

## Osprey Flybox

### “Frostbite Chironomid ”

By Peter Chatt

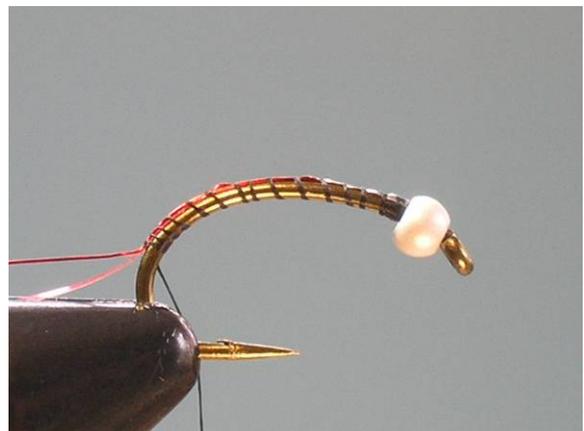
When I was new to the club I discovered from our club phone list that Peter Chatt’s back yard was practically across the street from my house in Coquitlam. I’ve since moved but will tell you there’s probably worse people you could have as a neighbor. Peter is the kind of guy that loves teaching, he’s always willing to help people with their fly tying or offer advice on other ways to do things, ways he’s learned from decades of experience tying flies for himself, friends and commercially for the local shop on Austin. Peter also has submitted more than his share of flies for this part of the newsletter, and this month he’s got another to share with us.

He tells me he was camped at Leighton Lake a few years ago he was leisurely at the vice tying flies one morning when a nearby camper he’d talked to came over with a vile of chironomid to show him. In the vile Peter noticed the majority of the flies were chrome with a red butt, but not the bright chrome we all know so well which was one of Phil’s trademark patterns. These flies had a slightly gray hue to them. Peter came up with the idea to wrap something overtop of the chrome to tone it down a bit. He tied some up and gave a few to the neighbor who went on to have quite a bit of success with it

Head	White or pearl coloured metal bead
Thread	Black 8/0
Rib	Fine red wire
Body	Holographic Fly Fiber, red/silver
Over body	#19 grey frostbite
Thorax	Peacock herl

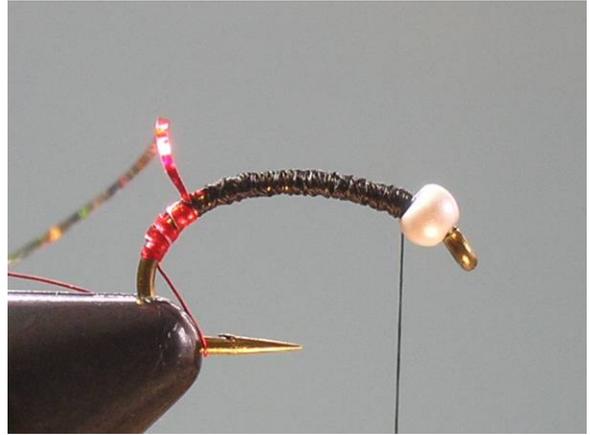
#### Step 1:

Debarb the hook and slide the bead onto it.  
Tie in the red wire rib and silver/red Fly Fiber and wrap down the hook to the midpoint of the bend.  
Holographic Fly Fibre looks the exact same as Flashabou, except one side is holographic silver, the other holographic red.

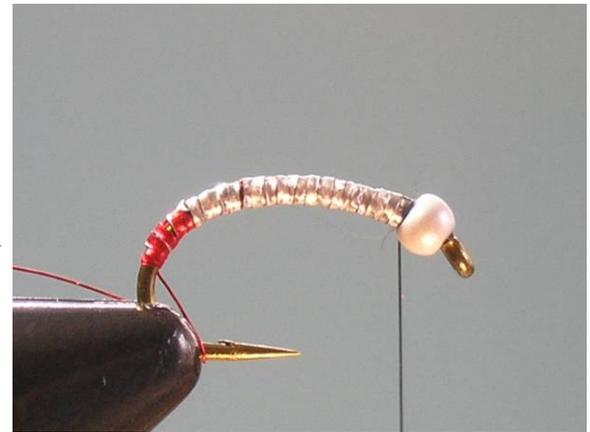


**Step 2:**

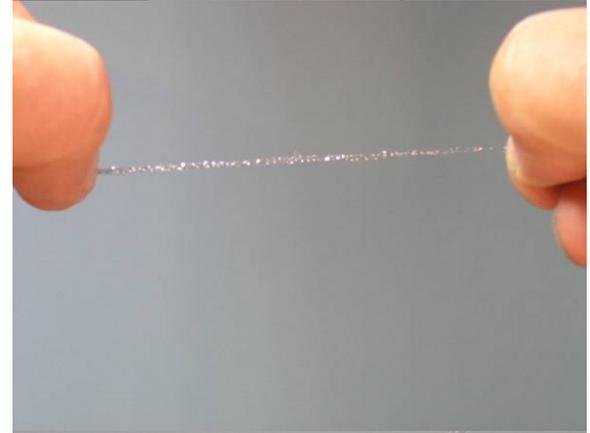
Run the thread up to the bead, wrap the Fly Fiber, red side out a few turns to create the red butt, bring the thread back and make one turn over the Fly Fiber to lock it in and return the thread up to the front tapering up toward the bead .

**Step 3:**

Wrap the Fly Fiber up the bead with the silver side out creating the chrome underbody, tie off and remove the excess. You'll find it tricky to do this without any gaps showing between wraps, do not worry about it too much, the odd gap showing through contributes to the segmented appearance when the Fly Fiber is wrapped otop.

**Step 4:**

Cut off about 2 “ of Frostbite from the spool and carefully pull on the ends, the material should unravel leaving you (hopefully) with 2 strands.

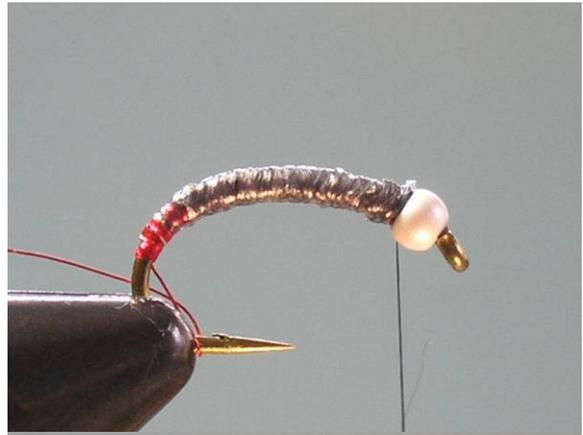
**Step 5:**

Wet the 2 strands of Frostbite by running it through your lips to keep the strands together and take out some of the kinks. Tie them in behind the bead and wrap down to the red butt and back again.



**Step 6:**

If you think the colour at this point is still too light, wrap down to the red but and back again, you'll see here the fly is slightly darker now. Cut off the remainder of the frostbite.



**Step 7:**

Wrap the wire up to the bead and tie off. Tie in a strand or 2 of peacock herl, make a couple wraps and tie off, whip finish to finish the fly.



Experimenting using different combinations of Frostbite also produces some great looking patterns. Shown here (left to right) is #01 black Frostbite with a silver rib, #61 summer duck Frostbite, red rib and #32 dark olive Frostbite with a heavier red rib. Peter also likes to use an under body of green and silver Holographic Fly Fiber so you'd end up with a green butt.



Be sure to give this one a try!