

Diawl Bach

By Derek Young

This is a popular Welsh fly pattern that means 'little devil'. It can be fished as a team of 3 on a floating line and long leader or as a single fly on the point. Retrieve very, very slowly - or even static allowing the wind to work the fly.

It works well fished 'washing line style' with a Booby on the point, to keep the Diawl Bachs on the droppers up near the surface.

There are literally 100s of variations of this fly.



Dressing

Hook Kamasan B175 size 8 to 14

Thread Brown variations - Red, Black, Orange etc

Beard Brown/Ginger Cock (or Hen) Hackle Fibres
Tail Brown/Ginger Cock Hackle Fibres

Body 2 strands of Peacock Herl

Rib Fine Copper Wire

Head Brown Tying Thread

Tip Apply a coat of varnish to the thread before you wind on the peacock herl as this makes the fly more durable.



Step 1

Set hook in vice (ping it) and catch on the tying thread.



Step 2

Run the tying thread down the hook shank to a point above and halfway between the hook barb and hook point. Remove waste thread.



Step 3

Tear off a bunch of brown/ginger cock hackle fibres. Align the tips and, using pinch and loop, catch them onto the hook shank.



Step 4

Add 3 inches of fine copper wire.



Step 5

With loose wraps, take tying thread to eye, binding down the wire and the cock hackle fibres.



Step 6

Remove the waste cock hackle fibres and return the tying thread down to the start of the hook bend. *(As before, halfway between hook barb and hook point.)*



Step 7

Using pinch and loop, catch in two peacock herl strands.



Step 8

Return the tying thread to the eye.



Step 9

Coat the thread body with varnish or superglue. Wind the 1st peacock herl strand up to eye in same direction as tying thread, secure and remove excess.



Step 10

Wind the 2nd strand of peacock herl over the 1st up to the eye, secure and remove excess.



Step 11

Wind the fine copper wire, in the opposite direction to the peacock herl, in 4 to 5 open turns to the eye. Secure the wire and agitate it till it snaps.



Step 12

Select a second bunch of cock hackle fibres. Align tips and catch in *UNDERNEATH* the hook shank as a beard.

Tip: You can use your nail to move the fibres into the correct position under and in line with the hook shank.



Step 13

Remove the excess cock hackle fibres.
Form a neat head, whip finish and varnish the head.



The Finished Fly



Red head variant with Pearl Lurex rib.



Another variant with Lurex rib,
jungle cock cheek and glister thorax.



A pink variant.



Yet another variant – the possibilities are endless.

