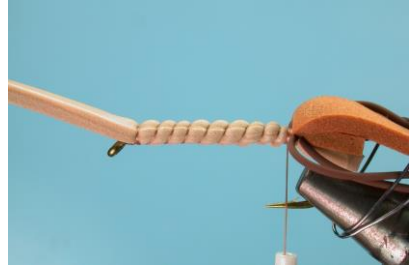
step: 9

Fold the tan foam forward and bind it down flat on the hook right behind the hook eye with several tight turns of thread.



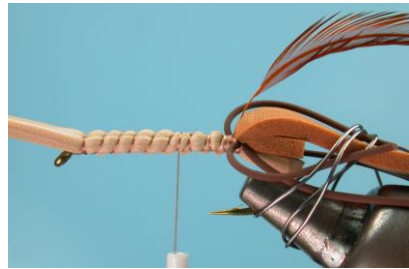
step: 10

Spiral wrap the thread back to the bend of the hook, over the tan foam.



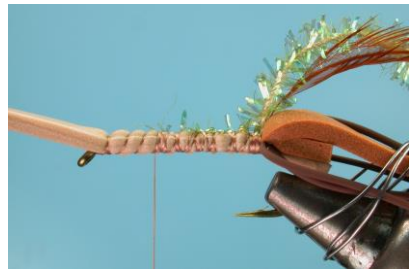
step: 11

Tie in a brown rooster hackle feather by its butt end at the bend. It helps to strip a healthy portion of the feather stem. Trust me;-)



step: 12

Move the thread forward to just past the halfway point. Tie in a length of the olive krystal chenille and wrap back over it to the bend of the hook. Return the thread to where you tied the chenille in.



step: 13

Wrap the chenille forward in even turns to the thread, tie off, and clip the excess.



step: 14

Palmer the brown hackle forward with four or five turns to the end of the chenille and tie it off as well.



step: 15

Trim the tip of the hackle feather off flush, then trim the remaining hackle fibers down into short bristles all the way around the hook.



step: 16

Release the lead wire holding the foam and rubber legs out of the way. Fold the rust foam forward over the chenille body and tie it down firmly at the front edge of the body.



step: 17

Wrap forward over the rust foam all the way up to the hook eye. make sure the foam strip is centered on the top of the hook when you're done.



step: 18

Lay in a clump of multi colored flash (or just use the proper Rainbow Krystal Flash that I didn't have here) and tie it in at the center of it's length. Fold the front ends back over the body of the fly and anchor them in place with a couple tight turns of thread



step: 19

Cut, clean and stack a generous clump of elk hair. Measure this clump against the shank so it extends from the front edge of the body to the end of the foam beyond the bend.



step: 20

Make two taut wraps of thread over the hair at the front of the body and tighten them by pulling the thread TOWARD you. Do not let go of the tips of the hair as you do this. Continue wrapping forward through the hair in small increments to anchor it firmly in place.



step: 21

Clip the butt ends of the elk hair as close to the shank as you can.



step: 22

Dub the thorax from the back of the hook eye back to the front edge of the body, ending with the thread hanging at the end of the foam overbody junction.



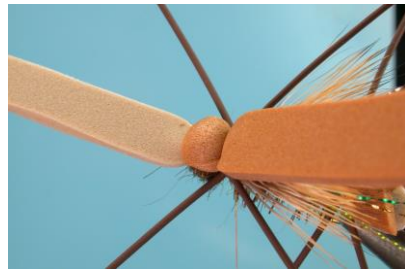
step: 23

Pull the rust foam back over the top of the fly and anchor it in place with a couple tight turns of thread.



step: 24

Tie a single strand of rubber leg in on each side of the thorax in the foam crease.



step: 25

Trim the rust foam on top of the fly into a point as shown here. Trim the legs so they are about a shank length long.



step: 26

Whip finish the thread in the crease between the head and the body. Make three tight turns with the whip finisher and clip the thread.



step: 27

Finished Fly, Side View.



step: 28

Quarter top view.



step: 29

Bottom View.

