

Bob's CDC & Foam Black Caddis

Tied by Bob Haase



Hook: Mustad 94840 or TMC100 #14-16
Thread: Black 70 Denier
Body: 1/16" Dia. Black Foam Cylinder
Legs: Peacock Ice Dubbing
Wing: 2 Black CDC Puffs

I have been trying for a few years now to come up with a black caddis pattern that I and the fish like. I have found a few that I liked, but the fish did not like them as well as I did. One of the problem is that I usually tie the black caddis in a size 16 most of the time, but I also tie them in size 14 and 18. I have tried using black elk hair, deer hair, hare's foot, and other

synthetics, but I was not happy the way they floated and apparently the fish weren't either. This is about as easy tie as anyone could want and it only takes me about 2 minutes to tie one. They float great on the water and the CDC puffs look like wings. The problem with CDC is that when you get fish slime on them they do not float very well. By using a foam body, that solves that problem and the CDC puffs move in the water giving a good imitation of wings. I use this same method for tying other flies as well such as a BWO with an olive foam body and dun CDC puff wings, or a PMD with a white foam body that I color cream with a permanent marker and ginger or cream CDC puff wings. You can also use the same body method and palmer hackle for the wings instead of CDC puffs.



Step #1 - Take a black 1/16 inch diameter foam cylinder and burn burn the end with a lighter to round the end. If the foam catches on fire, just blow it out and it sometimes leaves a nice little tapered end. You easily get two flies out of a cylinder and sometimes three on the smaller sizes.



Step #2 - Start your thread and wrap about half way back and then bring it forward to somewhere between half to one third back. Place a drop of super glue on the hook at the point where the foam cylinder is tied in and spread the glue with the nozzle back toward the bend of the hook. Next tie in the foam as shown and hold down with your finger on the foam so that it glues the foam to the hook as pictured. Clip off the foam close to the hook and give a few more wraps of thread to secure.



Step #3 - Spin a small amount of peacock ice dub on your thread and wrap as shown. Then take a velcro brush or other dubbing brush and pick it down to form legs as shown.



Step #4 - Tie in two or three CDC puffs as shown to form the wings. The reason I say two or three is because the density of CDC puffs vary and sometimes you need three to equal what two normally provides. Wrap the thread to form a head and whip finish. Apply a small amount of head cement and you are done. It don't get much easier than this!

Note: You can also tie tan caddis the same way with a tan foam cylinder and various shades of tan to brown or gray wings. When you tie size #14 go to the 3/32 foam cylinders. Now use your imagination and use the foam as shown in step #2 and make a parachute post and turn this into a parachute black caddis, or bring the foam up a little farther and form a hump on top and tie this as a para-loop.