

# ZEBRA MIDGE

**Zebra Midge Emerger**



**Materials:**

- Hook: TMC 2457 , #16-20
- Thread: Black 6/0
- Head: Pearlescent Glass Bead
- Collar: Scud Grey Olive Ostrich Herl
- Shuck: White Antron
- Gills: White Antron
- Body: Black Thread
- Rib: Silver Wire

**Black/Copper "Tiger" Midge Pupa**



**Materials:**

- Hook: TMC 2457 , #14-22
- Thread: Black 6/0
- Head: Copper Bead
- Attractor: Lite Brite Flash
- Body: Black Thread
- Rib: Copper Wire

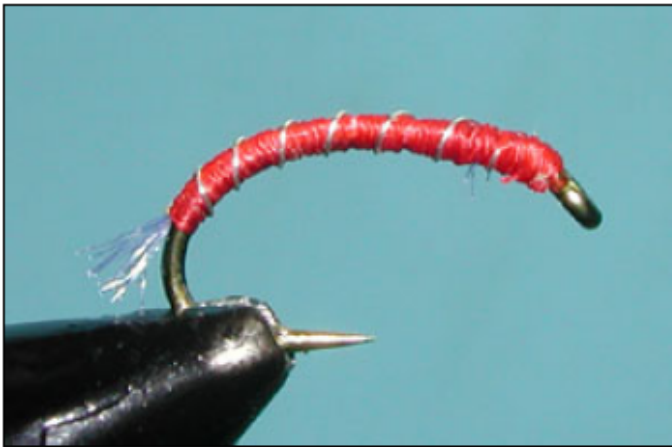
### Zebra Midge Larvae



### Materials:

- Hook: TMC 2457 , #12-18
- Thread: Black 8/0
- Head: Black Thread
- Shuck: White Antron
- Body: Black Floss
- Rib: Silver Wire

### Zebra Midge Larvae



### Materials:

- Hook: TMC 2457 , #12-18
- Thread: Red 8/0
- Head: Red Thread
- Shuck: White Antron
- Body: Red Thread
- Rib: Silver Wire

### Notes:

Chironomids are one of the most important food sources in stillwaters. They can represent 25-50% of the food source for trout, depending upon season. There are three stages to consider, the larvae, pupa, and emergers. Colors range in frequency from Black, Brown, Red, Tan, Green, and Cream. Many of the larvae will have a reddish appearance as they retain hemoglobin within the oxygen-poor depths. These larvae are often called bloodworms. The larvae are also quite larger than the pupa or emergers, sometimes up to two hook sizes. Generally, the largest chironomids will be during the Spring and will decrease in size through the Summer and Fall.

The **Zebra Midge** pattern is acclaimed to have originated around the Lee's Ferry area of Northern Arizona along the Colorado River. It is very common throughout the Eastern Sierras and up into British Columbia as a Chironomid pupa pattern for Stillwater Lakes. Larvae patterns can be created by omitting the beadhead or by using a black microbead. The emerger patterns will have a small tuft of Antron protruding from the bead and a herl or dubbed collar. The Zebra Midge is usually a thread body of Black, Red, Olive, Brown, and Gray color. It can have a beadhead of Nickel, Copper, Gold, Black, or a Glass Bead. Sometimes, there is no beadhead and a head of rabbit or beaver dubbing is created instead. Generally, it is ribbed with Silver Wire. Sometimes, if a Copper Wire is used, the midge might be referred to as a **Tiger Midge**, as in the Eastern Sierra. The Olive Zebra is often used on the Lower Owens for a caddis larvae pattern.