

BeadHead Brassie



The Beadhead Brassie is a great pattern for the winter months. It's easy to tie even in small sizes. It sinks like a stone so I rarely need to add split shot to my tippet. I really enjoy this pattern because it allows me to use a variety of colors and materials. The original pattern calls for peacock herl and copper color ultra wire but don't be afraid to experiment and make the pattern your own!

Invented in Colorado in the 1960s by Ken Chandler, Tug Davenport, and Gene Lynch—the original Brassie had a body of copper wire and a head of black shrink-wrap tubing. The pattern imitates both caddis and midge larvae.

What you need:

1. Emerger hooks between size 14 and 20
2. Bead to match the hook size
3. Brassie size ultra wire (feel free to substitute various colors and sizes of ultra wire)
4. 70 denier thread (use whatever color you like best)
5. Peacock Herl

1. After the mashing the hook barb place the beaded hook in the vise with the bead slid all the way up to the eye. Start your thread behind the bead, and after a few wraps, snip the tag off close.

2. Place one end of the wire up underneath the bead and begin securing it to the near side of the hook with thread wraps. Continue taking thread wraps well down into the bend of the curved hook. Give your thread a counter clockwise spin to relax the twist and flatten it out. This will help to produce a smooth underbody which will make things easier when it comes to wrapping the wire to form the body of the fly.

Spin the thread occasionally in order to keep it flat. Leave your thread at about the 3/4's point on the hook.

3. Taking adjacent wraps with the copper wire, continue wrapping the wire up to your thread. Remember that the smoother the underbody, the easier it is to get consistent wraps.

4. When you reach the tying thread, secure the wire to the hook with several firm wraps of tying thread. Next, helicopter the remaining wire off then advance your tying thread to just behind the bead.

5. Take a single peacock herl and fold it roughly in half around the nozzle of your bobbin. Run it up the thread and then bring your thread down and take wraps to secure the herl to the hook shank. Begin taking wraps of peacock herl to the bead head and tie off. Trim off the remaining peacock herl. Whip finish to complete the fly.

This is a great pattern to experiment with so try different materials like using ice dub in place of the peacock herl. Or use green or red color ultra wire.

The link below is a step by step video on how to tie this pattern.

<http://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/fly-tying-videos/nymph-flies/688-brassie>