

OSPREY FLY BOX

FRENCHIE 2.0

contributed by

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This is a variation or evolution of my first Frenchy seen in the April 2017 newsletter. As my education continues in Tight Line Nymphing (*French, Spanish, Polish, or Czech Nymphing as there are many names for it*) I bring forward a favorite fly that has been successful for me in the rivers and creeks.

It's called a Frenchie and it's my go to fly when I walk out into the river to nymph fish. It's a simple fly to tie and that's great because you probably will lose a lot on the bottom through a day's fishing.

All my nymph flies are tied using Tungsten Beads as the key here is to have a heavy fly that will immediately go straight to the bottom where most of the fish are feeding.

There are many variations in the fishing methods, the angle of the drift, how and at what angle should the fly rod be at, should I give the drifting fly motion, many questions? I have been learning these over the last ten years and finally feel I am getting the hang of it. The cast and drift are not the normal fly casting we are used to. The fly pattern is not the most important part. The cast and presentation is the key to catching fish. However when I am nymphing and catching fish, I will be fishing the Frenchie.

Expect to lose flies as you are right on the bottom. If you keep getting snagged, go to a smaller bead, if you do not feel the bottom periodically, go to a heavier bead. I tie ALL sizes of the Frenchie as shown above with ALL bead sizes so I can cover ALL depths of water. (yes, and catch ALL the fish) Four sizes of flies with 5 bead sizes equals 20 flies. A couple of different patterns and you have a full box.

You should only use a couple of different patterns.



MATERIALS

Hook:	Hends BL120 – 60° Jig hook Sizes: 10 to 16
Bead:	Silver Tungsten slotted sizes 5/64, 3/32, 7/64, 5/32, 3/16 (<i>The slice in the bead goes on top of hook</i>)
Thread:	Uni 6/0 Tan
Tail:	Coq de leon (<i>Should be mottled brown colour</i>)
Abdomen:	Pheasant tail stripped of fibers (<i>use quill of fiber only</i>)
Rib:	Copper wire for size of hook (<i>Small or X Small</i>)
Thorax:	Peacock herl
Hotspot:	Fluorescent red or orange thread

TYING INSTRUCTIONS



1. Slide the Slotted Bead on to the hook and slide up to the hook eye. Start the thread on the hook behind the bead and put a base layer down to the bend.
2. Strip about 5 or 6 Coq De Leon fibres from the stem keeping their tips aligned and tie in forming a short body length tail no more. Bind the fibres down up to the bead.



TYING INSTRUCTIONS

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3. Tie in the copper wire and bind down to the start of the tail.



4. Strip 5 or 6 Pheasant Tail Fibres from the feather and tie in by their tips. *(take the longest fibres possible or you will have to repeat tying in additional fibres if you run out of fibre before the bead)* Advance the thread up to about a half a bead length back from the bead making a slightly tapered body with the thread.



5. Wind the Pheasant Tail fibres up to the thread and tie off.



6. Counter wind the copper wire in open spirals up to the thread and tie off. Helicopter the wire to break off the excess.



7. Select a single Peacock Herl and cut the brittle tip. Tie in and advance the thread to the bead.



8. Wrap the Peacock Herl up to the thread and tie off. Do a two turn whip finish.



9. Take the Fluorescent Orange or Red thread and attach to the fly behind the bead. Cut the tan thread.



10. Build a small Hot Spot and complete with a whip finish and the use your preferred glue, head cement etc. to finish the fly.

11. The same hook with a larger bead.



Tight Lines & Good Luck!