



# “BIRD’S NEST”

By  
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APRIL 2006 Fly of the Month

CFFU Member, Glenn Yee, isn't the only person that likes this fly. It's an old favorite for many fly fishers. Simple to tie, yet it can be very effective

## MATERIALS

**HOOK:** Mustad 3761 or similar

**THREAD:** Color to match body: Tan, brown, olive or black.

**WEIGHT:** Several wraps of lead if desired (omitted from this tie)

**TAIL & WING:** Mallard or teal flank, gray, tan, or olive.

**BODY & THORAX:** Tan, olive, tan/gray, black dubbing (originally tied with Australian opossum in a grayish tan color.

**RIB:** Fine Copper wire.

## Tying Instructions

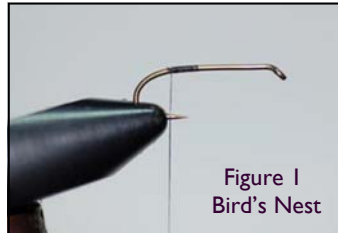


Figure 1  
Bird's Nest

1. Mount the hook in the vise. Tie in the thread.. (Figure 1 at left)

2. Choose a nice mallard or teal feather and remove some of the side fibers. Tie in the chosen fibers as a tail, about half the hook shank length is about long enough. (Figure 2 at right)

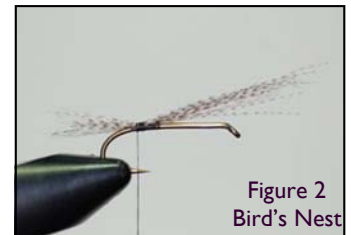


Figure 2  
Bird's Nest

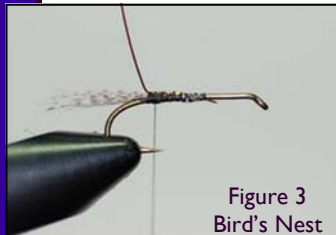


Figure 3  
Bird's Nest

3. Tie in a short length of copper wire at the tie in point for the tail. (Figure 3 at left)



Figure 6  
Bird's Nest

6. Select a mallard feather, trim off the fluff, and trim if needed. Place the feather on top of the hook shank, fibers should extend past the end of the hook. Grasp with thumb and forefinger of the left hand and tie in, spreading the fibers around the shank of the hook as you tie. The idea is to have fibers on all sides of the hook shank, not just on the top. Trim the excess feather. Apply dubbing to the thread and wrap forward, creating a thorax. Leave sufficient space to tie off the thread. Tie off and trim. (Figure 6 & 7 above left)



Figure 4  
Bird's Nest

4. Select dubbing and apply to the thread, wrap thread forward forming a slim body. Don't need too much. Stop!, leaving about 1/3 of the areas behind the eye for the wings and thorax.



Figure 7  
Bird's Nest

5. Wrap the copper wire forward and tie off. Trim off the excess. (Figure 5 at left)



Figure 5  
Bird's Nest



**BIRD'S NEST**

**Done!**