

# YELLOW HUMPY



## Recipe

Hook.....Dry, size 10-18  
Thread.....Yellow 6/0  
Tail.....Moose body hair  
Abdomen...Thread  
Overbody...Elk or Deer hair  
Wing.....White calf body hair or poly yarn  
Hackle.....Brown, dry  
Head.....Thread

1. Tie-in the thread at mid hook shank and wrap back to the bend in touching turns, then wrap back to mid hook shank. Let the thread hang.
2. Cut, clean, and stack 10 to 12 moose body hairs to use as a tail. Lay the hair on top of the hook shank with the tips extending a little less than a hook shank length past the hook bend. Tie in the hair at mid-shank and wrap back to the hook bend **starting with tight wraps and making looser wraps** as you near the hook bend to avoid flaring the moose hair. **(Make sure to keep the moose hair on top of the hook shank.)** Wrap the thread back to mid-shank with increasingly tighter wraps.
3. Grasp the moose hair butts with your left hand and pull them back toward the hook bend. Wrap thread over these butts about half way to the hook bend with **tight wraps**, then trim off the excess butts. Then wrap the thread forward in tight wraps to cover the rear  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the hook shank. Let the thread hang **(this will be the tie-in point for the wings)**. **(At this point, it is recommended that you coat the tail butts and thread wraps with head cement or superglue to insure that they stay tight and don't spin on the hook shank—THIS VERY IMPORTANT.)**

**(FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL STEPS, MEASUREMENTS BECOME CRITICAL, SO BE CAREFUL.)**

4. Clip, clean, and stack a bunch of deer hair about the diameter of a pencil. Measure a length of the hair from the tips that is two hook gaps long. Place this length of hair, with the tips projecting out over the hook eye, on top of the hook shank at the wing tie-in point and, using a pinch wrap, tie it in.

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**(Be sure to keep the hair on top of the hook shank.)** Wrap back over the hair butts with tight wraps to a point just in front of the tail. **(Trim off the excess hair butts.)** Wrap the thread forward to the wing tie-in point and let it hang. Be sure that the thread completely covers the hair butts as this is the abdomen of the fly. **(Here again, it is strongly suggested that you apply some type of cement to the thread wraps to keep the wings from spinning on the hook shank.)**

5. Now cut, stack, and clean a bunch of deer hair. Lay the hair on top of the hook shank slightly behind the wing tie-in point with the tips pointing back over the hook bend. Tie the hair in with tight thread wraps back to the tail. **(DO NOT TRIM OFF THE EXCESS HAIR.) (Make sure to keep the hair on top of the hook shank and completely cover the hair with touching turns of thread. This will be the abdomen of the fly and the thread wraps will be visible on the bottom of the finished fly.)** Pull the remaining excess hair butts forward over the abdomen and tie them in at the **MIDDLE** of the hook shank with several tight thread wraps to form the distinctive “hump” of the fly. **(Make sure to keep the hair “hump” on the top half of the abdomen. There should be no hair on the bottom.)** Wrap over the remaining butts with touching thread wraps forward to just behind the wing tie-in point, then trim off the remaining hair butts.
6. Pull the wing hair tips upright and wrap a thread dam in front of them to make them stand upright. Divide the wing hair into two equal bunches (wings) and make a figure eight wrap between them to separate them **(a bodkin needle is good tool for dividing the wings)**, then wrap the thread 3-4 times around the base of the far side wing to gather the hair together. **(Do not pull the thread too tight or the hair will flare.)** Repeat this step with the near side wing. Finally, wrap the thread a couple of times behind the wing then continue wrapping back to the “hump” tie down wraps. **(If desired, you can cement the wing wraps for strength.)**
7. Select a brown dry fly hackle feather with barbs about 1½ times the width of the hook gap. Strip the fluff from the base of the feather and tie it in on top of the hook shank behind the wings at the base of the “hump”. The shiny side of the feather should be facing toward you. Bind down the hackle butts as you wrap the thread to a point about 2 hook eye widths behind the hook eye. Trim off any excess hackle butts.
8. Wind the brown hackle feather forward four times behind the wing, then continue forward and wrap it 3 times in front of the wing. Tie it in behind the hook eye and trim off the excess.
9. Form a small thread head, whip finish, and cut the thread. Apply head cement if desired.

***This is a hard fly to tie well, so don't get frustrated. Measurements are extremely important for the fly to be correctly proportioned. It is equally important that the thread wraps be tight to avoid having the tail, “hump”, and wing from spinning around the hook shank. Take your time and practice, practice, practice.***

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