

The Wickham's Fancy

By Derek Young

The originator of the fly is unsure and believed to have been devised in the late 1880's by Dr T.C.Wickham or perhaps Capt John Wickham.

It is traditionally a wet fly and is a great imitation of a sedge.

Fish the dry version in the surface film (especially on rivers) but also static on lakes and still waters.



Dressing

Hook	12 to 16 medium wire (The illustration is on a Kamasan B400 size 12)	Body hackle	Natural red game or ginger cock hackle (palmered)
Thread	Black or Brown. Some tiers use Yellow	Wing's	Paired Mallard primary's (Across the back for wet / split and upright for dry)
Tail	10 to 12 fibres of Red game or Ginger Cock hackle	Head hackle	Natural red game or ginger cock hackle
Body	Flat gold medium tinsel or gold holographic	Head	Black or brown tying thread (varnished)
Rib	Fine gold wire		



Step 1

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



Step 2

Run tying thread down hook shank, in touching turns to a point above the hook barb.



Step 3

Remove excess thread and select 10 to 12 cock hackle fibres (tear them off so tips are level)



Step 4

Catch in fibres (one turn).



Step 5

Catch in 3 inches of fine gold wire (one turn)...



Step 6

...then catch in the medium gold tinsel.

Tip : Catch in material's in front of each other (NOT ON TOP OF EACH OTHER). This will reduce the "Bulge" at rear.



Step 7

Remove excess cock hackle stalk's...



Step 8

...and wind the tying thread forward to bind down all three material's.

Tip : At this point I like to add a little dab of superglue or varnish to the thread wrapping's (as this makes a more durable fly).



Step 9

Wind the gold tinsel, in overlapping turn's back up hook shank to thread...



Step 10

...secure and remove excess tinsel.



Step 11

Tie in the red game cock hackle...



Step 12

...and make 2-3 turns at the tie in point...



Step 13

...then continue winding hackle, in open turns down body.



Step 14

Hold hackle upright and lock in place with a turn of wire.



Step 15

Continue winding the wire, in open turns, through the "palmered" hackle up to thread.

Tip : Wiggle the wire as you wind, as this aids you trapping less of the fibres under the wire.



Step 16

Pull wire through 90 degrees and secure.



Step 17

Keep tension on the thread and agitate the wire till it snaps, remove excess cock hackle at tail.



Step 18
Select 2 slips of mallard primary...



Step 19
...and hold between finger and thumb to align tips.



Step 20
swap slips to other hand and lay slips on top of hook shank using "pinch and loop" technique...



Step 21
...secure them in place.



Step 22
Remove waste...



Step 23

...and bind down with tying thread.



Step 24

Tie in another cock hackle and remove waste stalk...



Step 25

...fold fibres back...



Step 26

...and wind to eye.



Step 27

Secure, whip finish, remove excess hackle and remove tying thread.

The Wickham's Fancy



The finished fly



The other side.



A dry version of the fly.