

## CRACKLEBACK VARIANT



### Recipe

Hook.....Dry, 2xl, size 14 - 10

Thread....Red, 6/0 or 8/0 or color of your choice

Rib.....Gold wire, fine (optional)

Hackle....Furnace, Ginger, or Brown saddle

Back.....Peacock herl

Body.....Floss, yellow or orange or any color you desire

Head.....Thread

1. Put the hook in the vise, attach the thread slightly behind the hook eye, and let the thread hang. If not using a rib, wrap a tight thread base back to the hook bend.
2. *If using a rib, cut a 4" – 5" piece of gold wire and tie it in by one end slightly behind the hook eye. (The length of the wire should extend back over the hook bend.) Keeping the wire on **the near side** of the hook shank, wrap thread over the wire back to the hook bend. Let the thread hang.*
3. Select an appropriately sized hackle feather, clean off the fluff at its base, and tie it in, **concave side up**, by its butt at the hook bend. Let the thread hang.
4. Select 3-4 peacock herls, remove the brown waste at their butt ends, and tie them in together by their butt ends on **top of the hook shank** at the hook bend. Let the thread hang. (Remember, it is important for the herls to be on top of the hook shank.)
5. Now wrap the thread forward to the hook eye in tight touching turns to behind the hook eye, covering all the material butts. (The goal here is to create a relatively even underbody of thread for the floss to go over.)
6. Cut a 6"- 7" piece of floss and tie it in slightly behind the hook eye. The length of the floss should go out toward the hook bend. Be sure to remove any excess floss over the hook eye. Now wrap the floss in touching turns back to the hook bend, then reverse direction and wrap it forward in touching turns to slightly behind the hook eye and tie it down. Remove any excess floss. *Be sure to cover all the thread wraps.* Let the thread hang.

Over....>

7. Grasp the peacock herls and pull them over **the top of the floss body** to slightly behind the hook eye and tie them down. Remove any excess herl. Let the thread hang.
8. Grasp the hackle feather and palmer it forward over the floss body and peacock herl to slightly behind the hook eye and tie it off. Remove any excess hackle. *(The hackle barbs should be leaning slightly forward toward the hook eye.)*
9. *If using a rib, grasp the wire and palmer it forward through the hackle to behind the hook eye and tie it off. Remove any excess ribbing. Try to avoid tying down any of the hackle barbs by wiggling the wire through the hackle as you wrap it forward.*
10. Form a small thread head, whip finish, and cut the thread. Apply head cement, if desired. If needed, use a dubbing brush to free any tied down hackle barbs, but be careful not to fray the floss body.