

March Brown Parachute

by Pete Yarrington

Hook: Mustad R50 AP or other standard dry fly hook, #12 or 14

Thread: Tan 6/0 or 8/0

Tail: Ginger microfibbets, hackle barbs, or natural brown bucktail, split

Body: Tan hare's cheek from a natural (undyed) hare's mask, guard hairs removed

Wing post: Mixture of light gray and tan polypropylene yarn

Hackle: One medium ginger and one grizzly neck or saddle hackle

Tying Instructions:

- 1. Start your thread on the hook shank behind the eye and wrap it rearward almost to where the hook bend begins, and snip off the extra.
- 2. Dub a tiny bit of dubbing onto the thread and wind it onto the rear of the hook where the bend begins. It should form a small tight ball.
- 3. Tie two microfibbets on each side of the hook, just ahead of the dubbing ball, so that the dubbing forces them apart at about a 45-degree angle. The tails should be about the same length as the body, or a little longer. Trim off the excess microfibbets.
- 4. Wind the thread up to the wing position, about two-thirds of the way up the hook.
- 5. Take about 1.5 inches of poly wing post material and anchor it tightly in the middle of its length to the top of the hook at the wing position. Then take a few winds of thread just ahead of the anchor point.
- 6. Pull all of the wing post material straight up, and take a few tight winds of thread around the very base of the wing post this creates. Now carefully wrap the thread up the wing post for about 1/16 of an inch to form the area where you will wind the hackle around the post. Go up

- and down in close turns several times. This is fiddly business; after you do a few parachute flies, it gets a lot easier! Now put a very tiny dab of superglue on the winds around the post and the hook shank immediately below. This will harden in a minute or so, and provide a sturdy base for winding the hackle.
- 7. Dub a tight thin noodle of dubbing onto the thread and use it to form the fly's body, starting at the tail of the fly. When you reach the wing post, continue up to the hook and eye and then wind the thread back to just behind the wing post.
- 8. With the thread hanging from a wrap just behind the wing post, take the fly out of the vise and replace it with the hook shank in a vertical position and the wing post in the horizontal. Take a couple winds of thread around the base of the wing post.
- 9. Choose a medium ginger hackle and a grizzly hackle to wind around the wing post, sized so that the hackle will reach just slightly beyond the hook bend.
- 10. Strip the barbs off the last 1/16 inch of the base of each hackle and tie them both to the wing post so that they extend away from the hook shank in line with the wing post. Leave the thread hanging from the wing post where it meets the body of the fly.
- 11. Wind the brown hackle three or four times around the base of the wing post, moving towards the body of the fly. Tie it off with three or four thread winds around the base of the wing post where it meets the fly. Snip off the excess hackle. Repeat the process with the grizzly hackle.
- 12. Now do a whip finish around the base of the wing post, where you tied the hackles off, and snip off the thread. Put a tiny drop of Sally Hansen's Hard as Nails or other cement where you tied off, and you're done!



Freshwater Deceiver

by Pete Yarrington

Hook: Mustad C70S AP curved streamer hook or similar, #2, 4 or 6

Thread: White Danville Monocord or similar 3/0 thread

Body: None

Underwing: Two very small bunches of fine, straight bucktail, lavender over white

Belly: A small bunch of white marabou

Throat: A very small bunch of red hackle fibers

Wing: A very small bunch of fine, straight white bucktail, over which is a very small bunch of

lavender bucktail. Over this is four or six flexible saddle or neck hackles. If more than

one color of hackle is used, the darker hackles are on the outsides

Flash: A few strips of pearl or pearlescent tan flashabou along each side of the wing

Topping: A very small bunch of fine, straight bucktail, brown or other color darker than the

wing, over which are a few hairs of even darker bucktail

Eyes: Adhesive silver and black prismatic eyes, size to suit the hook

Cement: Thin UV cure glue

Tying Instructions:

- 1. Start your thread on the hook shank behind the eye and take a few wraps rearward to the rear of the head area and snip off the extra. The shank from the eye to just behind the head area should be covered with thread, so that no materials will be tied to bare hook shank.
- 2. Tie in a very small bunch of fine, straight white bucktail about two times the length of the hook. Over that, tie in a small bunch of lavender bucktail of the same length.

- 3. Tie in a small bunch of white marabou under the hook. It should be about one and a half times the length of the hook. Below that, tie is a shorter, very small bunch of webby red hackle fibers.
- 4. Select four or six flexible saddle or neck hackles that are similar in overall shape, curvature and volume. The concave sides of the feathers used to form the left side of the wing should face the concave sides of the feathers to be the right side of the wing. Pinch them all together into one wing and pull the butts of the outside feather on each side so that they are slightly shorter than the feathers on the inside of the wing. Now trim the butts of all of the feathers so that they the same length. The wing should be about two and a half to three times the length of the hook.
- 5. Tie in the wing on top of the hook using several pinch wraps, then let go and take several tighter wraps. Add a few strands of pearl or pearlescent tan flashabou to each side of the wing. Flashabou should be a little shorter than the wing.
- 6. Tie in a very small bunch of fine, straight bucktail on top of the wing, brown or other color darker than the wing. Over that, tie in a few hairs of even darker bucktail. The hair should be at most half the length of the longest hackles in the wing.
- 7. Form a largish head, big enough to accept the prismatic eyes. Whip finish and cut thread. Tint the top of the head with a permanent marker, black or other color to match color of the topping.
- 8. Press an adhesive eye onto each side of the head. Size should fit on the head without extending too much beyond it on any side. If necessary, crease the eyes slightly to help them stay on the head. Now carefully apply very small amounts of thin UV glue to the top and bottom of the head, so it creeps around and under the eyes. Hit it with UV light. Do another small coat or two of UV glue that covers the head and he eyes. Hit with UV light until head is not tacky.