

The Fly Tyer's Corner by Jeff Hoelter

Mercury TS Brassie

This month's pattern is a mashup of design elements and techniques borrowed from other flies including Pat Dorsey's Top Secret Midge and Mercury Brassie and Jay Zimmerman's Iceman Midge. It is quick and fairly easy to tie and is a good choice to use as the bottom fly in an indicator dropper nymph rig under an egg or legs. This example is tied on a size 16 hook but I normally tie it on size 18 or 20.

Materials

Hook: TMC 2487 or 2488 or similar short curved hook
Bead: Silver lined Killer Caddis bead
Thread: UTC 70 color to match dubbing (thorax)
Abdomen: 2 strands wine, 1 strand silver Ultra Wire
Wing: Glamour Madera #2400 embroidery thread
Thorax: Super Fine dubbing, Rust Brown

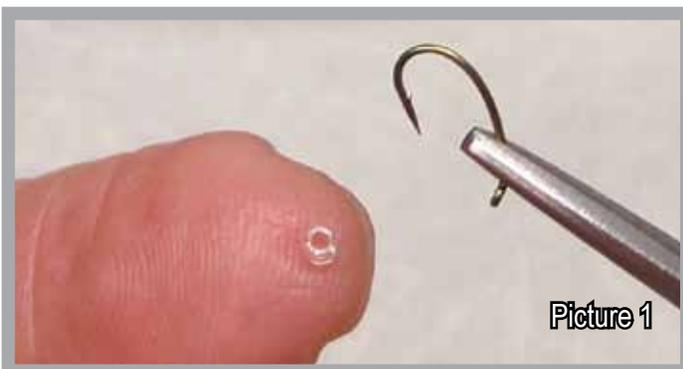


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|-----|------|------|----|
| TMC | 2487 | SIZE | 16 |
|-----|------|------|----|

CADDIS PUPAE, EMERGER
SHRIMP, DOWN EYE, FINE
2X WIDE, 2X SHORT, FORGE
BRONZE.

Picture 1: Grab the hook in a pair of tweezers or hemostats and pick up one of the beads on the tip of your finger.

Picture 2: Move the hook toward the bead to feed it onto the hook.



Picture 1



Picture 2

Fly Tyer cont.

Pictures 3: Start the thread just behind the bead and make a few wraps. No need to wrap the thread down to the bend.



Picture 6: When you get to the back of the hook, firmly grasp the wire and simultaneously pull and rotate the wires until they break. Usually it will break cleanly and there will be no need to smooth the wire around the hook.



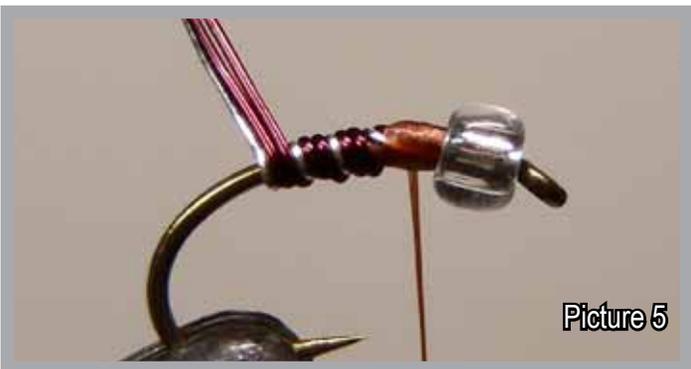
Pictures 4: Cut 3 four inch lengths of wire and attach them firmly behind the bead. You can be creative with the choice of colors but I usually select 2 matching colors to represent the body of the midge and another contrasting color to represent the body segmentation or rib.



Pictures 7: Lock the wire wraps with a small drop of super glue just at the ends of the wire on the back of the hook OR coat the entire wire body with UV resin or Sally Hansons as I did here. Then take a small length of the embroidery thread and attach it just behind the bead.



Picture 5: Wrap the three wires together down the hook with smooth touching wraps. You can stop occasionally and use your thumb nail to push the wraps forward to make sure there are no spaces between the wires.



Picture 8: Dub a small amount of Super Fine in the shape of a ball for the Thorax, Whip finish behind the bead. Trim the wing short and tease it a bit so it stands up and you are finished.

