

Large Dark Olive

By Derek Young

The Large Dark Olive can be seen during the cold months of late autumn, winter and early spring. It is an insect of the family Baetidae (Baetis rhodani), found in flowing water and can live in clear weed rich chalk streams as well as stony streams.

There are many patterns that represent the LDO. However a general representation of the LDO Dun is the Greenwell's Glory. Closer imitations are Kite's Imperial and the Waterhen Bloa.

An ideal representation for fishing it as a nymph is Frank Sawyer's Pheasant Tail Nymph. However, tie it slim as most shop bought PTNs are too fat to be a close representation of the slim, torpedo shaped Baetis nymphs.



Dressing

Hook	Kamasan B 400 size 12 - 14	Body	Super-fine Dry Fly Dubbing or Dubbed Hares Ear Fur or Dyed Olive Goose Herl
Thread	Olive 6 Ought Uni-Thread		
Wing	Starling or Grey Mallard Wing slips (optional)	Rib	Fine Gold Wire (optional)
		Hackle	Sooty Olive / Olive Cock Hackle
Tail	Dark Olive Cock Hackle or slim bunch of olive hare, body mask, guard hairs	Head	Tying thread whip finished and varnished



Step 1

Secure hook in vice (ping it) and catch on tying thread, winding in touching turns halfway down hook shank.

Remove waste.



Step 2

Wind thread back up hook shank, towards eye, to approx. quarter of the way.



Step 3

Prepare two matching mallard slips (facing forward) with length to be same as body.



Step 4

Using the pinch and loop technique, with two turns of tying thread, slowly pull the thread down to hold the slips in place.



Step 5

Pull the slips backward and fold the waste forward either side of wings.

Tip – pull a couple of fibres **between** the wings as you pull forward, this helps to keep wings separate.



Step 6

Secure with two wraps of thread and remove waste.

Tip – to avoid the wing fibres splitting apply a little varnish to your finger tips and rub into the wing tips.



Step 7

Wind thread behind wing and continue down the hook shank, in touching turns, to the bend.



Step 8

Catch in 5 to 6 olive cock hackle fibres and 3 inches of fine gold wire, if tying in a rib.



Step 9

Wind the tying thread, in touching turns, up the hook shank to form a neat underbody and binding down the wire and the hackle fibres.



Step 10

Remove waste and return the thread to bend.



Step 11

Dub on a *thin* spiral of olive superfine dry fly dubbing. Wind towards the eye and create a neat, thin carrot-shaped body.



Step 12

Wind fine gold wire, in the opposite direction to the tying thread, in open turns up to the wing.
Secure wire and agitate the wire till it snaps off.



Step 13

Catch in a sooty-olive cock hackle with the shiny side facing you.
Secure and trim waste leaving the thread at the eye.



Step 14

Wind the hackle twice behind and two or three turns in front of the wing and secure.



Step 15

Remove excess hackle.



Step 16

Form neat head, whip finish and varnish head.

The Finished Fly



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