

FAST CADDIS

By Micah Dammeyer

The fast caddis was inspired by Gary LaFontaine's patterns. His emerging flies, like the "sparkle pupa" were the most effective I knew of but had a few extra pieces that made it painful when a tandem rig landed in the bushes across a good section of water. I wanted a fly that had the same wing features and a noticeable head but was fast to tie. Additionally, I like a fly that I can fish "wet" or drift under and indicator. This fly accomplishes all of the above and I can tie dozens the night before an outing. The ingredients below are for a #16 fly though it can be tied in any size with the bead sized up according to hook size.

Materials

Hook: #16 2X-long wet (Mustad 3906B)

Thread: Black 6/0

Bead: 3/32" taper-drilled brass

Body: Z-lon to match color of naturals

Wing: Elk hair - stacked

Collar: 2 peacock hurls



Tying Steps

1.



Insert hook through bead – small end first – and slide up to eye. Arm hook with thread near front of hook shank.

2.



Tie in Z-Lon, beginning at front of hook shank lashing down butts of fibers. Wrap back to lash it down to bend of hook. Bring thread to front while smoothing out any errant wraps as you wind. This should create a smooth base upon which to build the body.

3.



Twist Z-Lon strands to create a rope. Wind evenly to front of hook shank, leaving 1 eye's length behind bead. Tie off and trim as close as possible.

4.



Stack small bunch of elk hair – removing guard hairs. Tie in on top of hook, tips facing rearward, even with bend of hook. Trim butts and lash down to create a base for peacock hurl.

5.



Tie in 2 peacock hurls and wrap 2-4 turns without twisting to create collar. Secure with 3 wraps and trim as close as possible. Fishing with a whip finish and apply head cement if desired.