

# Elk Hair Caddis

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This is the best pattern for the adult Caddis Fly, I am aware of. It is a twist of the Troth Elk Hair Caddis.

Hook: Daiichi 1310 short shank dry fly 18 to 12  
Thread: Wapsi 70 or 140 Black or match body color  
Dubbing: Dry Fly Tan or to match the insect color  
Rib: Flashabou Mirage and Gold Wire  
Hackle: Brown dry fly to match hook size  
Wing: Natural Elk Hair

To get started tying this fly. Place the hook in your tying vise. Start your thread behind the eye of the hook, leaving a small gap right behind the eye. This is your measurement for the head of the fly. Tie the stem of the hackle, moving the thread backwards, secure the Gold Wire and the Flashabou and wrap back to the rear of the hook shank.



Next step is to dub the body with your pick of dubbing.



Rib the body with the Flashabou. No more than 5 turns. I used 4. Secure the rib and cut the excess.



Wrap the Hackle back, trying to go in between the ribbing. Capture the hackle with the Gold Wire. Make two turns of the Gold wire at the rear and spiral forward to the front of the hook shank and secure with you tying thread. Hold the thread tight and bend the Gold Wire until it breaks. You may now trim the top of the Hackle if you like.



Select the proper amount of Elk Hair and cut from the skin. Clean any under fur from the hair and stack the Elk Hair. You want the tips even. Rotate the thread bobbin, making the thread smaller and stronger. Place the Elk Hair in its proper position and secure. If you need a little help in doing this, refer to “A method for locking Deer/Elk hair wings”



The last step to finish the fly is trimming the excess Elk Hair. To do this, using the hook eye as my guide, I make a single cut upward leaving a small amount of Elk Hair butts for the head. After trimming, I use my thumb nail to flatten the wing slightly. Very important!





If you have any questions or comments, contact me at  
[fluestang@comcast.net](mailto:fluestang@comcast.net)  
another very good fly. Jerry Hopewell