



# San Juan Worm

By  
Dave Sylstra

## April 2005 Fly of the Month

Here is another easy to tie and effective fly ... there should be some in every box alongside the woolly buggers and hares ears. Try some on the Yuba!

**HOOK:** 2457 or similar—size 12—16

**THREAD:** Color to match body material

**COLORS:** Brown, tan, red maroon, orange (you name it! I've seen them in pink, hot orange, chartreuse) Most effective seem to be tan, brown and red.

**BODY MATERIAL:** Chenille, Ultra Chenille, Vernille.

**OPTIONAL:** Wire or V rib on hook shank as underbody, color to match body material. This step makes a nice looking fly, but really doesn't add anything but time and cost to the fly. If you want to add this, just tie in the thread as directed, tie in wire or V-rib (plastic body ribbing material) wrap body forward from tie-in point and stop just behind second body tie point. I did not include this step in tie instructions, just used thread, fast and cheap.

## Tying Instructions

1. Position hook and secure thread on hook above and behind barb in curve segment of hook. Let the bobbin hang in place. (See Figure 1 above right)

2. Cut a 2-3 inch piece of chenille, depending on hook size and secure on the hook with several additional wraps at the attachment point. Wrap thread under the chenille several times and tie off with half-hitch if desired. (Figure 2 at right).

3. Wrap thread forward on hook shank forming a slim body to a point just behind the hook eye. Leave room for a head. (Figure 3 at right).

4. With your right hand, pull the chenille over the top of the hook shank and pinch where you want to secure the thread for the front wrap. (Figure 4 at left)

5. Using LEFT hand, pinch chenille to hook and secure at tie-in point with several wraps. (Figure 5 below left) Pull chenille out of the way and secure front tie-in with several wraps under the chenille. Complete a small thread head, whip finish

7. Using a match or lighter, seal and taper the ends of the chenille. Be CAREFUL! It only takes an instant. Hold the flame close and barely pass it next to the end of the chenille. This will seal the chenille and give it a tapered wormy look! (Figure 6 below). The finishing touch. Coat wrap if desired and dry.



Figure 1

San Juan Worm  
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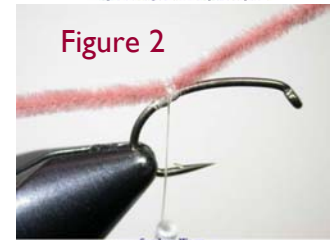


Figure 2

San Juan Worm  
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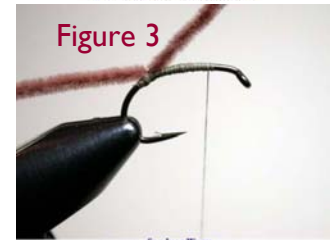


Figure 3

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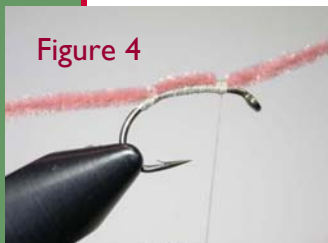


Figure 4

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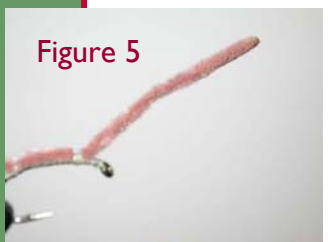


Figure 5

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You're ready to fish!

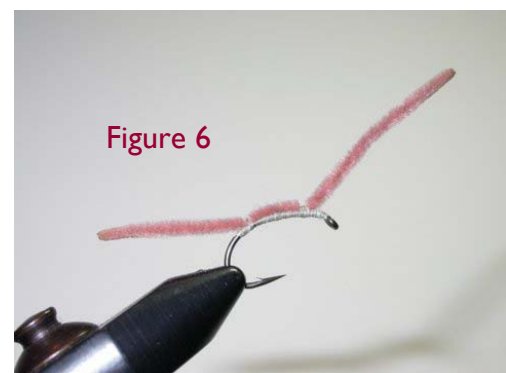


Figure 6