

## RED FOX SQUIRREL NYMPH



### Recipe

Hook.....Nymph 2xl-3xl, size 2-18  
Thread.....Suitable color 6/0  
Weight.....Lead Wire, small or medium depending on hook size  
Tail.....Red Fox Squirrel back hair or tail fibers  
Rib .....Copper Wire or Oval Gold Tinsel  
Abdomen....Red Fox Squirrel belly hair or dubbing  
Wing Stub...Pearl Flashabou (optional)  
Thorax.....Red Fox Squirrel back hair or dubbing  
Hackle.....Dark mottled partridge feather  
Head.....Thread

1. Place the hook in the vise and wrap lead wire in tight touching turns from slightly behind the hook eye back to cover the front 2/3<sup>rds</sup> of the hook shank. Break off any excess wire. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and cover the wire wraps with thread then continue wrapping back to the hook bend. Let the thread hang.
2. Cut and clean a small bunch of back hair or squirrel tail and tie it in at the hook bend as a tail. The tail should be the length of the hook gap. Keeping the hair butts on top of hook shank, cover the hair butts with thread wraps back to the end of the lead wraps. Wrap the thread back to the tail tie-in point. Remove any excess hair butts. (At this point, you should have a fairly even underbody.)
3. Cut a 2-3" length of wire or tinsel and tie it in by one end at same point where the tail was tied in. The length of the wire/tinsel should extend back over the hook bend.

Over....>

Instructions by Bill "Woody" Woodward  
Photography by Bob Cain

4. Form a dubbing loop at the tail tie-in point, then wrap the thread forward to a point 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the hook shank behind the hook eye. Let the thread hang. Fill the dubbing loop with fur or dubbing for the abdomen and twist it into a spiky rope. Wrap this dubbing rope forward to where the thread is hanging and tie it off. The abdomen should be slightly tapered toward the rear of the abdomen. Remove any excess dubbing loop.
5. Now take the ribbing wire or tinsel and wrap it forward in 5-6 concentric (evenly spaced) turns to the front of the abdomen and tie it off. Trim excess rib.
6. If including the option to add a wing stub, take a strand of Flashabou, fold it in half, and tie it in by the folded end at the front edge of the abdomen on top of the hook shank. Trim the loose ends of the Flashabou so that they stretch back over no more than the front half of the abdomen.
7. Take the thread and pinch dub on the thorax hair/dubbing, then wrap the dubbed thread forward to slightly behind the hook eye forming the thorax. Tie it off the and remove any excess dubbing. The thorax should be twice as thick as the abdomen.
8. Select a partridge feather and strip the fluff off its base, then stroke all the fibers, except for the very tip, back toward the feather base. (The feather fibers length should be long enough to stretch from the hook eye back to slightly past the front edge of the abdomen.) Tie the feather in by its tip (at the point where the fibers begin to be stroked back) in front of the thorax and make 3-4 wraps to behind the hook eye and tie it off. Be sure to stroke the fibers back with each wrap to avoid binding them down. Trim off the excess feather.
9. Wrap the thread back slightly over the front edge of the feather wraps so that the fibers lean back over the thorax.
10. Form a small thread head, whip finish, cut the thread and apply head cement to the head wraps. Avoid getting head cement of the feather fibers.