



Internal Wire-Ribbed version

This session is based on the work of chironomid fly fishing experts: Walt Cole of Redding, CA and Hermann Fischer of Kamloops, British Columbia. They have been a big help in putting this class together, along with Ed Smith of LiquidLace.com Many thanks!

This is an introduction to using poly stretch tubing for chironomid larva and pupa flies. The larva blood worm patterns are realistic, a soft bite, and are a size that mimics the real bugs. We will discuss why these flies deserve a bigger space in your fly box.

Two Variations of Chironomid Larva from Walt Cole, Redding CA

Wire-Ribbed Version

Hook: Mustad 37160 #18 (this class) or #16

Thread: 6/0 Red (100D)

Body: Blood Red, Red, Transparent Red micro or midge size tubing. Hareline or Orvis tubing is fine for the wire-ribbed version, although Liquid Lace is strongly recommended for all the patterns on this page.

Ribbing: Silver Ultrawire – brassie size for midge tubing or small for micro tubing. Pick a size that fills the opening in the tubing as much as possible.

Tail: Red or Claret Woolly Buzzer marabou

Bead (optional): Red seed bead

Oil-Filled Version

Hook: Mustad 37160 #16 (this class) or #18

Thread: 6/0 Red

Body: Transparent Red micro or midge size Liquid Lace tubing.

Oil: Mineral oil or baby oil injected with a syringe

Tail: Red or Claret Woolly Buzzer marabou



Oil-filled version

Red Butt Chironomid Pupa inspired by Hermann Fischer, Kamloops BC

Hook: Daiichi 1150 or scud hook, #12, nymph hook #14

Thread: 6/0 or 8/0 Red and Light Olive (100D, 70D)

Body: Clear midge or micro size tubing. Liquid Lace is strongly recommended.

Oil: Mineral oil or baby oil injected with a syringe

Thorax: Dark peacock angel hair type dubbing

Bead: White opaque glass seed bead or metal bead

Wing Buds: Poly hula skirt material or raffia coated with a polyurethane sealant

Additional coloration: Permanent markers



NOTES ABOUT THE TYING SESSION

Time: This will be a full evening of demos, class tying and digital presentations done in seminar style. **Please plan to stay until 8:30 pm.** Since we may be ending a little later than usual, please pitch in to help stack the chairs and tables. The class will get underway at about 6:10 after John Kreft's weekly update.

Please note that the class is free to COF members, with all materials supplied. Non-COF participants can attend on a one-time basis for \$5. Wes is donating all the materials except for the hooks, which COF is supplying.

Some topics we will discuss:

1. The role of macro closeup photography in fly tying.
2. Why a midge larva pattern is important to have in your flybox.
3. What colors when and where?
4. Rig setup for fishing chironomid larva and pupa.



Links to material sources and to download the digital tutorials and some scanned magazine articles will be supplied about a week after to the class attendees...so be sure to get on Wes's separate email list for this followup email.

Things you might bring (in addition to the threads mentioned with the materials list):

1. When working with the poly tubing, you **MUST** use a **water-based** head cement. Use of a solvent-based cement will melt the tubing. The head cement I use all the time is: DecoArt DuraClear satin varnish which is inexpensive and available at all the craft stores. This cement is polyurethane.
2. Jar lid to hold a small amount of water.
3. Small-tipped sharp scissor
4. Having two separate thread bobbin holders is a big advantage
5. Scissor or small wire cutter meant for cutting fly tying wire.
6. Debarbing plier
7. Black Sharpie pen (optional) There will be some available for in-class use.
8. A disposable cigarette lighter (optional) There will be some available for in-class use.
9. If you bring a small bottle (an eyedropper capped bottle is ideal), you are welcome to take home an ounce of the mineral oil.
10. Make sure and have some paper towels at your tying table.

Some items will be available for sale for take-home use: (these are items that are either not available locally or are hard to find)

1. Limited number of packages of Liquid Lace micro or midge size in colors and clear
2. 10-count hook packages of the remaining Mustad 37160 hooks
3. Packages of red and claret Woolly Bugger marabou feathers
4. Package of three syringes with the recommended needles

also: Wes's NZ-cator indicator materials:

1. Limited number of full NZ-Cator kits
2. Quantity bundles of various colors of the NZ-cator yarn
3. Lengths of the silicone tubing used for the NZ-cator system