

Skinhead bead nymph

- Hook:** round bend, straight shank. (Somewhat long shank if possible) #16, 18, 20
Thread: typically Uni 8/0 (see 'Choice of colour')
Head: tungsten bead, metallic black, 2.5, 2.0, 1.5mm for the above sizes.
Tail: marabou, (see 'Choice of colour')
Underbody: the thread OR floss OR the marabou, wrapped forward (see 'Choice of colour')
Body: translucent skin, 8 thou thick preferred, tinted. 2mm strip for #16, 1.5mm for #18, 20.
Thorax cover: the body material.
Legs: speckled partridge tail feather

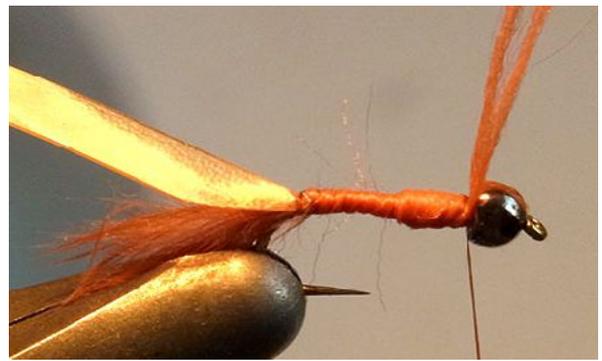
Choice of colour:

The underbody, whatever material it may be, should be bright and light to show through the skin.

The example shown below is intended to simulate the rusty brown nymphs which are a commonly occurring colour. The tail can be rust, cinnamon or orange. The underbody should be orange, ranging from light to 'hot'. The skin should be tinted light tan.

For an olive nymph, the underbody should be bright yellow under light olive skin.

Method:



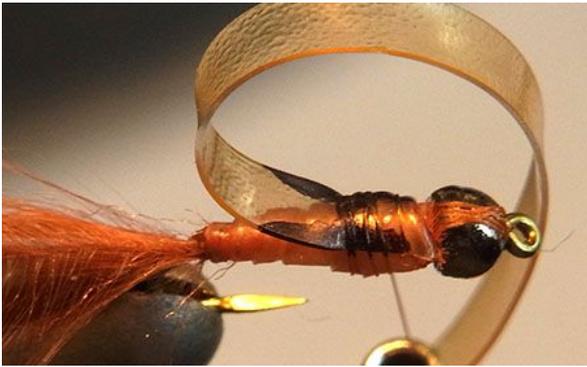
Fit the bead over a bed of thread. Wind the thread back and forward over the top of the bead three or four times. Wind the thread back to the bend, creating a tapered body.

At the bend, tie in the skin strip which has been clipped to a tapered point.

Then tie in the underbody if not using the thread. Wind the thread forward to the bead followed by the underbody. Trim the waste of the latter.



Wind the body skin forward, overlapping 50%, right up to the bead. Secure on top of the shank with 2 tight turns right in the neck. Double the strip back and bind down almost half the body length. Use only a few open turns of thread.



Using a permanent marker, mark wing buds on the underside of the strip, if desired. Alternatively, simply strengthen the colour of the skin with an orange pen.

Take the speckled feather, clip out the tip and sweep back all but 3 or 4 barbs on either side of the quill. Tie in as shown with 2 firm turns. Firmly holding the two groups of barbs separate at the sides, pull them through the turns of thread until judged to be a suitable length for the legs.



Pull the thorax cover forward and secure at the neck.

Take the thread forward over the bead. Stretch the strip forward and secure at the eye. Finish with a small whipping.



20, 18, 16, 16

Originated by J. B. Sunderland 2013