

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## HARE'S EAR NYMPH VARIANT

*contributed by*  
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There was a gentle breeze on the lake that caused a soft ripple on the water, which is always favourable to an angler than flat calm conditions. It was late May and insect activity was present amongst the reeds. I suddenly noticed a rise about a foot or two from the reeds. I made a couple of false casts and gently laid my all time favorite nymph two feet to the right. I started stripping slowly with a hand twist retrieve and bang a solid take! It was a strong fish and I played it the best I could, but unfortunately, it broke me off.

It was only the second occasion that I went flyfishing ever in my lifetime and on that day I was rewarded many times with my favorite nymph pattern, the Hare's Ear Nymph!

Decades later, I still have much success at the right time of the year with the Hare's Ear Nymph. Size 14 is my favorite and for weight, a few lead wraps or a gold bead is all you will need. You can also vary colour from a tan colour to a darker brown.

### MATERIALS



- Hook:** Mustad 3906B Nymph Hook #10-#18  
**Bead:** Gold 7/64" to 5/64" (optional)  
**Weight:** Several wraps of Lead Free Wire (optional)  
**Thread:** Uni 8/0 Tan  
**Tail:** Pheasant Tail  
**Abdomen:** Hare's Ear Mask or Dubbing  
**Rib:** Fine Gold Wire  
**Thorax:** Hare's Ear Mask or Dubbing  
**Wingcase:** Pheasant Tail

### TYING INSTRUCTIONS



1. Place the hook in the vice. If adding lead wire weight start the wire one eye length back from the eye. Wrap about half way down the shank and break off the wire.



2. Build a dam of tan thread at the back and in front of the lead wire. Cover the lead and leave the thread at the back of the lead wire.



3. Strip 6-8 Pheasant tail fibres from the stem. Align the tips and form a tail about 2/3 of the body length. Tie them in starting at the back of the lead wire and bind down to the bend. Place a turn of thread under the tail fibres to lift and splay the fibres. Trim off the excess Pheasant tail fibres.



4. Tie in the gold wire at the back of the lead wire and bind down to the tail. Bring the thread up a couple of

## TYING INSTRUCTIONS

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5. From the Hares Ear mask cut the softer lighter cheek fur from the mask and blend together in a coffee grinder. Place in a zip lock or a dubbing container (you can also buy Hares Ear dubbing). Put some dubbing wax on the thread and dub the Abdomen. Make a tapered Abdomen to slightly more than half the hook shank.
6. Counter wrap the gold wire 4 or 5 times up to the end of the dubbing, tie off and Helicopter the wire to break it off.
7. Select about 8 Pheasant tail fibres and cut them from the stem. Clip the tips off. Place them on the top of the hook shank about a hook eye back from the eye with the dull side facing up. Bind them down to the top of the shank into the Abdomen. After folding the fibres over to ensure there isn't a gap to the Abdomen return the thread to behind the hook eye.
8. From the Hares Ear Mask cut the darker fur from the centre of the mask and blend together in a coffee grinder. Place in a zip lock or a dubbing container. This fur is a little courser than the cheek fur for a Buggier look (you can use this for the whole fly if you wish). Put some dubbing wax on the thread and dub the Thorax slightly larger than the Abdomen from just behind the hook eye to the wing case and then back to the start just behind the hook eye.
9. Pull the Pheasant tail fibres for the wing case over the Thorax and tie down. Cut the excess.
10. Complete the fly by forming a small neat Head and whip finish, cut the thread and add Head cement to the Head.
11. Option with a whole fly of the darker Hares Ear Fur. When forming the Abdomen clip the longer fibres once dubbed.
12. Option with a gold bead head.



*Tight Lines & Good Luck!*