Fly tying is easy while at the same time fun.
Many people think that it is hard!
This simple guide will prove that with a little practice you can tie your own favorite patterns as well as create your own. All it takes is little creativity and patience. The biggest reward is having the satisfaction of catching fish with a fly tied by yourself.
We hope you enjoy the world of tying your own flies.

Getting Started

Below are the 6 basic steps when tying fly's. These guidelines will help develop your tying skills resulting in consentient and durable fly’s. The patterns shown show basic tying steps that can be utilized in different patterns.

1. Insert the hook so that the barb of the hook is visible.
2. Begin your thread in the middle of the hook unless you are spinning a hair body ect.
3. Divide the front of the hook into halves, wind forward 2/3 and stop your thread. This point is where wings are to be placed for most dry flies. The parameters for your fly has now been established allowing ample space for hackle and finishing the fly.
   This same technique can be applied to nymphs, as well as streamers.
4. Wind back to a point, stopping the thread when it is in line with the hook barb. This will give you a reference point in developing proper tail placement as well as a stating point for the body.
5. Try to use a minimum amount of thread turns .
6. Experiment with different materials
**Wooly Bugger**

1. Start Thread in the middle of the hook.

2. Wind forward to establish head spacing.

3. Wind back to point establish tail set.

4. Tail approximately 1 1/2 times hook shank.

5. Set Tail.

6. Strip body material to core.

7. Tie in body material.

8. Prepare saddle hackle by stroking the fibers towards the base of the feather and tie in at base of tail.

9. Wind body material always pack as wind forward.

10. Tie off body material and trim excess.

11. Wind hackle in a spiral motion.

12. Tie off hackle and build small head. Whip finish and apply head cement.
**Midge**

1. Start Thread in the middle of the hook.

2. Wind thread forward to approximately 2/3 of the hook shank. This will determine starting point for body material.

3. Attach body material. While pulling the body back to the hook point, wind back to hook point, well into the curve of the hook.

4. Wind body material forward.

5. Tie in thorax material and wind forward. Cut off excess material.

6. Tie in accent material and trim excess. Whip Finish and cement head.

**Nymph**

1. Start Thread in the middle of the hook.

2. Wind thread forward to approximately 2/3 of the hook shank. This will determine starting point for wing case.

3. Wind back to point in line with barb and attach tail. Tail is made by stripping hackle fibers of saddle hackle.

4. Attach tail fibers.

5. Tie in ribbing material.

6. Prepare body material, rabbit fur as shown.

7. Start dubbing by twisting around thread.
8. Wind body forward to point where wing case will begin.

9. Wind ribbing material forward. Tie off and trim excess.

10. Tie in wing case material.

11. Continue dubbing over thorax area.

12. Fold Wing case forward. Tie off and trim excess.

13. Using scissors points, pick out dubbing under the wing case. This will simulate legs on the nymph.

14. Whip finish head and apply head cement.

Glow Bug

1. Start Thread in the middle of the hook.

2. Select three or four strands of egg yarn.

3. Tie in yarn with three or four tight wraps.

4. Pulling egg yarn, wrap in front of clump. Place a small amount of head cement and wind forward to eye of the hook. Whip Finish and apply head cement.

5. Pull Egg Yarn straight up and hold tightly. Using scissors make “ONE” full cut. The yarn should puff out. The length of the yarn will determine the diameter and fullness of the finished egg pattern.
**Hair Caddis**

1. Start Thread in the middle of the hook.

2. Wind thread forward to approximately 2/3 of the hook shank. This will determine body length and wing placement. Wind back to point in line with barb and prepared hackle.

3. Tie in hackle and start dubbing by twisting the fur around thread.

4. Wind body material forward leaving room for hair wing.

5. Wind hackle forward in a spiral form. Secure hackle.

6. Trim hackle as shown.

7. Prepare wing material. Pay strict attention in cleaning out any under hair and fur. Stack hair. Gripping the butts make length measurement. Tie in with two or three loose windings. While holding the tips gradually wind through the buts. Cut a neat taper and apply head cement, whip finish.

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**Dry Fly**

1. Start Thread in the middle of the hook. Wind thread forward to approximately 2/3 of the hook shank as before.

2. Select wing material. Hackle tips are shown. Make sure to strip fibers down to the stem.

3. Tie hackle tips as shown and divide wings evenly as shown. Using thread, figure eight around each wing.

4. Wrap thread to rear of hook and set the tail. Tail length should be 2 times the gape of the hook.

5. Tie in body and wind body material to behind the wing.

7. Wind hackle at least three times behind wing. Wind balance of hackle in front of wing, tie off and trim.

**Streamer**

1. Start Thread in the middle of the hook.

2. Wind forward to establish head space.

3. Wind back and prepare tail material. Tail material is from stripping fibers from saddle hackle.

4. Set Tail and wind in.

5. Attach butt material.

6. Wind butt material forward approximately to the point of the hook.

7. Wind thread forward. Attach body material.

8. Wind thread backwards over body material.
9. Wind body material forward, tie off and clip excess, leave room for hackle and wing.

10. Prepare hackle as shown. This is done by stripping away all “fluff”.

11. Attach hackle feather. Trim excess stem. While winding forward stroke fibers backwards. Wind three or four times around hook shank. Tie off with thread.


13. Wing length should extend a little longer than total tail length.

14. Attach wing material, note that the first two or three turns should be fairly tight. This will hold the wing on top of the hook shank. Take two or three turns applying more pressure. Trim excess wing material, cut as close to the hook shank, avoiding cutting thread. Wind through butts and form a small head.

15. Whip finish and apply head cement.
Fly Tying Glossary

**Hackle:** Usually a chicken feather that is wound around the hook shank. By winding the “Barbulars“ are fanned out creating legs such as seen in dry flys.

**Body Material:** Any item that is used to form the body of a fly. This material is usually in the form of a yarn, chenille, or fur.

**Dubbing:** The technique of twisting loose fur onto a thread. Then winding fur and thread to form a body.

**Tail:** Any material that extends past the bend of the hook. Materials include marabou, hair, hackle barbs. Synthetic flash materials.

**Ribbing:** Winding a different material such as wire or tinsel to reinforce delicate materials such as peacock herl. To give the fly body a segmented appearance.

**Whip Finish:** A special knot that is basically a series of half hitches. That is not pulled tight until the last turn.

**Half Hitch.** A simple two finger overhand knot that is used to secure various materials while building a fly.

**Packing:** Technique that uses the thumb, fore finger and index finger. Surround hook shank by positioning all three finger tips together creating a triangle. Push material backwards thus condensing materials. This technique is very important while spinning hair or compressing hackle.

**Wing Case:** A material that is used to form a wing case usually seen on nymphs. Materials can include synthetics, body feathers, hair or small hackle tips.

**Thorax:** Refers to the section of the fly that is usually covered on top with a wing case. Can also be left uncovered as seen in small caddis pupas, emerges and midges.

**Divided Wings:** Dividing wing materials by using a figure eight technique. Split wing into equal halves, using thread wind between halves about three times from back to the front. Wind another three times between wings going from front to the rear, ending directly behind the wings.

**Posting:** To post a wing first divide wings with a figure eight. When the wings are separated tightly wrap approximately two or three turns around the base of each wing. Always wrap the individual wing in a clockwise manner finishing at the back of the wings.

**Parachute:** Use posting technique but make only one wing. Attach hackle parallel to the shank and wind clockwise around the base of the wing.