

CHARLIE'S FLY BOX, INC.



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Humpy



Fly Patterns brought to you by Charlie's FlyBox

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Charlie Craven and Charlie's FlyBox, Inc.

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step: 1

Pattern Description

The Humpy is my all time favorite attractor pattern and happens to be one of the first "real" flies I ever learned to tie. Its elk hair body and wings and heavy hackle make it an excellent floater and highly visible to boot. My favorite colors are yellow, chartreuse and tan, but it can be tied in any color under the sun. This is one of those flies that hardly anyone really knows how to tie well and is one of the most commonly requested patterns in my classes and demos. So here it goes, my secret methods for tying a foolproof Humpy. Pay special attention to all the measurements, as they are what truly make the difference between an average fly and a really nice Humpy.

Materials Needed:

Hook: TMC 100SPBL #10-18
Thread: UTC 70 Denier, color of choice
Tail: Moose Hock
Hump: Tying Thread, Floss or Dubbing
Body: Natural Cow Elk Body Hair
Wings: Tips of Body Hair
Hackle: Mixed Brown and Grizzly Rooster
Neck

step: 2

Attach thread to hook and build a thread base from the mid point to the bend.



step: 3

Cut, clean and stack a small clump of moose hock. Measure the hock against the shank so it is exactly equal to the length of the hook from the rear edge of the eye to the end of the bend.



step: 4

Tie the moose hock in at the bend and wrap forward over the butt ends to just behind the midpoint on the hook.



step: 5

Clip the butt ends off at this point and leave the thread hanging here.



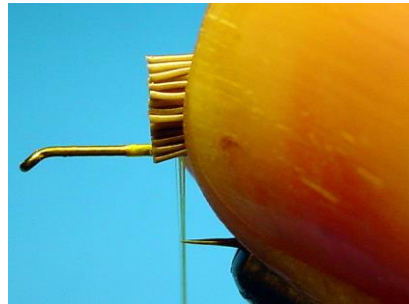
step: 6

Cut, clean and stack a clump of elk body hair and measure it so it is exactly the length of the shank and tail combined. If you measured the tail correctly the total length of the elk hair will be exactly two hook shank lengths.



step: 7

Cut the butt ends off the elk hair at the two-shank lengths point and place the butt ends directly over the thread at the midpoint on the hook.



step: 8

Tie the very butt ends of the elk hair down with two or three very tight turns of thread at the very end of the butts. Be sure these wraps don't creep forward and remain at the mid-point on the shank.



step: 9

Pull up on the rest of the elk hair and wrap the thread back over it to the bend of the hook. Make another couple of tight wraps at the bend to lock the hair in place. Be sure the thread wraps and the lock-down turns are all the way back to the base of the tail. You do not want any space between the elk hair and the tail.



step: 10

Build the "hump" portion of the body by wrapping a smooth thread bulge over the butt ends of the elk hair. Make this bulge relatively prominent as it is what forms the "hump" in a Humpy.



step: 11

Note that the front edge of the thread hump is squared off rather than tapered down to the hook shank. This will assure a clean wing tie down area.



step: 12

Pull the tips of the elk hair forward over the thread hump and give the hair a slight twist to help keep it gathered together. Make sure the hair stays on top of the thread hump and doesn't pull down around the hook.



step: 13

Make three or four tight turns of thread over the elk hair at the front edge of the hump...



step: 14

...and then continue wrapping forward over the elk hair to the seventy-five percent point on the shank. Again, be sure to keep the hair centered on the top of the hook shank, both in the portion that forms the body and the tips that will form the wings.



step: 15

Bring the thread in front of the tips of the elk hair (now the wings) and build a thread dam against their base to stand the wings up at a ninety-degree angle.



step: 16

Divide the remaining elk hair into two equal bunches and make three or four diagonal wraps of thread from the back side of the near wing to the front edge of the far wing. Stop with the thread hanging in front of the wings and take a single thread turn around the shank before going on to the next step.



step: 17

Now make three or four more diagonal wraps from the front of the near wing to the back of the far wing. Stop with the thread hanging behind the far wing.



step: 18

Post the far wing by wrapping the thread around the base of the elk hair, grouping it together into a unified bunch.



step: 19

Take a single wrap of thread around the shank before going on to the near wing and repeat the posting process on it.



step: 20

Bring the thread back to the front edge of the body.



step: 21

Prepare two brown and one grizzly hackle feathers by stripping the butt ends so the stripped quill is equal in length to the distance from the front edge of the body to the rear edge of the index point (one eye length back from the hook eye).



step: 22

Tie the hackles in starting at the front edge of the body and wrap forward over them to hook eye.



step: 23

Begin wrapping the hackles, all at the same time, with at least three turns behind the wings...



step: 24

...cross to the front of the wings, (on the underside of the hook) and continue wrapping with at least three more turns to the hook eye.



step: 25

Tie off the hackle feathers and trim the excess. Build a smooth thread head and whip finish.

