



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying

Welcome!

Thanks for attending Monadnock Trout Unlimited's Fly Tying Class. We hope you learn a lot about fly tying, learn a little bit about fishing the Monadnock Region, meet some fellow fishermen, and have a whole lot of fun in the process.

Why are we teaching these classes? All of the instructors and helpers in this class are volunteers. We're spending our time teaching these classes for three main reasons.

1. We want to expose more people to the work that Trout Unlimited is doing. We think a good way to do that is to meet like-minded people, who might be interested in TU's activities.
2. We want to raise some money for our TU Chapter. In the last year we've sponsored stewardship of a local river, a children's fishing derby, the Salmon in the Classroom Program, and a variety of other projects. It takes money to do this, and we think this is a fun way to generate some funds.
3. Most importantly, *we like to tie flies!* All of the instructors here are avid fly tyers (OK, some are obsessive-compulsive fly tyers...) We enjoy tying, and we enjoy tying in a group with other tyers. We enjoy teaching newcomers how to tie as well.

So who or what is Trout Unlimited? Well, it's a national organization with local chapters. The overall mission of TU is to conserve, protect and restore North America's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. TU members believe that the best way to restore America's trout water is to create healthy habitat, not necessarily by heavy stocking. Once streams are returned to their original status the fish will take care of themselves. In the Monadnock Region we assist Fish and Game with stream surveys, perform restoration like removing dams and adding appropriate structure to create riffles and rapids, and work with landowners to provide stewardship services for trout streams. We meet monthly in Dublin, where we usually have a guest speaker discussing a fishing trip, a guide service, or a TU program. You're welcome to join us at any time.

So let's tie some flies!

Tight lines,

George, Larry, Jim, Mike, Ed, and Brad



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Ground Rules

We thought it might be good to set down a few ground rules that pertain to the class.

1. The class meets from 6:00 until 8:45. We need to leave promptly by 9:00. Please come early to set up your equipment so we can start the class exactly at 6:30. We'll take a 15 minute break at 7:45.
2. We'll meet every Tuesday night. We'll cancel class if the Keene School district has a snow day. We'll try to get the a closing announced on WKNE as well, but follow whatever the school district does.
3. In the event of snow days, we'll make up the classes at the end of the session in March.
4. Students are responsible for their own tools. We have some tools to borrow, and have some TU toolsets available to buy. We can point you to some places to buy tools as well.
5. Materials will be provided for students to use during the class, as well as for a bit of "homework." You will need to provide your own materials for flies tied outside of class. We can give you guidance here as well.
6. Have a fly you'd like to learn how to tie? Bring it in. We can work on it with you.
7. We've published a list of patterns, but this will likely change based on the make up of the class. Please be flexible.
8. We're all here to have fun! We hope that you learn something in the process, but your main goal is to enjoy yourself. If this isn't happening, let us know! We probably just forgot to tell you something important...



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Class Patterns

The following patterns will be taught. We chose them because:

1. They're easy to tie.
2. They catch fish. In the Ashuelot, not just in Montana.
3. If you can tie these, you have the skills to tie just about anything.

Beginner's Class

January 6	<i>Fundamentals</i>	Sucker Spawn	Wooly Bugger
January 13	<i>Nymphs</i>	Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear	Zug Bug
January 20	<i>Nymphs II</i>	Pheasant Tail Nymph	Prince Nymph
January 27	<i>Streamers</i>	Black Nose Dace	Mickey Fin
February 3	<i>Wet Flies</i>	Partridge and Orange	Black Gnat
February 10	<i>Dry Flies</i>	Elk Hair Caddis	Cahill

This is a list of the main fly for each class as well as a secondary fly (similar in construction, but different from the main fly). In addition we'll also have a stretch fly (slightly more complicated than the secondary fly - good for advanced students, or for homework.)

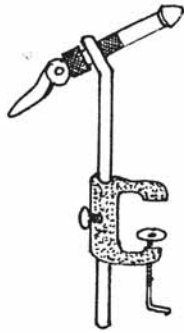
Advanced Class

February 17	<i>Simple Dries</i>	CDC & Elk	Bivisible
February 24	<i>More Dries</i>	Adams	Parachute Biot Cahill
March 3	<i>Adult Caddis</i>	Stimulator	Henryville Special
March 10	<i>Caddis</i>	Triple K	Sparkle Caddis Pupa
March 17	<i>Terrestrials</i>	Ants - Beetles	Hoppers - Crickets
March 24	<i>Midges</i>	Krenich, Quill	Brassie, Sulphur Dun
March 31	<i>Snow Day</i>		

The Advanced Class will build on the skills presented in the Beginner's Class. Patterns presented here are a bit more difficult, but also represent proven "go-to" patterns of the MTU tyers.



Basic Tools



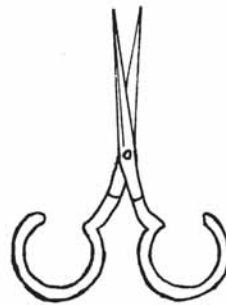
Vise



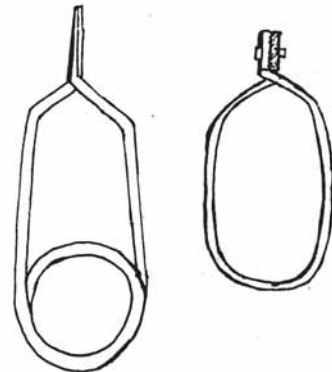
Bobbin



Bodkin



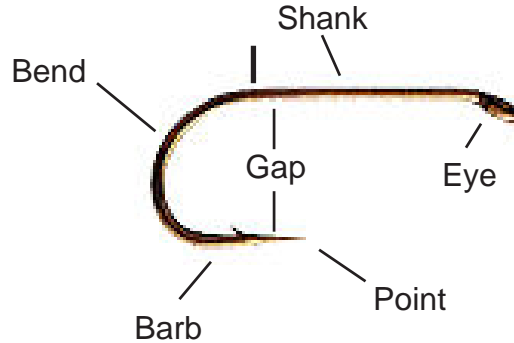
Scissors



Hackle Pliers



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Hook Nomenclature



Hook sizes are designated numerically. The larger the number, the smaller the hook. A #12 is an average size trout hook. A #14 is two sizes smaller. A #8 is four sizes larger. Odd hook sizes are available from some manufacturers, but they are rare.

Variations from the standard wire size and shank length are designated with an "X" system.

XL - Long Shank



Regular



XS - Short Shank



XF Extra Fine Wire



Regular Size Wire



TUE - Turned Up Eye



RE - Ringed Eye



TDE - Turned Down Eye



XST - Extra Stout Wire



If a number precedes the "X" it denotes the amount of variation. For example, compared to a standard #6 Hook:

A #6 2XL has a shank length of a #4 Regular hook.

A #6 4XL has a shank length of a #2 Regular hook.



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Resources

Some good local sources for fly tying materials.

Sams	Keene, Brattleboro, Bellows Falls(?)
WS Hunter	Concord and New London, NH
Stone River Outfitters	Bedford, NH
Frenchy's Fly Shop	Keene

Some good online sources for materials at a good price:

Hook and Hackle	http://www.hookhack.com/
LinesEnd.com	http://www.linesend.com/
Fly Tying World	http://www.flytyingworld.com/

Some nice websites:

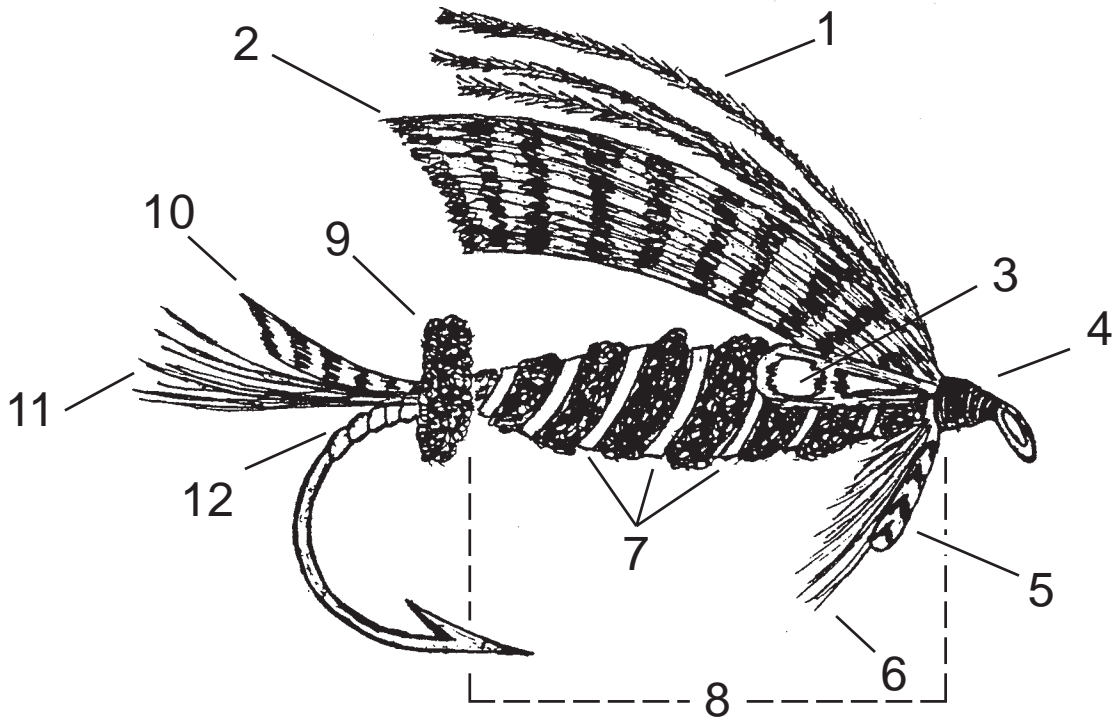
Fly Tyer's Page	http://www.danica.com/Flytier/	2710 Patterns
GlobalFlyFisher	http://globalflyfisher.com/	Great tutorials on everything.
Virtual Fly Shop	http://www.virtualflyshop.com/	Good bulletin board.
Virtual Fly Box	http://www.virtualflybox.com	1177 Patterns.
Fly Anglers Online	http://www.flyanglersonline.com/	Good general info.
CASF	http://www.ClassicAtlanticSalmonFlies.com	Larry's Site

Some beginning books:

Basic Fly Tying	Ed Kock and Norm Shires
Fly Tying Made Clear and Simple	Skip Morris
The Fly Tyer's Primer	Dick Talleur
Orvis Guide to Beginning Fly Tying	Leiser and Vincigurra



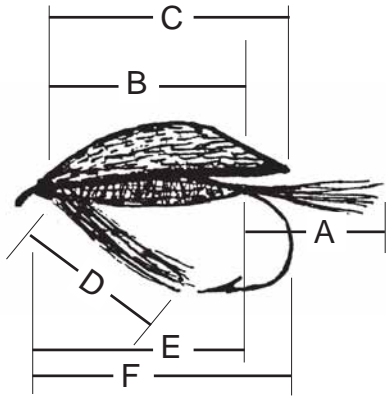
Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Fly Nomenclature



- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Topping | 7. Ribbing |
| 2. Wing Proper | 8. Body |
| 3. Shoulder | 9. Butt |
| 4. Head | 10. Tail Veiling |
| 5. Throat | 11. Tail |
| 6. Hackle | 12. Tag |



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Fly Proportions



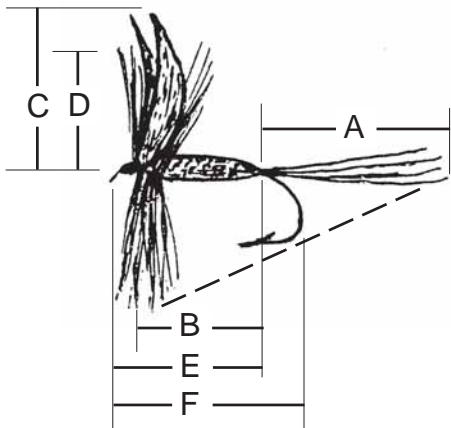
Wet Fly

$$A = 1/2 B$$

$$B = 7/8 E$$

$$C = F$$

D = To Hook Point



Dry Fly

$$A = F$$

$$B = 7/8 E$$

$$C = F$$

$$D = 3/4 C$$

Legend

A = Tail

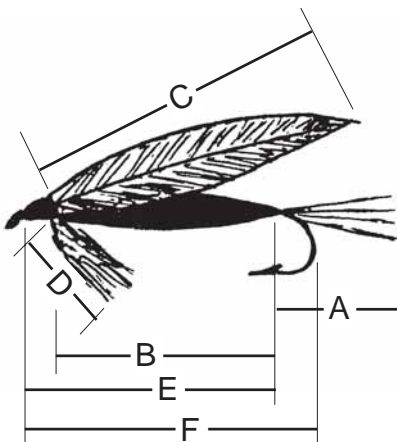
B = Body

C = Wing

D = Hackle, throat
or beard

E = Shank length

F = Hook length



Streamer

$$A = 1/2 B$$

$$B = 3/4 E$$

$$C = A + B$$

$$D = 1/2 B$$



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Thread Basics

Since the mid-30's the ought system (zeros) was used to rate or dimension fly tying thread. As an example, a thread with six zeros (000000) translated to a 6/0 thread. The higher the number of zeros the finer the thread.

As new manufacturers came into the market the system lost its effectiveness. Manufacturers used 6/0 for example but their thread diameters differed.

The new system being introduced is called denier (pronounced den yer). Denier is a commonly used measurement of thread employed in the garment industry. Denier is the weight in grams of 9,000 meters of thread. A thicker, heavier thread will have a correspondingly larger denier number.

As this new system is introduced you will see both systems being sold. The major manufacturers are adopting the denier system. There is nothing wrong with the old thread itself.

Here are some typical sizes of thread we will use in fly tying:

Brand	Ought/denier		
Gudbrod	8/0 (67)	6/0(143)	3/0(176)
Uni	8/0 (72)	6/0 (135)	
Wapsi UTC	NA (70)	NA (140)	NA (210)



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Week 1 - Sucker Spawn

Pattern

Hook: Daiichi 1720, #10 (kit)

Thread: Red, 6/0

Tail: Krystal Flash, optional

Body: Orange Yarn

Head: Red Thread



Skills Learned

Starting and ending thread

Soft Pinch Loop method of tying on material

Tying Instructions

1. Place hook in vise and attach thread behind eye.
2. Bind down one 6" piece of yarn along hook, all the way to the bend.
3. Tie in tail flash if desired.
4. Form a loop with the yarn, then direct yarn back to rear of hook, forming a second loop.
5. Bind the second loop to the hook shank, allowing the first loop to project over the hook bend.
6. Repeat the process, tying the next loop in just ahead of the first.
7. Continue forming loops, tying on either side of the hook as well as the top.
8. Finish wrapping about two eye-widths behind the eye. Tie off the yarn and clip excess.
9. Build up a tapered head and finish with a whip finish or series of half hitches.

Variations

1. Try different colors.
2. Try adding weight.



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Week 1 - Wooly Bugger

Pattern

Hook: Daiichi 1720 #10 (kit), Mustad 97580,
or equivalent, size 2 to 8

Thread: Black, 6/0

Weight: Fine lead substitute

Tail: Black Marabou

Hackle: Black Saddle Hackle

Body: Olive Chenille

Head: Black Thread



Skills Learned

Starting and ending thread

Soft Pinch Loop method of tying on material

How to tie in hackle

Palmering hackle

Tying Instructions

1. Place hook in vise and attach thread behind eye.
2. Wind to bend of hook using loose turns.
3. Tie in marabou. Trim excess and bind down butts.
4. Tie in hackle feather.
5. Tie in chenille.
6. Take thread forward to just behind eye.
7. Wrap chenille forward to approximately 1/16" behind eye. Tie down and trim excess.
8. Wrap the hackle feather forward by palmering or spacing the feather so it ends just behind the eye. Tie down and trim excess.
9. Build up a tapered head and finish with a whip finish or series of half hitches.

Variations

1. Start with bead head on hook.
2. Start with ten wraps of lead substitute wire on hook.
3. Add crystal flash to tail.
4. Replace marabou with wool yarn tail and use shorter hook for Wooly Worm



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Week 2 - Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear

Pattern

Hook: D1720 #10 (kit)
Thread: Black, 6/0
Weight: Fine lead substitute, or beadhead
Rib: Fine gold oval tinsel or mylar
Tail: Hare's mask fibers
Abdomen: Hare's mask dubbing
Wing case: Dark goose or turkey quill
Thorax: Hare's mask

Skills Learned

Review starting and ending thread
Soft Pinch Loop method of tying on material
Dubbing techniques
Ribbing techniques
Nymph proportions
Tying in abdomen and wingcase



Tying Instructions

1. Place hook in vise and attach thread behind eye.
2. Wind to bend of hook using loose turns.
3. Wrap hook with ten turns of lead substitute.
4. Tie in a pinch of hare's mask for the tail. Trim excess and bind down.
5. Tie on oval tinsel for ribbing.
6. Dub the thread with hare's ear and wrap the dubbed thread forward to approximately the half way point of the hook shank. This is the abdomen. Taper the abdomen to make it smaller at the rear of the hook and wider/thicker at the front.
7. Spiral the rib forward with spacing between the wraps. Tie in just ahead of the abdomen.
7. Cut a 3/16" piece of wing quill. This can be cemented to prevent it from separating. Tie the quill in by the butt for the wing case.
8. Dub the thorax using hare's mask. Build the thorax up to be larger than the front of the abdomen. Wrap the dubbing forward to within 1/16" of the eye of the hook.
9. Pull the quill forward and over the dubbed thorax. Tie off the quill and trim the excess.
10. Form a small head and finish with a whip finish or half hitches.

Variations

1. Omit the lead substitute.
2. Add a beadhead.
3. Use flash material for the wingcase.



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Week 3 - Pheasant Tail Nymph

Pattern

Hook: Daiichi 1720 #10 (kit) or equivalent size
14-22

Thread: Black or Brown 6/0 (option - fine
copper wire)

Rib: Fine copper wire

Tail: 3 or 4 strands - pheasant tail center herl

Body: Pheasant tail herl

Wing case: Pheasant tail herl



Skills Learned

Review skills from lesson 1 and 2

Review nymph construction

Learn how to tie in tail, abdomen, thorax - wing case

Pheasant tail very delicate

Tying Instructions

1. Place hook in vise - tie in 3/16 behind eye - thread to rear of hook
2. Tie in tail - do not cut excess herl
3. tie in fine copper wire rib - spiral thread to front
4. Slightly twist excess herl from tail - wind past center of hook
5. Counter wrap wire rib through abdomen - build up thorax with excess wire - tie off
6. Spiral thread to center of hook - tie in wing case (5 or 6 pheasant herls treated with head cement)
7. Tie in 2-3 herls in front of wing case to build up thorax
8. Bring wing case over thorax and tie off
9. Build up slight head - tie off - head cement

Variations

1. Use peacock herl for thorax
2. Use flash for wing case
3. Use bead head or lead substitute
4. Try green and red dyed P.T.



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Week 4 - Mickey Finn Streamer

Pattern

Hook: D2220 #8 (kit) or equivalent size 8 - 10

Thread: Black 6/0

Body: med. flat mylar silver tinsel

Wing: red and yellow bucktail

Rib: optional - oval silver tinsel

Skills Learned

Review previous skills

Tying with mylar tinsel

Tying with bucktail



Tying Instructions

1. Place hook in vise - tie on 3/16 behind eye
2. Attach medium mylar tinsel at front of hook
3. Silver side - spiral back - in slight overlaps to beginning of hook bend
4. Spiral from bend back to front of hook
5. Cut, clean and even small bundle of yellow bucktail
6. Tie in at the head - tips just beyond bend
7. Repeat #5 and 6 first with red and then yellow
8. Put a drop of head cement on each bundle when tied on
9. Tie off - build up head and apply head cement

Variations

This is a basic tie for hair wing bucktails or streamers. Can be used with various bodies and wings. Tie with weight or bead head



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Week 5 - Partridge & Orange

Pattern

Hook: Daiichi 1560 #12 (kit)

Thread: 6/0 Primrose

Body: Floss or Uni-Stretch

Rib: Fine gold wire

Hackle: Natural Partridge

Skills Learned

Review previous skills

Review wet fly construction

Learn how to handle wet fly hackle



Tying Instructions

1. Place hook in vise - tie in 1/8 behind eye
2. Tie in floss and wire at eye of hook.
3. Bind down back toward bend, stop at end of body.
4. Wrap floss forward to 1 eye width behind eye. Tie off.
5. Wrap wire rib forward to end of floss. Tie off.
6. Tie in partridge by tip. Remove one side of feather for a sparser hackle.
7. Wrap 1 or 2 wraps with the hackle. Tie off.
8. Build small head, tie off, and cement.

Variations

1. Use different colored floss for different situations.
2. Some patterns call for a small thorax to keep the hackles splayed.
3. This fly is often tied smaller than the hook it's on that is, a size 14 body on a size 12 hook.



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Week 6 - Elk Hair Caddis

Pattern

hook; Daiichi 1180 #14, or equivalent
thread: 6/0 black
wing: Brown deer hair
hackle: ginger - one size smaller
body: Tan dubbing

Skills

applying deer hair wing
dry fly hackling
review dubbing



Steps

1. Place hook in vise. Tie in thread at rear.
2. Tie in hackle by tip.
3. Dub a sparse body, fairly even. Tie off.
4. Counter-wrap the hackle forward. Tie off.
5. Prepare a sparse deer hair wing. Clean and stack.
6. Tie in so that the tips of the wing are just past the hook bend. Allow the deer hair to rise up from the tie in point.
7. Move forward and tie one wrap through one third of the "head."
8. Move forward another third, and tie one wrap.
9. Finish in front of the "head" and behind the eye. Whip finish.
10. Hold the scissors at the same angle as the wing, and clip off the butt ends of the wing, forming a head.

Variations

1. Use elk, bear, or deer for wing.



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying
Sponsors

Many Thanks to:

Angler Sport Group, for their donation of Daichi Hooks
StoneRiver Outfitters, for the hackle.

Hans Weilemann, for permission to use photos from his
web site

LinesEnd.com, for their support



Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Secondary Patterns - Page 1

Week 1 Wooly Worm

Hook M9671 (2x) sizes 8-12
Thread black 6/0
tail red yarn - tag
body black chenille
hackle grizzly saddle



Week 2 Zug Bug

Hook D1710 #14 sizes 10-16
thread black 6/0
tail 3 strands peacock sword herl
body abdomen and thorax
peacock herl
rib oval silver or gold
hackle brown hen - beard style
wing case bronze mallard flank (cut in triangle)



Week 3 Prince Nymph

Hook Daiichi 1710 #14 (kit)
thread black 6/0
tail brown biots
body peacock herl
rib fine gold wire
throat brown hen hackle
antenna white biots



Week 4 Black Nose Dace

Hook D2220 #8
thread black 6/0
tail red yarn - tag
body flat silver tinsel
rib optional oval silver tinsel
wing 1) white bucktail
2) black bucktail or bear
3) natural brown bucktail built from hook up





Monadnock Trout Unlimited - Beginning Fly Tying Secondary Patterns - Page 2

Week 4 Black Gnat

Hook D1560 #12
thread black 6/0
body 3-4 barbs of crow or black turkey
hackle black hen neck



Week 6 Cahill

Hook D1180 #14
thread cream 6/0
body light cahill dubbing
tail light ginger or cream hackle barbs
wing woodduck flank - mallard flank
hackle light ginger or cream dry fly hackle

