

## DARK MACKEREL

Hook - Single 6-12

Tail - GP Tippets

Rib - Copper or Red wire

Body - Red tinsel

Hackle - Claret cock

Wing - Bronze Mallard or Red Squirrel

Head - Black



Fix the hook in the vice and run the thread down to opposite the barb. Select a Golden Pheasant feather with fairly long fibres. Strip off the fluffy stuff at the base. Divide a section of about 8 fibres away from the rest. Pull them out at 90° to the stalk to even up the tips and then rip them off.

Tie them in for the tail with a couple of tight turns of thread. They should be about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the body the length and the middle black bar should be near the hook.

Tie in a length of Copper wire and a length of flat Red mylar. Take the thread to the head binding everything down and trim any waste.

Wind the flat Red tinsel to the head forming a smooth body. Prepare a Claret cock hackle by stripping the fluffy bits off the base and tie in by the base. Take 2 close turns at the head and then palmer down the body to the tail. Hold the hackle tip taught and rib back up with the wire to secure the hackle. Trim off the waste at both ends.

Prepare a bunch of natural Red Squirrel, the original used Bronze Mallard in the wing, by removing any rubbish from the base and then even up the tips. Tie this in with some turns of well waxed thread to form a slim wing. Hold the thread taut and trim off the waste at a taper.

Apply a small drop of thin varnish or superglue to the roots and then bind down tightly with well waxed thread.

Form a neat head and whip finish. Apply a couple of coats of varnish to produce a nice shiny head.

This fly can be fished during the night or daytime.

It is also very good as a dropper fly, for Salmon as well.