

IRISH CDC MAYFLY



Recipe

Hook.....Dry or Nymph, light wire, short shank, size 10-16
Thread.....Black, Brown or Wine 6/0 or 8/0
Front Wing.....Mallard flank, dyed Wood Duck
Back Wing.....White or Light Dun CDC fibers
Tail.....Olive Brown Bucktail or Moose body hair
Rib.....Gold wire, fine
Body.....SLF or Fine and Dry Dubbing, Light Olive
Belly.....Orange Flex-Floss (optional)
Hackle.....Natural or Light Dun CDC fibers, tied via dubbing loop
Head.....Thread

1. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap halfway down the hook shank, then reverse direction and wrap halfway back toward the hook eye, creating a good base for the wing. Let the thread hang.
2. Select a mallard flank feather and strip the fluff off the butt end. Holding the feather tip, stroke the fibers back toward the butt. Select a point on the feather shaft where the fibers are slightly longer than the hook shank and cut the quill at that point. Remove the cut section of the feather and discard, then stroke the fibers on the remaining quill forward. This should leave you with a feather with a "V" notch in the center and long fibers on either side.
3. Position the feather on top of the hook shank over the prepared wing base and tie it in flat on top of the hook shank by the bare quill with several soft loops where you left the thread hanging in step #1. **The hackle tips should point over the hook eye and the concave curve of the feather should be up.** Adjust the feather fibers (wings) to the correct length (hook shank length) by pulling on the hackle butt, then apply several tight thread turns at base of the wing feather to secure it. Trim off the remaining butt end of

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The feather and wrap thread over any remaining butt. Wrap the thread back to the tie-in point for the wing feather.

4. Lift the hackle wings perpendicular to the hook shank and put several thread wraps tight against front of the wings to make them stand upright. (The feather wings should be naturally divided into two bunches. If they are not, then separate the wing fibers into two equal bunches and make a figure eight thread wrap with the thread through the middle to keep the bunches separated. The thread wraps should end at the back of wings.
5. Select 1-2 CDC feathers and strip the fibers off the quill, keeping the fibers in your fingers, until you have a fairly good bunch. Align the fiber tips, then tie the bunch in tightly on top of the hook shank tight against the back of the feather wings as a rear wing. The fiber tips should be even with or slightly longer than the feather wing tips. Trim off any excess fiber butts and cover any remaining butts with thread. Wrap the thread back to the hook bend and let it hang.
6. Cut a small bunch of bucktail or moose hair and even the tips, then tie the bunch in on top of the hook shank at the hook bend as a tail. **(The tail should be a hook shank in length and should project straight out over the hook bend.)** Trim the hair butts even with the wing butts, then wrap thread tightly over them to create a fairly even body. *Keep the butts on top of the hook shank.* Return the thread to slightly behind the wings.
7. Cut a 3"-4" piece of gold wire and tie in by one end behind the wings, then wrap thread over the length of the wire back to the hook bend. The remaining wire should project out over the hook bend. **DO NOT CUT THE WIRE.**
8. Apply a small amount of dubbing to the thread and twist it tightly. Wrap the dubbed thread forward to slightly behind wing, forming a slightly tapered body and tie it off. *Be sure to cover the tail tie-in thread wraps.* Remove any excess dubbing. Let the thread hang.
9. Grasp the ribbing wire and palmer it forward in evenly spaced wraps to behind the wings and tie it off. Remove any excess wire. Let the thread hang.
10. (Optional) Cut a 3" piece of Flex-Floss and tie it in under the hook shank right behind the wings. The length of the floss should stretch toward the hook bend. **Ensure that the floss is centered on the bottom of the hook shank.**
11. Form a dubbing loop with the thread right behind the wings, then wrap the thread forward to behind the hook eye.
12. Select 2-3 CDC feathers and strip the fibers off the quill, keeping the fibers in your

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fingers. Align the fiber tips as much as possible, then insert the fibers into the dubbing loop so that the fiber tips project about a hook shank length through the thread over any remaining butt. Wrap the thread back to the tie-in point for the wing feather dubbing loop. Keeping the loop taut, use your fingers to spread the fibers in the loop so that you have a spread of fibers in the loop about 2"-3" in length. Then, using **SHARP** scissors, trim the fiber butts close to the dubbing loop. *Be sure to keep the loop taut or the fibers might shift.* Now twist the dubbing loop tight to form a CDC dubbing brush with long fiber tips. Make 2-3 wraps with the dubbing loop behind the wing, then make 2-3 wraps in front of the wing to behind the hook eye and tie it off. **Try to avoid tying down too many fibers as you make the wraps.** Remove any excess loop.

13. Using some type of dubbing teaser, brush the CDC fibers upward on the sides so that there are no fibers on the bottom of the hook shank.
14. (Optional) If using Flex-Floss, grasp it and pull it forward tightly under the wings on the bottom of the hook shank and tie it off tightly behind the hook eye under the hook shank to form a belly. Trim off any excess floss. *(Flex-Floss is slightly stretchy, so pull it taut before trimming off the excess. This will reduce the amount of butt material needing to be covered and make it easier to form a neat head.)*
15. Form a thread head, whip finish, and apply head cement very carefully to avoid getting cement on any of the CDC fibers.