

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## HALF ARSED BACK

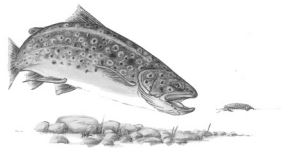
*contributed by*  
Terry Bragg

The half arsed back was an original of Jack Shaw's.

Jack was my mentor to flyfishing. I met him at the formation of the North Shore Fish & Game club in the mid '60s. He gave me the dressing then.

This fly has been very effective for me over the years it is particularly best when weighted and used with a long leader.

There are new innovations of mayfly nymphs but I always have the most success with "The half arsed back".



### TYING INSTRUCTIONS

*and photography by Peter Chatt*

### MATERIALS



<b>Hook:</b>	Mustad 9671 - Sizes #10 - #14
<b>Thread:</b>	Black / Red
<b>Tail:</b>	Brown Saddle Hackle
<b>Body:</b>	Peacock Herl
<b>Rib:</b>	Copper Wire
<b>Wing Case:</b>	Natural Mallard Flank
<b>Throat:</b>	Brown Saddle Hackle



- Debarb the hook.
- Lay down a thread base.
- Wrap thread back to the eye
- Lay down the flat lead and mold it around the hook.
- Tie it tightly down to the bend of the hook and break off.
- Tie in brown hackle fibers for the tail.
- Tie in the copper wire and two or three strands of peacock herl in that order.
- Wrap the herl forward two thirds up the hook.
- Tie in mallard flank for the wing case.
- Continue to wrap herl to the eye of the hook.
- Counter wind the fine copper wire to the eye.
- Tie in a small bundle of brown hackle under the hook to form the throat. Leave room to tie down the wing case.
- Pull the mallard flank forward and tie behind eye to form wing case.
- Form a small thread head, whip finish and add a drop of head cement.



*The Finished Fly*



*Half Arsed Back*

**TYER'S NOTE:** To show that the fly is weighted, add a few wraps of red thread (or any other contrasting colour).