

ALLY SHRIMP

Hook - Double 6 - 14

Thread - Red

Tail - Orange Bucktail and Pearl

Rib - Oval Gold

Rear Body - Red Floss

Front Body - Black Floss

Wing - Grey Squirrel over and under

Golden Pheasant Tippet over the top of the hook

Hackle - Orange Cock



The Ally, invented by Alastair Gowans, probably revolutionised Salmon fly fishing. Most of the flies used today are of the Shrimp type of construction. There are lots of colour variations of this fly.

Secure the hook in the vice. Run the tying thread down the hook to the hook points. Prepare and tie in a small bunch of Hot Orange Bucktail and four strands of Pearl Krystal flash for the tail with a couple of turns of thread, it should be about twice the hook length. Now tie in a length of Oval Gold tinsel and a length of Red Floss. Take the thread up to the head binding all the waste ends and trim them off. Return the thread to the midpoint of the hook. Wind the floss up to here and tie off. Now tie in a length of Black Floss and take the thread to the head. Form the front of the body with the floss and tie off. Rib both parts of the body with the tinsel and tie off and trim the waste.

Rotate the hook in the vice and tie in a small bunch of Grey Squirrel and trim the waste. Return the hook upright and do the same on top. Bind in tightly. These should extend to the bend of the hook.

Strip the bottom waste off a Golden Pheasant Tippet feather until it is the right length for the wing. Roll the feather in your fingertips gently to bunch them up and tie in so that it lies flat over the squirrel on top of the hook, it should extend to the bend of the hook. You can also just rip off some tippet fibres and tie these in as a bunch.

Make sure you form a nice even bed of thread and tie in an Orange Cock hackle by the tip, double it and wind a few turns. Sweep this back and form a neat head and whip finish. Now apply several coats of thin clear varnish to produce a smooth shiny head.