



Osprey Flybox

“Lake Darner” By Peter Chatt

This month Peter Chatt presents us with another offering for the “Flybox”. Now we all know Pete has contributed pretty well as much as anyone by writing up the fly while I took the step by step tying pictures, but this is the first time he’s taken the bull by the horns and taken the pictures as well. It seems like just a little while ago Pete ventured into the technological world by purchasing his first computer and he’s mastered that well enough to break new ground venturing into the world of digital photography. It’s good to see him making good use of his retirement time, hopefully he still finds time to get out and fish!

Pete says this fly is a result of perusing his fly boxes of old dragon patterns and combining what he feels to be the important characteristics of some of them into a new fly. This one has the important bulging eyes, the flat wide abdomen, the long legs of the natural and also the soft opaqueness offered by the mohair. Pete says he likes flies that can trap air in their fibres, that simulate movement, he doesn’t like the hard texture bodies of the more realistic patterns.

Pete says this fly works well whenever you’d fish a dragon nymph, and knows of at least one fisherman who lost his rod and reel to a large fish at Island Lake a few years ago as he was slowly dragging this fly near a weedbed after dinner one summer night.

Hook	Mustad 9672 #6 or equivalent
Thread	Unithread black 8/0
Tail	Gopher or equivalent
Underbody	Large wool to build up body
Rib	Unifrench 5Gr gold
Body	Olive mohair or equivalent
Shellback	Natural raffia dyed chestnut brown
Eyes	Black 4mm bead chain type
Thorax	Peacock herl

Step 1:

Debarb the hook, tie on the tail.

Tie on the body wool at the rear of the abdomen on one side and take back to the tail, lock it in with the thread and take the wool overtop the hook and lash it to the other side up to the thorax point, then take the wool back to the tail, lashing as you go. Now take the wool under the hook to the original side and lash up to the thorax again, you should now have 2 layers of wool on each side of the hook creating a wide a flat body.

Tie the gold wire down the hook to the tail.

Tie in the mohair then wind it to the abdomen.



**Step 2:**

Flatten the body.
Tease out the Mohair.

**Step 3:**

Tie in the Rafia, (*Natural Rafia if moist is very supple and soft*). Tie in the pair of bead eyes and four strands of peacock herl, and wrap them over the thorax, leaving the ends through the eyes

Tie in the Knotted Pheasant tail legs curving down . When tying the knotted legs make the coils turn into the shaft I tie them on the shaft of the feather on both sides of the quill. Tying this way you will have a curved pair. I use a mini rug hook called Singer instant fil-a-knit I acquired from Micheals .

**Step 4:**

Cover the pheasant and thread with the remainder of the herl. Wrap the Gold wire forward., pull the rafia tight to the eye and tie in then fold back and tie in behind the eyes and trim Whip finish to finish at the eye to finish.

