



## Soft Hackle Streamer

**Hook:** 2x-long streamer hook (like a Lightning Strike SN1), size 8

**Thread:** Brown or Olive, 140 denier or 6/0

**Flash:** Two strands of Pearl Krystal Flash

**Tail/Body:** Speckled Salmon Coq de Leon Chickabou

**Collar:** Speckled Burnt Orange Coq de Leon soft-hackle feather

**Head:** Tying thread

**Collar:** Burnt Orange Soft Hackle feather

**Adhesive:** Head Cement

### *Tying Instructions:*

1. Start your thread on the hook shank behind the eye. Take a few wraps rearward before snipping off.
2. Snip two strands free from a hank of Krystal Flash, fold the strands around your tying thread at their half-way point and then relocate the strands to the top of the hook shank. While holding the Krystal Flash up at slight angle, take wraps rearward to about the barb, then advance your thread to above the hook point.
3. Pull a single Chickabou plume off the Coq de Leon pelt. Locate where the stem drops in size and strip off all the lower fibers. Then reorient the plume so you're holding it by the tip. Pull the lower fibers down and pinch them. Reach in with your scissors and snip the tip off.
4. Place the feather on the near side of the hook and take a few wraps to secure it. Advance your thread forward about ¼" up the hook shank.
5. With hackle pliers, get a hold of the feather stem and sweep the fibers rearward with your hand. Wrap the plume around the shank pulling the fibers rearward as you go. Try to keep them from getting trapped in the hook bend. The wraps don't need to touch – more of an open spiral is all that is needed.
6. Keep making wraps until you reach the bare stem. Secure with a few tight wraps.
7. Repeat the feather prep, tie-in, and wrapping procedure several times until you fill most of the hook shank. Leave a little room at the hook eye. ....continued on back

- 8.** Select a single soft hackle feather (try a contrasting color) and strip the lower fuzzy fibers from away from each side of the stem. Get a hold of the tip with the thumb and index finger of your other hand and pull down about a ½” of the fibers toward the base of the stem. Snip the tip off to leave a small tie in anchor.
- 9.** Lay the ancho against the near side of the hook and take wraps first around the bare stem and then down over top of the anchor.
- 10.** Get hold of the soft hackle stem with hackle pliers and fold the fibers together rearward. Begin wrapping the soft hackle to form a collar. Keep preening the fibers rearward as you wrap. When you reach bare stem, tie it off tight. Next, reach in with your tying scissors and snip the excess stem off close. Take a few more thread wraps rearward to keep the hackle slanted back.
- 11.** Pull the Krystal Flash tail straight back and snip off leaving about ¼” extending past the Chickabou fibers. (This step can be done earlier in the tying process if you wish.)
- 12.** Secure with a 4-5 turn whip finish. A drop or two of head cement add to the durability of the fly.

**Notes:**

This is a variation on Jack Gartside’s Soft Hackle Streamer.

Whiting "Soft Hackle with Chickabou" comes in other colors that will make great patterns as well. The Coq de Leon pelts are slightly bigger and the fibers are longer and have coarser markings. You can mix and match different colors of Coq de Leon to vary the look of the pattern. Use your imagination. But remember, this is a very simple fly to tie. There are only a few tricks to be mastered and, once learned, the fly becomes even easier to tie.