



NO HACKLE ELK HAIR CADDIS

By
Dave Sylstra

June 2005 Fly of the Month

The dry fly season is fast approaching, and now is the time to tie up a bunch of Dave's easy to tie caddis imitations. In keeping with the "keep it simple" approach, this fly eliminates the hackle from the famous "elk hair caddis" and makes it easy and fast to tie. If you prep your materials, you should be able to tie each one in less than a minute or two, not bad!

Don't worry if they are a little cockeyed or the heads are not perfect. These are to fish with, not mount in displays! I love beautiful and elegant flies that are close to art. I have tied with some of the best tiers around, but even they admit (usually after a few beers) that the fish don't know the difference

MATERIALS

HOOK: Standard dry fly hook, size 10-18

THREAD: Tan, brown, olive, to match dubbing.

BODY MATERIAL: Dry fly dubbing in tan, brown or grey.

WING: Tan, brown, or grey elk hair or deer hair.

Tying Instructions

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie in the thread, just above the hook point. (Figure 1 above right)
2. Choose a dubbing color and dub the thread with the dry fly dubbing. (Figure 2 above right).
3. Wind the dubbing forward, forming a slightly tapered body. (Figure 3 at right).
4. Stop the thread about two hook eyes width behind the eye of the hook. (Figure 4 at right)
5. Choose a nice clump of elk hair, cut from the skin, clean out the excess and the broken hairs. Even the tips. (Figure 5 at right)
6. Tie in the elk hair at the point where the body ends and wrap a nice wide segment.. (Figure 6 at right).
7. Trim off the ends of the hair as shown, leaving a small head. Whip finish. (Figure 7 at right).



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TIP: Tie in tan, grey and brown. Fish them on just about any river or lake in California.

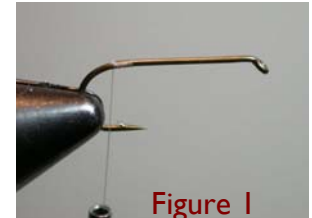


Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

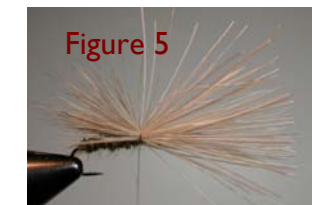


Figure 5



Figure 6

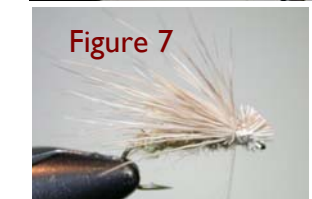


Figure 7