



Tied Down Caddis



Fly Patterns brought to you by Charlie's FlyBox

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step: 1

Pattern Description

The Tied Down Caddis (TDC) is a caddis emerger/cripple pattern that has been around in one form or another for many years. I have fished this pattern for quite some time, yet every year I seem to forget about it buried down in the bottom of my caddis box...forget, that is, until I encounter a tough caddis hatch and need something to break the code. The TDC sits low in the water, had dangling parts hanging below the surface and is a great pattern to pull out when the big bushy dries just aren't pulling it off for you. The best part of this fly is that it is so quick and easy to tie. Pull out some hooks, thread, deer hair and dubbing and whip up a batch to match the color and size of your local caddis and see what you think...

Materials Needed:

Hook: TMC 100SP-BL #14-20..... Thread: GSP 50, Brown.....
Shellback/Tail: Natural Deer Hair.....
Body: Natural Hareline Rabbit Fur Dubbing, color of choice. This one is tied with Cinnamon Caddis Dubbing.

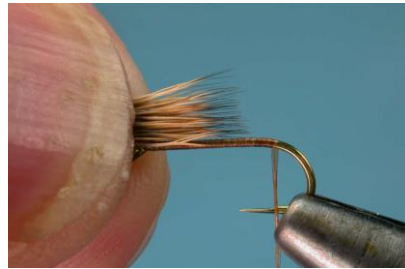
step: 2

Start the tying thread behind the eye and wrap a smooth thread base back to the bend of the hook.



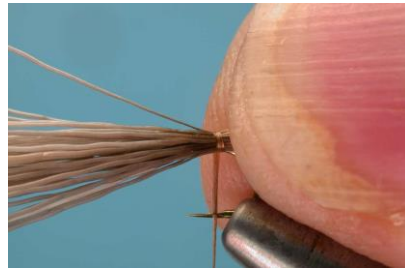
step: 3

Cut, clean and stack a small clump of deer hair. Measure the tips of the hair against the shank so they are about a half shank length long. You want hair with nice clean tips like those shown here...it adds to the overall look of the fly and is much easier to work with than hair with ragged tips.



step: 4

Place the tips of the hair at the bend of the hook, put two wraps of thread over them, and firmly tighten the thread by pulling toward you. Do not let go of the tips of the hair as you wrap and pull the thread. You want the thread to compress the hair down tight to the hook.



step: 5

The thread tension should flare the tips of the hair as shown here.



step: 6

Lift the butt ends of the hair back and out of the way as you bring the thread forward to the middle of the shank.



step: 7

Dub the thread with the Hareline dubbing and start with the first turn of dubbing right at the base of the hair at the hook bend.



step: 8

Continue dubbing forward from the bend of the hook forming a robust, football shaped body right up to one eye length back from the hook eye.



step: 9

Pull the butt ends of the deer hair forward over the top of the dubbing. Hold the hair parallel to, but slightly above the hook shank and make a couple loose wraps of thread around it.



step: 10

Pull down on the thread while holding the deer hair so it stays on the top half of the hook. Pull firmly on the thread to again compress the hair down to the shank.



step: 11

Lift the butt ends of the hair up and bring the thread to immediately behind the hook eye. Whip finish and clip the thread.



step: 12

Clip the butt ends of the deer hair into a short brush.



step: 13

Use a piece of Velco (the hook side) to brush out the dubbing along the bottom of the fly. Really get after it here to pick out the dubbing...it should be long and ragged along the bottom of the fly.

