

OSPREY FLY BOX

BIOT STONEFLY

contributed by

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I learned how to tie the realistic stonefly from my friend David back in the Czech Republic. Tying this fly requires some time, effort, and a few iterations to make it right. I have a feeling that the fisherman appreciates the fly more than the fish, but I had a good success fishing it in Europe for Barbel, and it helped me to catch a few nice Rainbows on Thompson.

The fly can be tied in many variations – using rubber legs instead of the goose biots, or creating a simpler back – but I always like to create the body with a body glass. Sizes can vary, as the stonefly nymphs can grow over 2”. I usually tie it with Brown or Black materials.

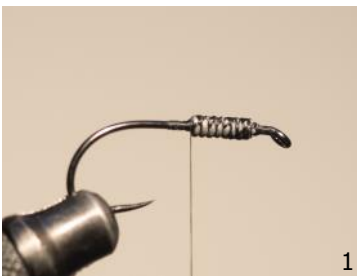
It is important to keep the proportions of the fly. Lead wrapped around the hook should be approximately 1/3 of the total length of the fly, the body made from body glass should be 1/2 of the total length of the fly and the thorax should take up the remaining 1/2 of the body. The thorax consists of three similar sections with the legs attached in the centers of these sections. There should be a small gap between the last thorax section and the eye of the hook to attach antennae and

MATERIALS

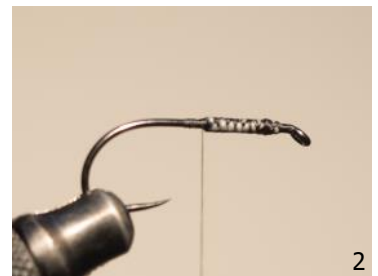


- Hook:** Mustad 9672 3XL Nymph Hook #4-#6
- Weight:** 0.025 Lead wire
- Thread:** Uni 6/0 Black
- Antennae:** One Pair Goose Biots Amber
- Tail:** One Pair Goose Biots Amber
- Body:** Body Glass or Medium Vinyl Rib Brown
- Thorax:** Rabbit Dubbing
- Wingcase:** Brown Body Stretch or Scud Back
- Legs:** Three Pairs Goose Biots Amber

TYING INSTRUCTIONS



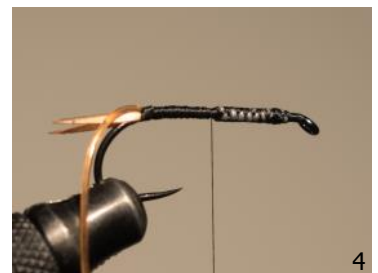
1. Wrap the lead wire around the hook. The length of the lead wraps should be approx. 1/3 of the length of the fly. Slide the lead towards the eye of the hook, leaving a 3 mm gap for the head. Wrap the thread around the lead to secure it in place.



2. Squeeze the lead with pliers to flatten it. Try not to press too hard to avoid the lead wire from breaking. This step should form the flat shape of the stonefly.



3. Select two biots and tie them in to form a tail. The biots are slightly curved and they should be positioned so they point outwards from the hook.



4. Tie in body glass. Try to attach as little as possible and press hard on the tying thread. To cover the bulge, even out the body with the tying thread to make it look uniform.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

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5. Wrap the body glass around the hook up to the lead, leaving 1 mm gap. Pull on the material when making the first threads. This will stretch the material and reduce its diameter, allowing us to tie a uniform body. The bodyglass should take ½ of the total length of the fly.



6. Attach the body stretch at the end of the body glass.



7. Dub Rabbit fur onto the tying thread.



8. Make several wraps toward the point of the hook to cover the body stretch and then back towards the hook eye. The purpose is to create a “backpack” – the wingcase should slightly overhang the body.



9. Attach a pair of goose biots right next to the dubbing (one biot on each side of the fly). The length of the legs should be similar to the length of the body glass body. Position them so they are curved outwards from the hook. The angle between the legs and the body should be around 45 degrees. To make the angle bigger (to make the legs stick out from the body more) make a few wraps with the tying thread around the legs closer to the dubbing. This should push the legs away from the body.



10. Add some more Rabbit dubbing to the thread and make a few wraps of the dubbing, fold the body stretch over the dubbed section, and secure it in place with the tying thread. Now, one of the three segments is finished. The length of this segment should be approx. one third of the Thorax section..



11. We have to repeat steps 7 – 10 twice more to create two more segments of the Stonefly Thorax. Therefore, fold the body stretch towards the tip of the hook. Dub Rabbit fur onto the thread.



12. Attach a pair of Goose Biots to the head of the fly to form Antennae. They should point forward - away from the body of the fly, and outwards from the center of the hook.



13. Make a few wraps between the antennae and the thorax to form a head, whip finish the fly, and add a few drops of head cement.



14. Finished Stonefly.



15. From directly Above.

Tight Lines & Good Luck!