

Andy's Gray Olive Klinkhamer

This is my favourite version of the ever popular Klinkhamer. Klinks can be a bit tricky to tie well and there are various methods but this one is fairly quick and gives satisfactory results.



Materials

Hook: Partridge FlashPoint 15BN Size 18

Thread 8.0 olive

Body: Super Fine #2 Gray Olive with brown 8.0 thread segmentation ribbing

Thorax: Two peacock feather herls

Parachute Hackle: Olive grizzle cock feather. If you haven't got olive then normal grizzle will do.

Parachute post: Yellow antron/ polypropylene yarn. Colour isn't really too important unless you are river fishing where white yarn can sometimes be difficult to see in the bubble lines so I tend to prefer yellow or orange.

Tying

- 1) From the eye wind thread in touching turns down to the base of the hook bend
- 2) Tie in three inches or so of 8.0 brown thread
- 3) Dub on the gray-olive and wind up in overlapping twists to about 4mm from the eye. Don't make the dubbing too thick or the body will retain water and, particularly for river fishing with a mini-nymph in tow, you need good flotation.
- 4) Wind on the brown thread firmly over the dubbing to create a segmented body look and tie off at the end of the dubbing.
- 5) Fold about three inches of yellow poly yarn double then double again to create a thick yarn. Tie the yarn to the top of the hook at the end of the dubbing and wrap over about 1-2mm forward to firmly fix the post. In order to get the post to stand vertical you will need to firmly wrap the thread over in front of the yarn to build up a depth of thread similar to the thickness of the tail end of the yarn along the body.
- 6) Trim off the excess yarn from behind the tie-in point with a pair of fine scissors
- 7) Move the thread back behind the now vertical yarn and wind over to cover the tag end.
- 8) 2mm or so behind the yarn tie in a two good long peacock fibres. Wind the tying thread forward to the post and pinching the poly yarn and gently pulling upwards wind around tightly 4 or 5 times to start the post base. Wind on the peacock herl forward to the eye and back to the post and tie off against the post base.
- 9) Having the thread at the base of the yarn post, pinch the yarn, pull gently tight and continue the post by winding the thread tightly around the yarn compressing it into a firm post and moving up the yarn to about 3mm high. You can ease the post into a vertical position with finger pressure.
- 10) Tie in the olive grizzle hackle (gape should be roughly from the post to the back of the hook) at the top of the post keeping the 'good side' upmost and flat. Then move the thread down the post under the hackle in 3 or 4 open winds back to the base. It's important to use a good dense hackle here to aid flotation.
- 11) Wind the hackle firmly around the post, each wind just under the one above, i.e. in touching turns. Try to get at least 4-5 winds on.
- 12) At the base cross the hackle with the thread and wind tightly around the base of the post three times or so to firmly lock it on. Trim of the excess hackle.
- 13) Now whip finish onto the post, keeping the thread beneath the parachute hackle fibres and trim off the excess thread.
- 14) Trim off the yarn post to about 4mm high above the hackle.

Fishing style as for any emerger. Gink the hackle well and in still water fish fairly static with the occasional 'twitch'. In rivers this can be used with the squirrel hair mini-nymph for a fairly deadly combination, New Zealand style. Just tie the mini-nymph onto the bend of the Klinkhamer hook with about 18 inches (or longer to suit river depth and flow) of 3lb or so line and a clinch type load-tightening knot. Cast upstream into the creases between fast and slower water. Then wait for the Klink to suddenly disappear!

Tight lines

Andy Hood