

Fly of the Month

By Mike Ott

Pat Dorsey's Top Secret Midge

Late in May, Lorie had the opportunity to fish the South Platte River on the Front Range in Eastern Colorado. Broken up into several tailwater sections, this river is legendary for large finicky trout and is home to famous guides like Landon Mayer and Pat Dorsey. While the flows were up a bit, the midge hatches were prolific to say the least. This midge pattern is simple to tie and works across a lot of different presentation styles.



Fly Materials

Hook: Dai-Riki #125 size 16 – 24 or your favorite wide-gap midge hook

Thread: 8/0 Brown

Body: Brown tying thread

Ribbing: 8/0 White tying thread

Wing: Small Pearl Diamond Braid

Head: Brown/Olive Dry Fly Dubbing

Tying Steps

1. Smash down barb, and secure hook in vise.
2. Start thread behind hook eye and advance slightly around the hook bend forming a smooth single layer underbody.
3. Tie in white thread for ribbing with smooth thread wraps while advancing thread to just behind the eye.
4. Spiral-wrap the ribbing to the head and secure with a few thread wraps. Trim the excess.
5. Tie in the diamond braid wing and trim to the length of the hook shank. Trim the excess.
6. Dub a tight, round head about $\frac{1}{4}$ the hook length.
7. Whip finish and trim thread.

The unweighted midge makes it fishable at any depth. You can fish it shallow under a dry midge, or deep under a larger bead head nymph or midge. According to Landon Mayer, fish in the "Dream Stream" section hate beads, so why tempt fate? He fishes a dry, dropper, dropper rig with great success, while Pat Dorsey tends to fish with a fluff indicator and single midge. This fly did produce a number of fish for us while using it as a dropper under various other nymphs.