

Moose Hair Crayfish

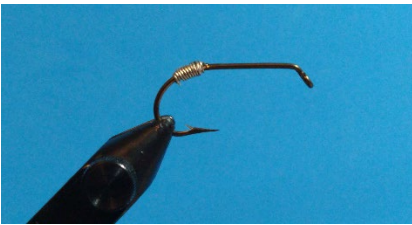
List of materials

HOOK: Down-turn eye hook size 6-1/0

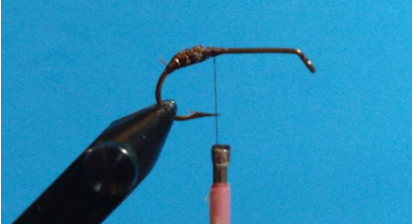
THREAD: UTC 140 Brown or color of your choice.

BODY: Moose hair, orange or brown hackle feather, flower stamen with tips painted black or other similar eyes.

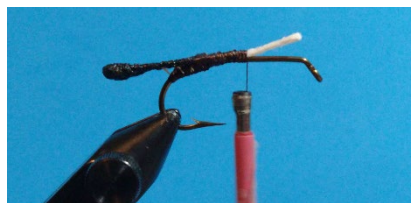
Steps



Start by wrapping lead free wire about ten times on the shank of the hook. Wrap back over to make a double thick layer. Put a drop of super glue right where the hook bends. Push the lead wire over the super glue. The wire can go down the bend slightly.



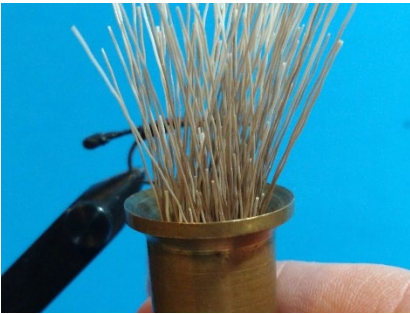
Start your thread in front of the lead wire and cover the wire with thread. You don't need to cover all the lead, just ensure it is tied in tight.



If you are using the stamen eyes, tie them in so the eyes extend beyond the end of the hook. Loosely wrap them so the strings are on each side of the hook. Loose wraps work best. Wrap to about the midpoint of the hook and trim the end. Secure the strands with thread.



Return your thread to the tie in point at the barb of the hook. Cut a small bunch of moose hair, about a pencil size. This may seem like too much, but the moose hair is several different lengths.



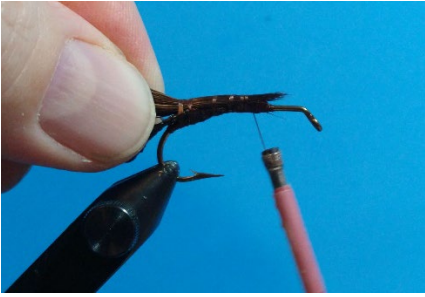
Place the tips of the moose hair into a hair stacker. You will notice that the butt ends



Grab the hair by the tips and hold tight. Use your fingers to remove the shorter hairs.



Measure the hair to ensure you have enough length. The hair should be 1.5 to 2 times the length of the hook.



For the best results, tie in the tips at about the midpoint of the hook and wrap back to the barb, or where the eyes are tied in. The hair should extend past the bend of the hook.



Using two of your hackle feathers, tie them on top of the hook making an "X". The wider the feather the bigger the claw will appear.



Secure the feathers tightly and trim the butt ends. Notice the there is still almost $\frac{1}{2}$ the look length without any material. This will be important to keep a tapered body.



Tie in the third hackle feather right behind the claws. Palmer it around the hook stopping before the midpoint of the hook.



Tie off and trim the hackle feather. Depending on the length of the feather you might not need to use the whole thing.



This is where things get tricky. Taking about 1/3 of the hair from the top, bend it back and lightly wrap it three or four times directly behind the spun hackle feathers. If you have an issue with the feather fibers sticking up through the moose hair you can trim the fibers on the top and bottom of the hook.



If you are able to turn your vise, take 1/2 of the remaining hair and pull it under the fly. You will want to take it between the side of the hook and the stamen eye. Lightly wrap in in the same place two to three times.

Repeat with the other side leaving at least two hairs sticking forward for antennae.



Grab the hair and pull it upwards while wrapping loosely to the eye of the hook. You can make a segmented body if you have the room.



With the hair on the top of the hook, fan out the hair before trimming.



Pulling the hair straight back, trim it to make the tail. By pulling the hair straight and making a straight cut you will retain the fanned out shape.



Take each claw and stroke the feathers backwards. Clip the center stem of the feather only to make a claw shape on the end.



If the claws look to big you can repeat and make them shorter.

The finished fly will swim hook up. You can adjust how it will act in the water by changing the placement of the lead and the size of the tail.

This fly can also be tied smaller by using elk or deer hair. The thing to consider is the length of the hair and ensuring there is enough to fold over to make the body and tail.