

Fly Tying Tips from Hermann Fisher, Kamloops, Canada
As Submitted by Lee Ann Ross

- How to deal with a crowded head when tying flies: Use a piece of a bicycle inner tube and punch small holes in it. Slip it over the hook eye and pull back to create more room at the head.

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Beads: He liked the ceramic beads. He wants some weight in the head. He thought the pumpkin head had no weight. He found multicolored ceramic beads in the Canadian Dollar Store. They have some weight. The supplier was multicraftimports.com. Model: Craft Medley BD362, 2.5 mm.

Bobbin Cleaner: Take a bit of wire and wrap a bit of yarn on it. Use it to clean out your bobbin.

Rubber Legs: He likes to use stretch flex. He thought that the material sold commercially for legs is too weak and will break too easily. To thread the stretch flex, take an appropriately sized needle, grind the eye down so that it looks like a needle used for furling, i.e., the eye of the needle has a hole in the side of it so you can get the stretch flex in it.

Poly legs: Brush out polypropylene and use it for legs.

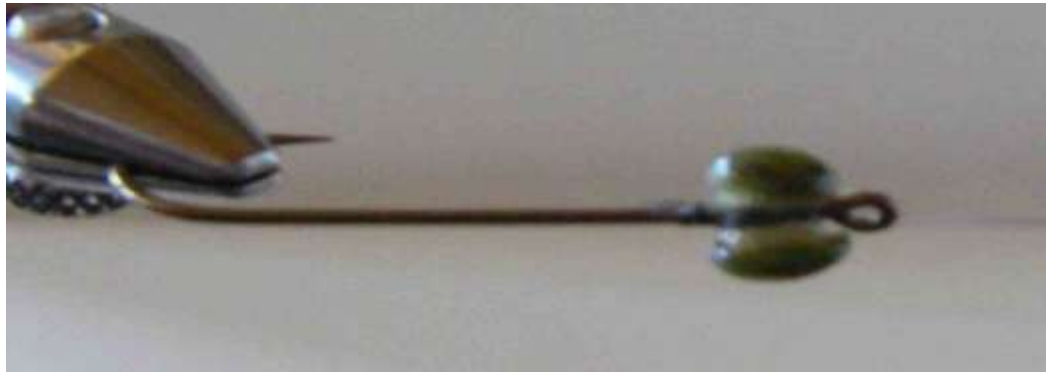
Wing Case: Use ribbon to make wing cases. Use magic markers to color the wing case. You can use more than one color. Enhance the edges with black. While it is wet, cover it with Sally Hanson's 10 Days No Chip.

Hula Skirts: Great source of polypropylene. Use it to make spent wings.



Dubbing Wax: He doesn't use it as it will crystallize and cause the fly to sink.
Liquid Lace: Tie off both ends. Can use pink liquid lace with black thread and you will get a green color.

Hula Skirt for Polypropylene Eyeballs. Twist the hula skirt, hold it with tweezers and burn it to create eyeballs. Since the hula skirt material is flat rather than round like mono, it sits on the hook very well and won't roll.



Flies

Traveling Sedge made with fire proof fingers.

He fishes this on a dry leader but not the last 20 inches. He strips it to get a wake.

Dub the body as you like. He uses hula hoop. To make the wing, he uses foam. He cuts a rectangle of foam and then folds it in half. He melts it along the top of the fold. He cuts an angle off the front end of the foam and melts that. He melts the edges. Tie in the wing behind the hook eye. Cut off any excess that lies in front of the hook eye. Add a bit of hackle behind the hook eye and over the wing.





Chironomid

Use a Tiemco 2457 or a 200R. Take the straight hook and bend the front part down. He used a tool he had made. He likes the ceramic beads from the Dollar Store. Tie in liquid lace at the front of the hook. Stretch the lace and color it with multiple markers if so desired. Stretch as you wrap the first three or four turns then ease off the tension. Tie off with wraps in front first and then behind. Tie in hula skirt. Twist it and cut it to the length you want. Tie in peacock, wrap, whip finish. He does not use head cement, he whip finishes three times instead.





Note the multiple colors made by the markers and the hula skirt gills.

Pheasant Tail

He used Hula Skirt for the body and the wing case. Pheasant tail for the tail.



Note how he used the wrapped hula skirt for the body and the combed poly for the wings.

Twisted Damsel Fly

He uses liquid lace but he does not put oil in it for this fly. Twist the lace. Pull it to get rid of loop. Then leave the loop. Put Hula Skirt in the loop. Tighten it in there by pulling. Clip it with a Radio Shack hooky thing. Squeeze the hula skirt and burn it to make a tail. Now tie all of this in at the eye of the hook. Tie in the eyeballs with the larger side of the eyeball to the rear of the hook. Tie in a wing case behind the eyes. Dub a thorax. Tie in combed out poly for legs. Tie under the hook and behind each leg. When tying off, make a separation between the eyeball and the body. Whip finish.



Extended Pumpkin Head using a Pin

Bend the front of the hook down, Cut the point of the pin off. Put a bead up against the head of the pin. Tie the pin on top of the hook with bead extending past the eye of the hook. Use green rabbit for the tail. Tie it in over the joint between the pin and the hook shank. Tie in the hackle and copper wire at the same time. Tie in four peacock herls (this is where he used the exceptionally long herl). He had two of the herls facing one direction and two of the herls facing the opposite direction. He feels this adds strength to the herl. Move the thread behind the peacock before you twist it in the vise. Wrap the herl up and down the hook. Spin the thread, wire and hackle together and then wrap it forward. Tie off. In the picture, not the old hook eye three quarters up the body of the fly.



Bonus – Hermann's Stonefly

