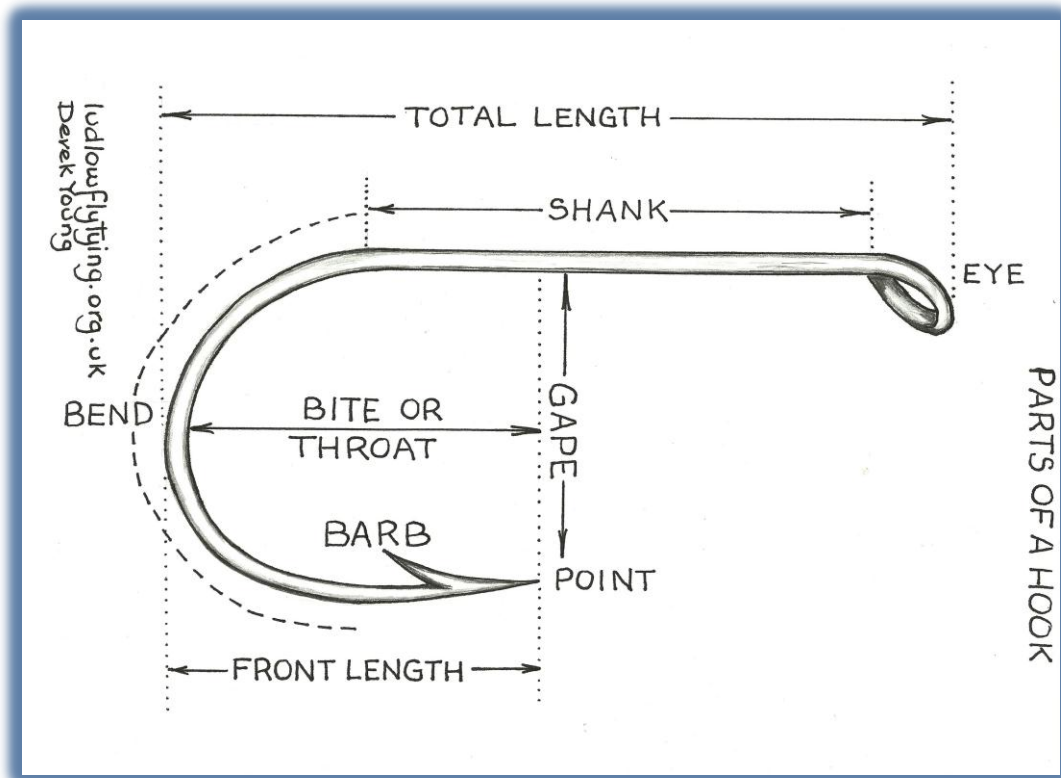


Parts of a Hook

By Derek Young



EYE	The eye of a hook is the ring, hole or loop at the end of the shank through which the line or leader is secured.
SHANK	The shank connects the bend to the eye. Hook shanks are manufactured in many different shapes and styles. Most common are straight curved and sliced where barbs are cut into the shank.
BEND	The curved part of the hook. In order to increase the strength of the bend the wire of the bend is slightly compressed sideways.
POINT	The point is the sharp end which penetrates the fish's mouth. It is important to check the point and to re-sharpen if necessary, as this needs to penetrate the fish's mouth with as little force as possible.
BARB	The barb is the projection extending backwards from the point of the hook that secures the fish from un-hooking.
GAPE	The gape (or gap) is the distance or width between the hook point and shank.
BITE or THROAT	The bite or throat is the distance from the apex of the bend to its intersection with the gape. (i.e. the depth that a hook penetrates)
GAUGE	Refers to the diameter of the hook wire.
FINISH	Refers to the coating of the hook. Some salt-water hooks are coated to prevent them corroding in the salt water.

rev 1 - Feb 2013
© 2013 Ludlow Fly-Tying Club