

Antistatic Bag Pupa

By Denny Westover

Recipe

Hook Mustad C49s #6 - #14 or
Daiichi Alec Jackson Chironomid
hook #7 - #15
Thread 6/0 Olive
Rib #1 Red wire, fine
Rib #2 Stretch floss, olive, black,
red, or brown
Body Antistatic Bag
Wingcase Pheasant Tail
Thorax Peacock Herl
Gills Oral B Ultra Floss



The Antistatic Bag Pupa is very realistic imitation of the chironomid pupa as it begins its ascent to the surface. When the pupa first emerges from the mud bottom of the lake it is aided in its ascent by gas bubbles trapped in and around its body. Its rise to the surface typically takes 3-4 days with much of that trip spent moving up and down within a few feet of the bottom. Since most of us tend to fish chironomids within 1-2 feet off the bottom it makes sense to offer the fish a fly that includes the appearance of the naturals. The antistatic bag component of this pattern effectively mimics the gas bubble present in the natural.

Antistatic bag material won't be found at your local fly shop but you can probably obtain it at Radio Shack or a large electronics mail order retailer. A package of a dozen bags will last a lifetime. I cut the bag material into thin (2-3mm) strips with an Olfa Rotary Cutter which also does a nice job on foam. The OLFA cutter can be purchased at sewing and fabric shops. A cheaper alternative is a razor blade and a straightedge.

I tie this pattern in black and olive but match the color to whatever you are seeing in your favorite Stillwater. Concentrate on keeping the body as thin as possible and coat the abdomen of the finished fly with UV epoxy (I prefer Clear Cure Goo Hydro) or Sally Hansen's Hard as Nails. I fish this pattern from April through October but find it most effective in the early spring.

ENJOY!!!

DETAILED TYING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS PATTERN CAN BE FOUND AT :

<http://www.flycraftangling.com/index.asp?p=145&szArticleButtonCommand=view&nArticleID=120>