

Fly of the Month

By Mike Ott

Devin Olsen's Soft Hackle Carrot Nymph

This year's all-day speaker, Devin Olsen, is a competition fly fisher and the founder of Tactical Fly Fisher web site and store. One of his go-to confidence fly patterns is his Soft Hackle Carrot Nymph. With a tungsten bead and a few wraps of lead behind, it is definitely a deep fishing fly typical of euro-nymphs. Again, it is yet another version of a Hare's Ear nymph with kind of a hot spot ribbing.



Hook: Barbless Nymph Hook #14 - 16
Bead: 2.8mm Gold Tungsten Slotted Bead
Weight: .015 Lead Wire
Thread: Veevus 12/0 Brown
Tail: 4 – 6 Fibers Coq De Leon Fibers
Ribbing: Veevus Fluorescent Orange Thread
Body: Blended Hares Ear Dubbing
Hackle: Tan CDC Feather
Collar: UV Brown SLF Dubbing

1. Place bead on hook and secure in vise. Turn bead so that the slot is on the bottom of the hook.
2. Wrap 3 turns of lead wire behind the bead and shove up into the slot and gap.
3. Start thread behind lead wraps and secure lead wraps with several thread wraps. Advance thread to the hook bend.
4. Tie in tail fibers on top of the hook shank making them about the length of the hook shank.
5. Advance thread to behind the bead. Double over the ribbing thread and tie in behind the bead and wrap down to hook bend.
6. Dub a slender body tapering slightly to about two wraps behind the bead.
7. Using a dubbing twister, twist the two strands of orange thread together and then rib the body with evenly spaced wraps. Secure behind bead, and trim excess.
8. Build up a slight bump of dubbing at the front of the body to help the hackle stand out.
9. Tie in the CDC hackle by its tip just behind the bead. Make 2 wraps to form the hackle, tie off with thread wraps, and trim excess.
10. Dub a sparse collar of the UV brown SLF between the hackle and the bead.
11. Brush a little cement on the thread, make three wraps behind the bead, then make a three-wrap whip-finish, and trim the thread.

You can watch Devin's video tutorial at www.tacticalflyfisher.com. Fish this as your point fly of a multi-fly rig, or alone as a standard nymph. I tie this in both light and dark version as well.