

PARASOL EMERGER



Recipe

Hook.....Curved Caddis, size 12-24
Parasol.....White or Gray polypropylene yarn
Parasol Post.....Tippet, 4X or 5X
Thread.....Rusty Brown, 6/0 or 8/0
Rib.....Green stretch tubing, small
Abdomen.....Light Olive fine and dry dubbing
Thorax.....Rusty Brown dubbing
Head.....Thread

1. Cut a 6" piece of tippet material (4X for hooks size 16 and larger or 5X for hooks size 18 or smaller).
2. Cut two 1" pieces of poly yarn for hooks size 16 and larger or one piece for hooks size 18 or smaller and put them together lengthwise and tie them together at their midpoint with the tippet using a clinch knot. Moisten the knot and pull it tight. Trim off the tag end. (You should now have a doubled piece of yarn on the end of a 2"-3" section of tippet "post".)
3. Fold the yarn at the point where it is tied together and brush it with a comb , rotating it as you brush it, until you have one combined bunch. Set this "parasol" aside.
4. Put the hook in the vise and tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and wrap a tight thread base back to the middle of the hook shank, then reverse direction and wrap the thread half-way back toward the hook eye. This should put the thread approximately 1/4 of the hook shank behind the hook eye. Trim off any thread tag and let the thread hang.
5. Measure the parasol tippet "post" from the base of the parasol down the length of the tippet for the length of the hook shank and tie the "post" in at that point on top of the hook shank at the point where you left the thread. The parasol should be pointing out over the hook eye. Now wrap the thread in tight touching turns over the butt of the post back to the middle of the hook bend. Keep the "post" butt on top of the hook shank. Trim off any excess post tag. Let the thread hang.

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6. Now cut a 3"-4" piece of stretch tubing and tie it in as a rib half way down the hook bend where you left the thread. The length of the tubing should extend back down the hook bend. Trim off any excess rib butt.
7. Dub the thread and wrap a tapered dubbed abdomen up the hook shank to the base of the parasol post. Remove any excess dubbing.
8. Grasp the rib tubing and palmer wrap it forward over the dubbed abdomen in 4-6 evenly spaced wraps and tie it off at the front of the abdomen behind the parasol post. Remove any excess tubing.
9. Lift the parasol post and make several tight thread wraps in front of it to make it stand up.
10. Dub the thread and wrap a thorax forward to behind the hook eye and remove any excess dubbing. Be sure to wrap the dubbing back tight against the "post" and the front of the abdomen so that the "post" thread wraps are all covered and there is no space between the abdomen and the thorax. The thorax should be slightly thicker than the abdomen.
11. Form a neat thread head, whip finish, and cut the thread. Apply head cement to the head wraps, if desired.
12. Now grasp the parasol fibers and pull them up, similarly to forming an egg pattern, and cut the fibers straight across the top at least 3/16" up from the parasol base. This will give a nice egg shape.

Note: The "parasol" is more of an appendage you add to a fly than a fly in its own right. This idea originated with the famous Fran Betters and was intended to allow a fly to float just below the surface of the water in imitation of an emerging insect. This technique can be applied to almost any nymph or wet fly pattern. You can alter the length of the parasol "post" to adjust the depth at which you wish to float the fly but making it too long can lead to tangles on the cast. You can also adjust the angle at which the fly floats by where you tie in the post. Tying it in behind the hook eye tends to "dangle" the fly hook vertically, while tying it in the middle of the hook shank tends to float the fly horizontally.