

## STOATS TAIL

Hook - Single salmon 4/0 - 10  
Tag - Round Silver tinsel  
Tail - Golden Pheasant Topping/Crest  
Rib - Oval Silver Tinsel  
Body - Black Floss  
Hackle - Black Cock  
Wing - Stoats Tail ( Black Squirrel )



Secure the hook in the vice. Run the tying thread down the hook to opposite the barb tying in the round tinsel as you go. Wind the thread back up to opposite the point. Wind up the tinsel forwards for 4-6 turns to create the tag, tie in and trim off. Tie in a Golden Pheasant Topping with an upwards curve for the tail, do not trim off the waste. Tie in a length of Oval Silver and a length of Black Floss and cut all the waste ends the full length of the body. Take the thread up to the head binding in the waste and creating a smooth underbody. Make sure you leave enough space to tie in the hackle and wing. Wind the floss in smooth turns up to this point and tie off. Rib the tinsel in even turns to this point, tie off and trim the waste. Rotate the hook 90° in the vice. Rip off the required amount of fibres from the cock hackle and tie onto the hook using the pinch and loop method with a couple of loose turns of thread. Use your thumb nail to flare the fibres and then take a few more tight turns of thread to secure. Cut off the waste ends. Return the hook to the normal position. You can also wind the hackle and then pull the fibres downwards underneath the hook.

To prepare the wing cut a suitable amount of hair from a Squirrel Tail. Hold the tips and stroke out all the rubbish from the base of the bunch. Even up the tips and tie on the hook using the pinch and loop method, make sure your thread is waxed well. The tip of the wing should be level with the end of the tail. Wind some tight turns of thread to secure and holding the thread taught trim off the waste butts at an angle sloping down towards the eye. Put a drop of thin varnish on the waste roots and bind in tightly. Form a neat head and whip finish. Do not allow any of the varnish to leach into the wing or hackle. Now apply several coats of thin clear varnish to produce a smooth shiny head.