



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

FLY OF THE MONTH

"Trout Fin"



Edition: February

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Photographed By: Jerry Coviello

Guest Tier: Jerry Coviello

Pattern taken from the Gold Fly Tying Skill Award

Throughout the literature there are numerous versions of the Trout Fin. The version tied here could be considered to be a combination of the Trout Fin and the Bergman Fontinalis. The origin of the pattern is somewhat questionable, but it appears that the Trout Fin was developed by Robert H. Cavanagh, Jr. sometime in the 1920s. The Trout Fin was developed to imitate the fin from a Brook Trout which was often cut off and used for bait.

Materials

Hook: Dry Fly Hook

Thread: 6/0 waxed, White thread for all but the head, black for head.

Tag: Gold oval tinsel size small.

Tail: Duck quill fibers: white, black and orange.

Body: Orange wool yarn.

Rib: Twisted gray wool yarn.

Hackle: Orange hackle.

Wing: Duck quill fibers: white, black and orange.

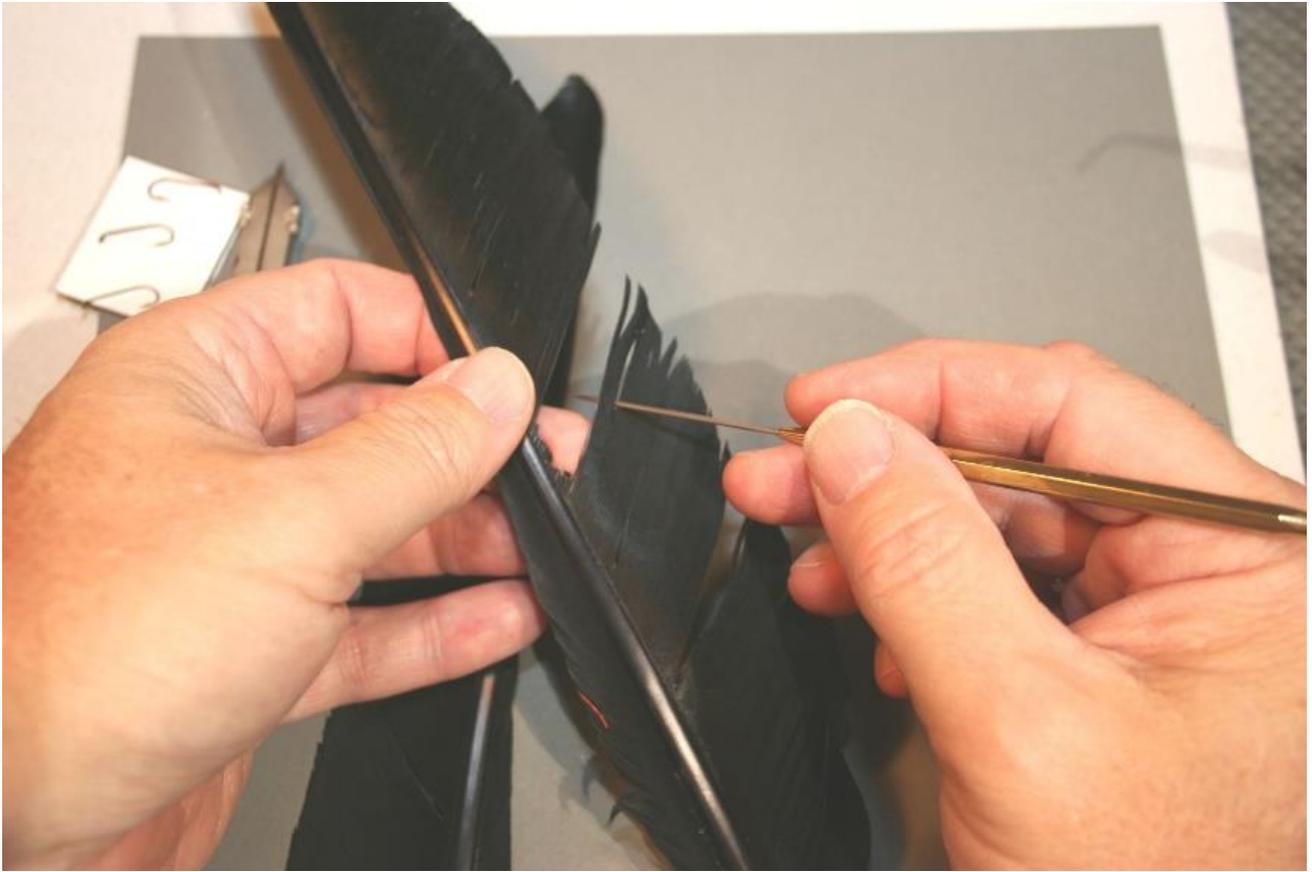
Head: Black thread.

Tying Steps



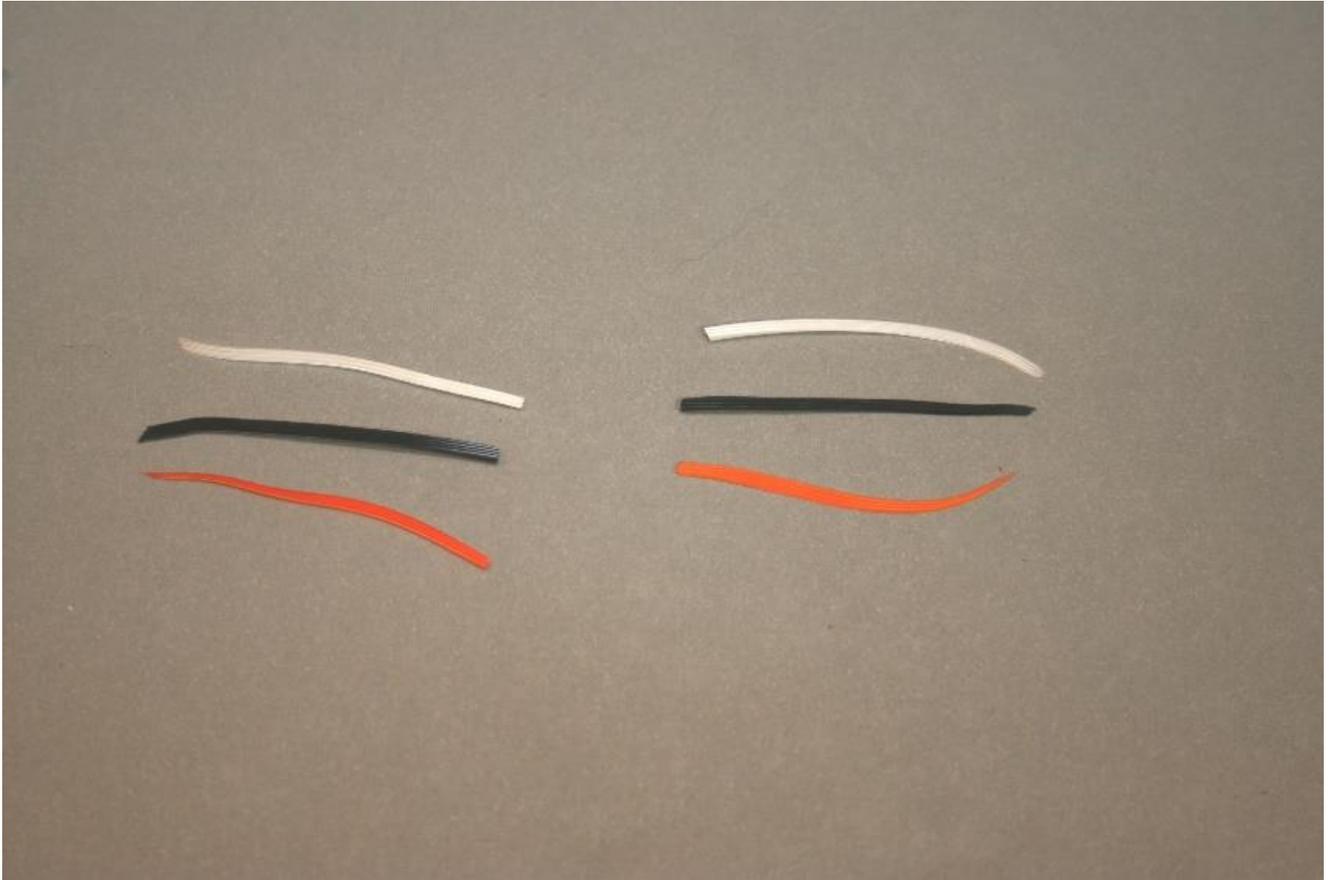
Step 1

Prepare your wing and tail. You need Orange, Back and White Duck or what I am using is goose wing quills. I also use a draftsman dividers to measure out the slips of fibers so that both sides of the wing and tail are identical.



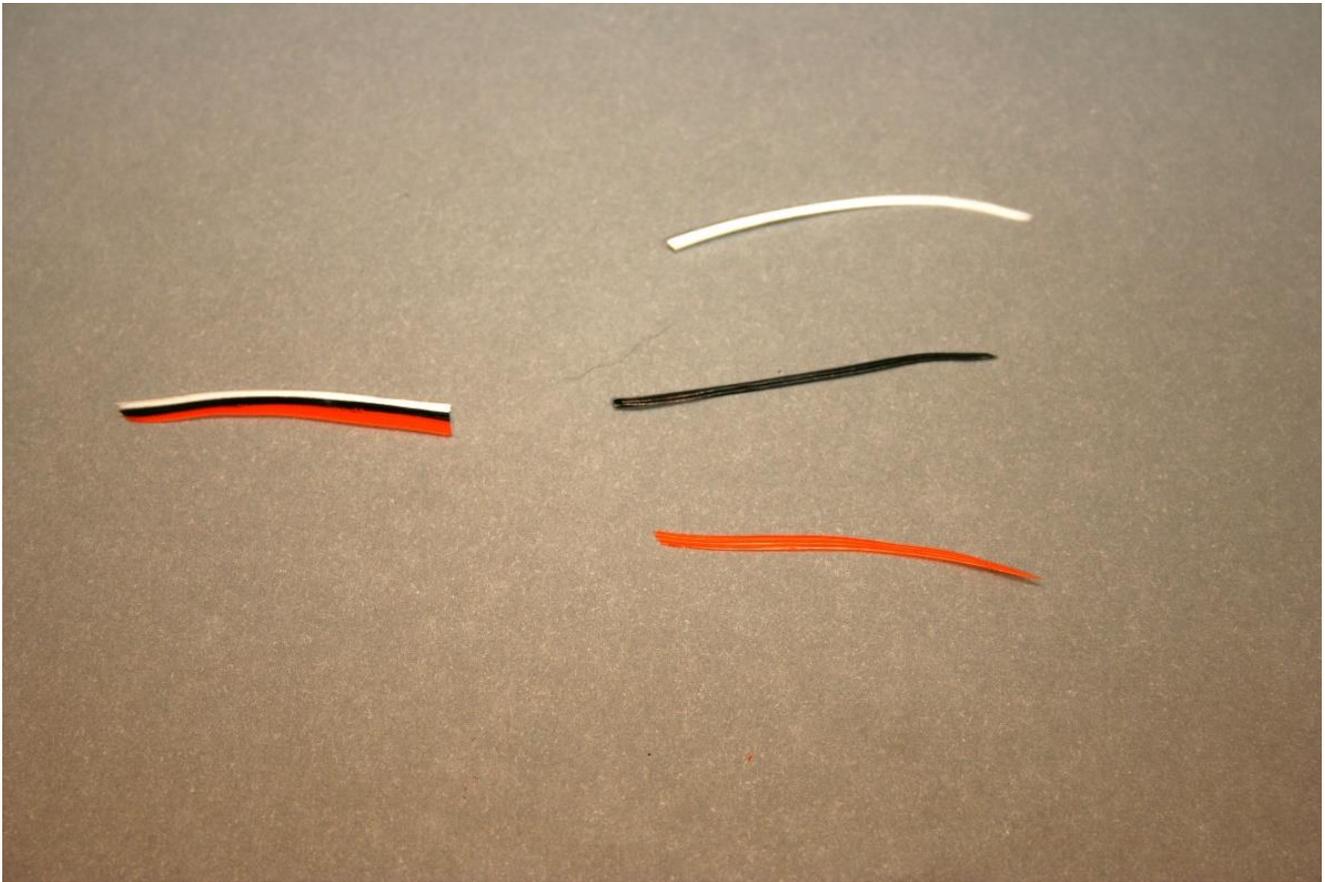
Step 2

Start taking quill fibers from your feathers.



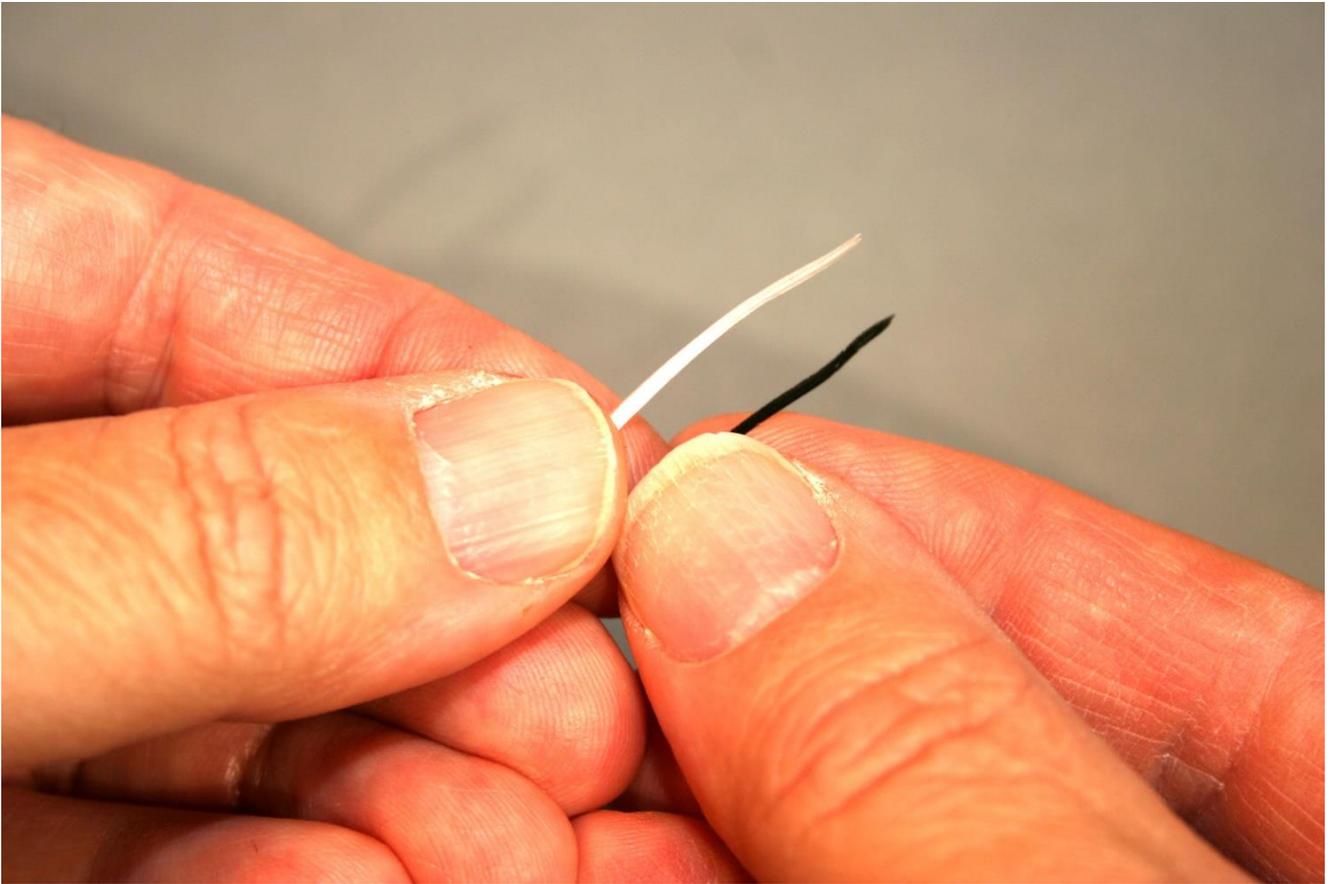
Step 3

Here I have both the left and right fibers for the tail in the order that they will be married.



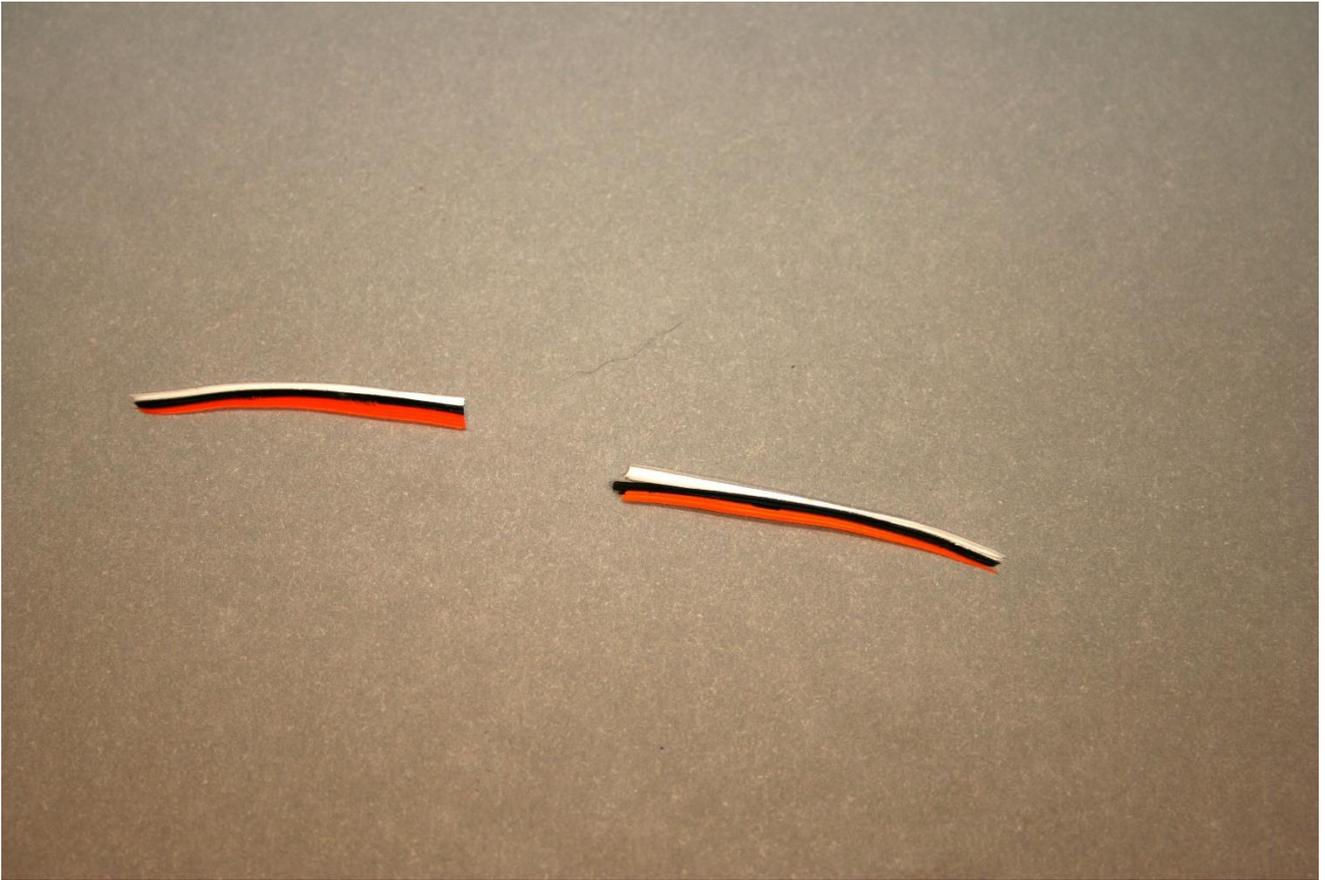
Step 4

The tail of the near side is all married. This is done by laying each strip on top of each other and then stroke them, so the fibers will act as a zipper and lock into place. Do the same for the far side tail.



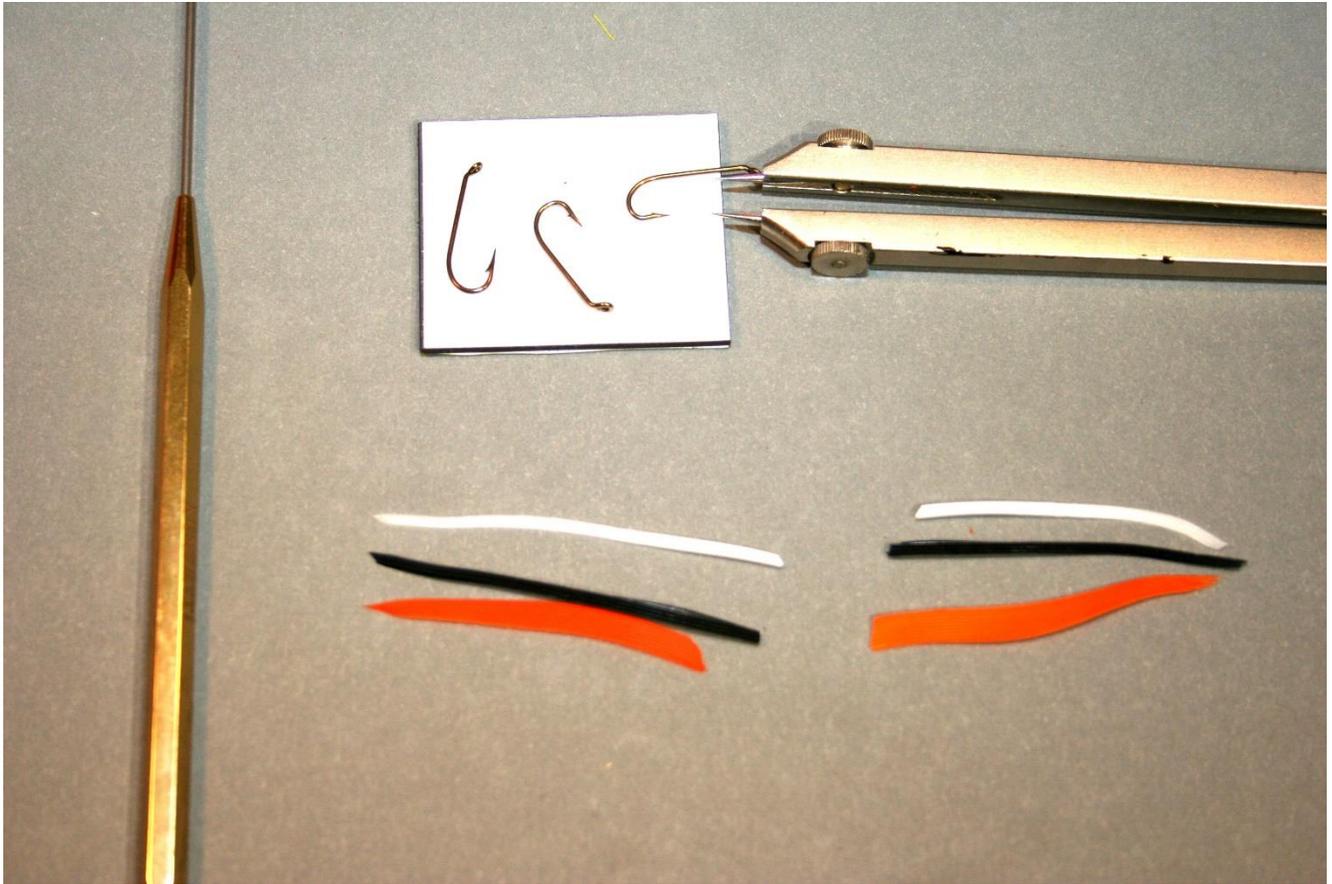
Step 5

Here is an example of getting ready to marry the wings slips together.



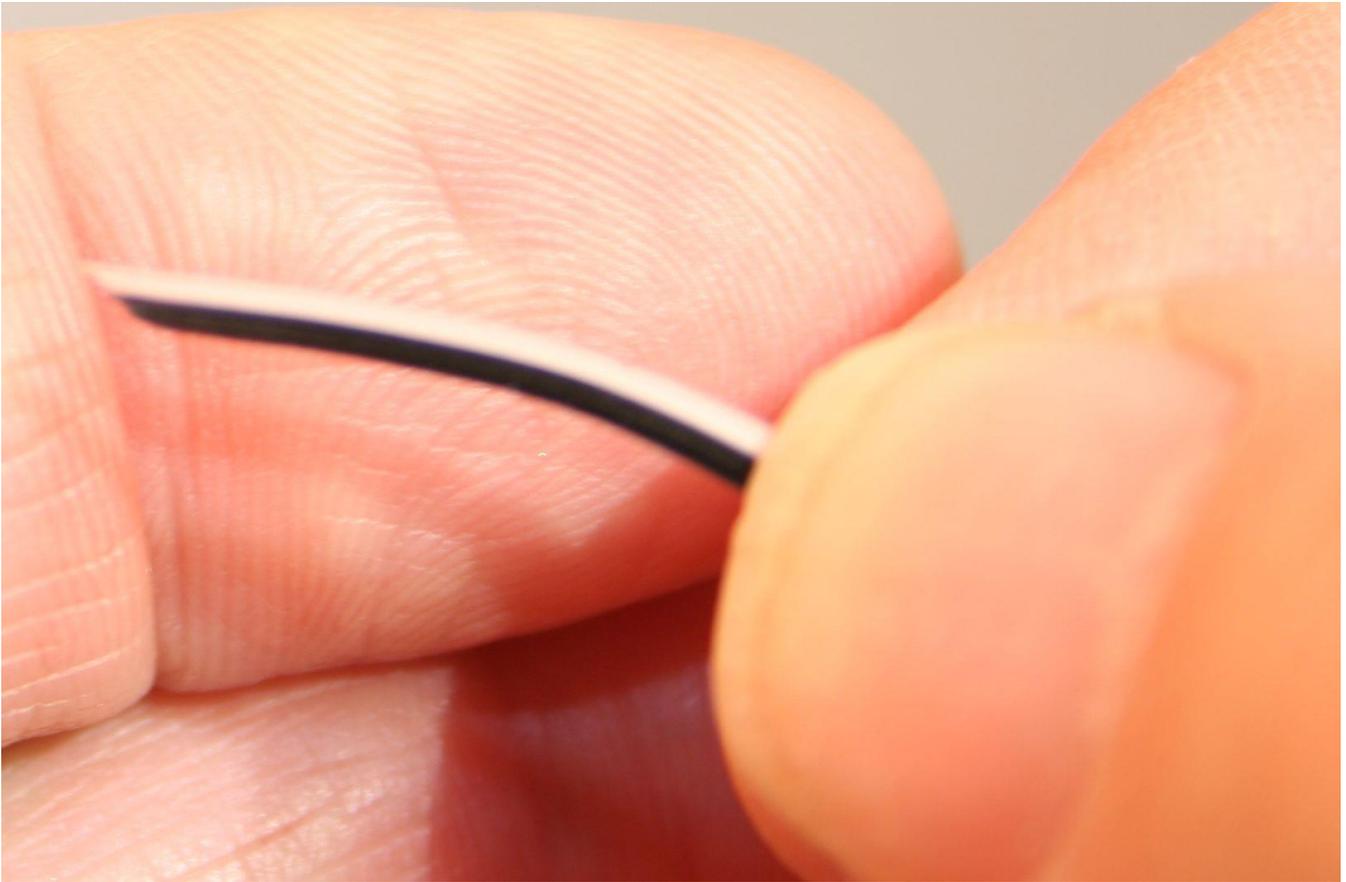
Step 6

The completed tail. Set them aside so we can get the wing ready.



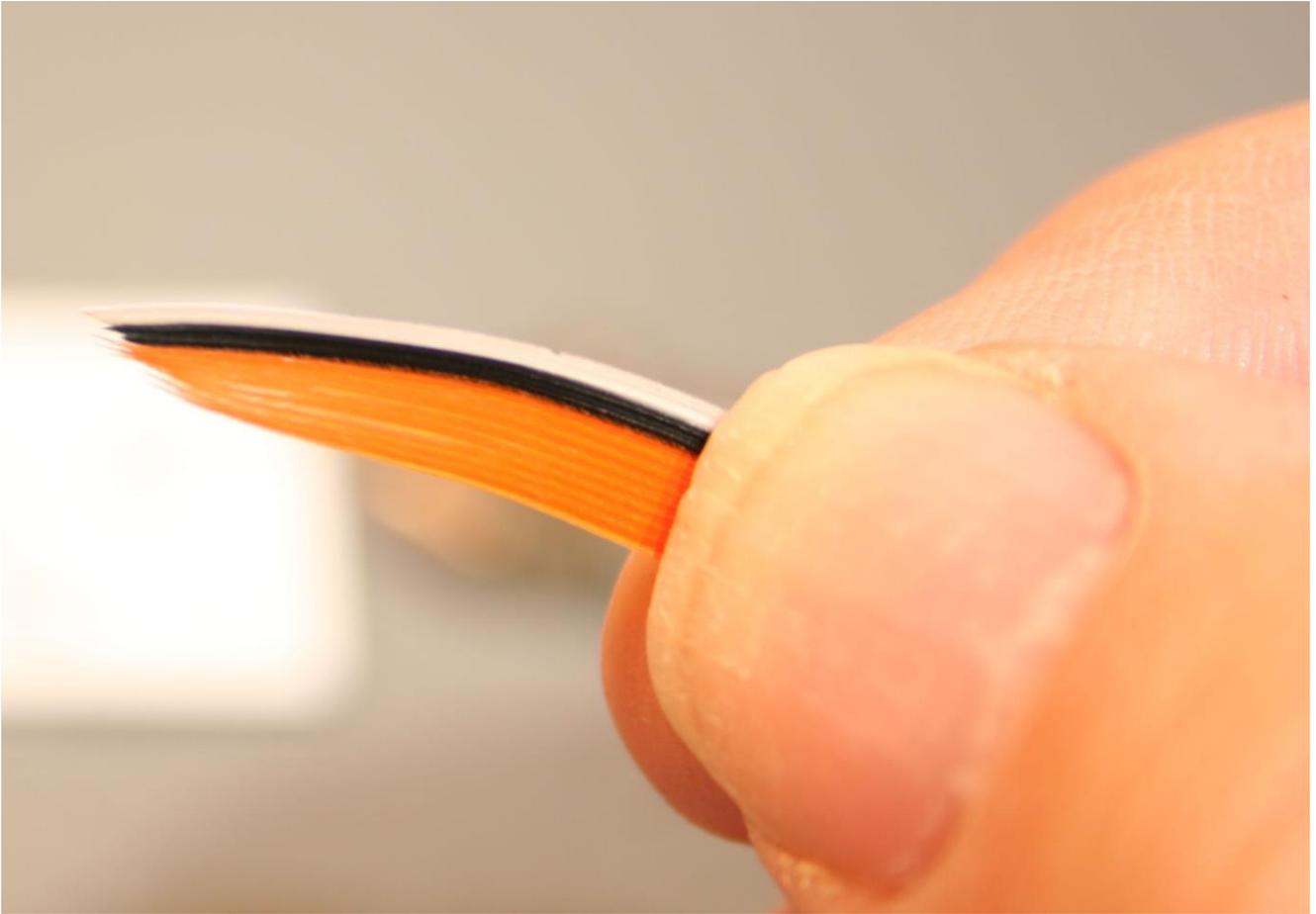
Step 7

Same procedure as the tail but the wing is wider. Gap thick. The orange is thicker compared to the black and white strips. Prepare the near side and the far side wing slips.



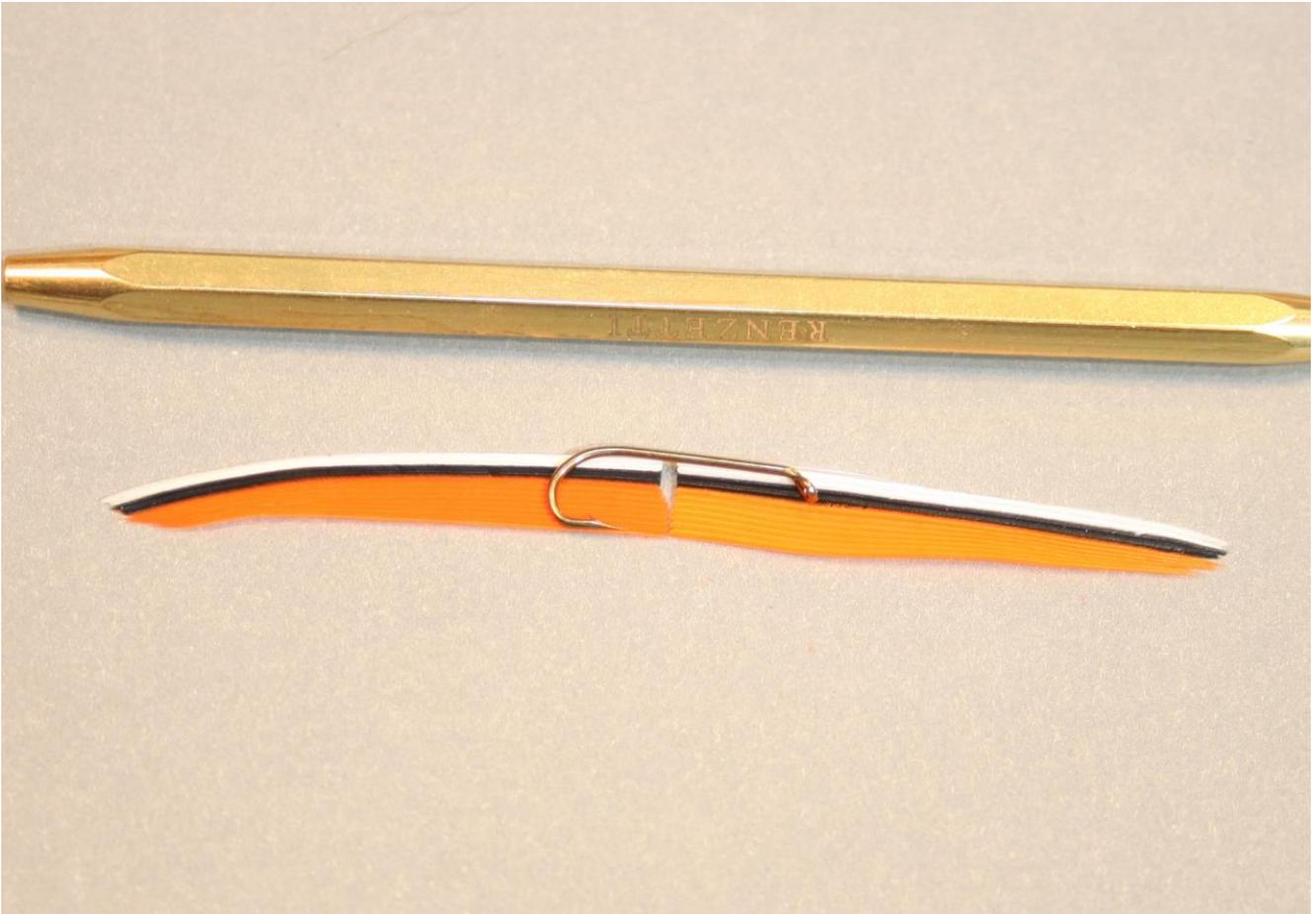
Step 8

Marry the white over the black wing slips.



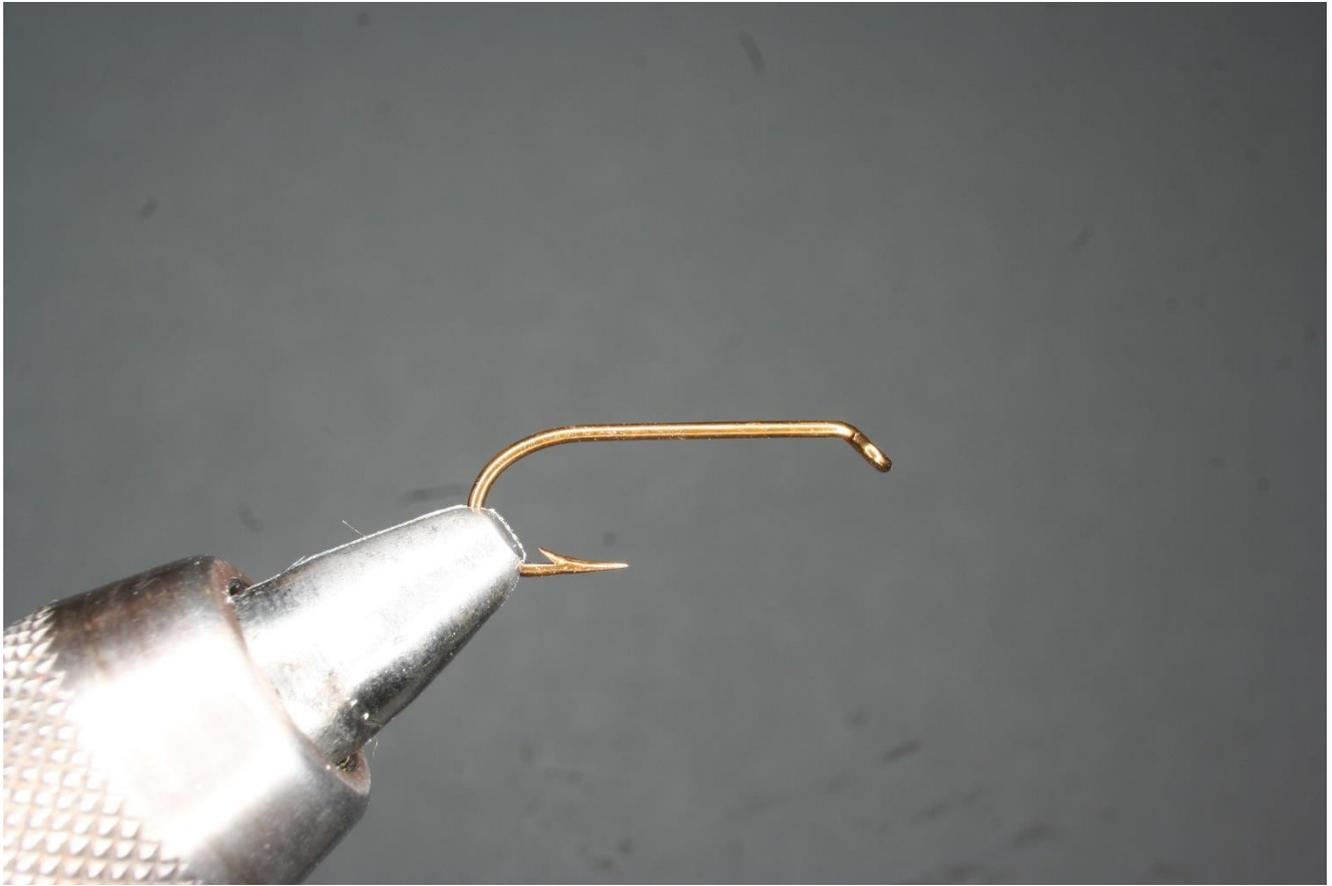
Step 9

Now marry the orange wing slip to the white/black married wing slips.



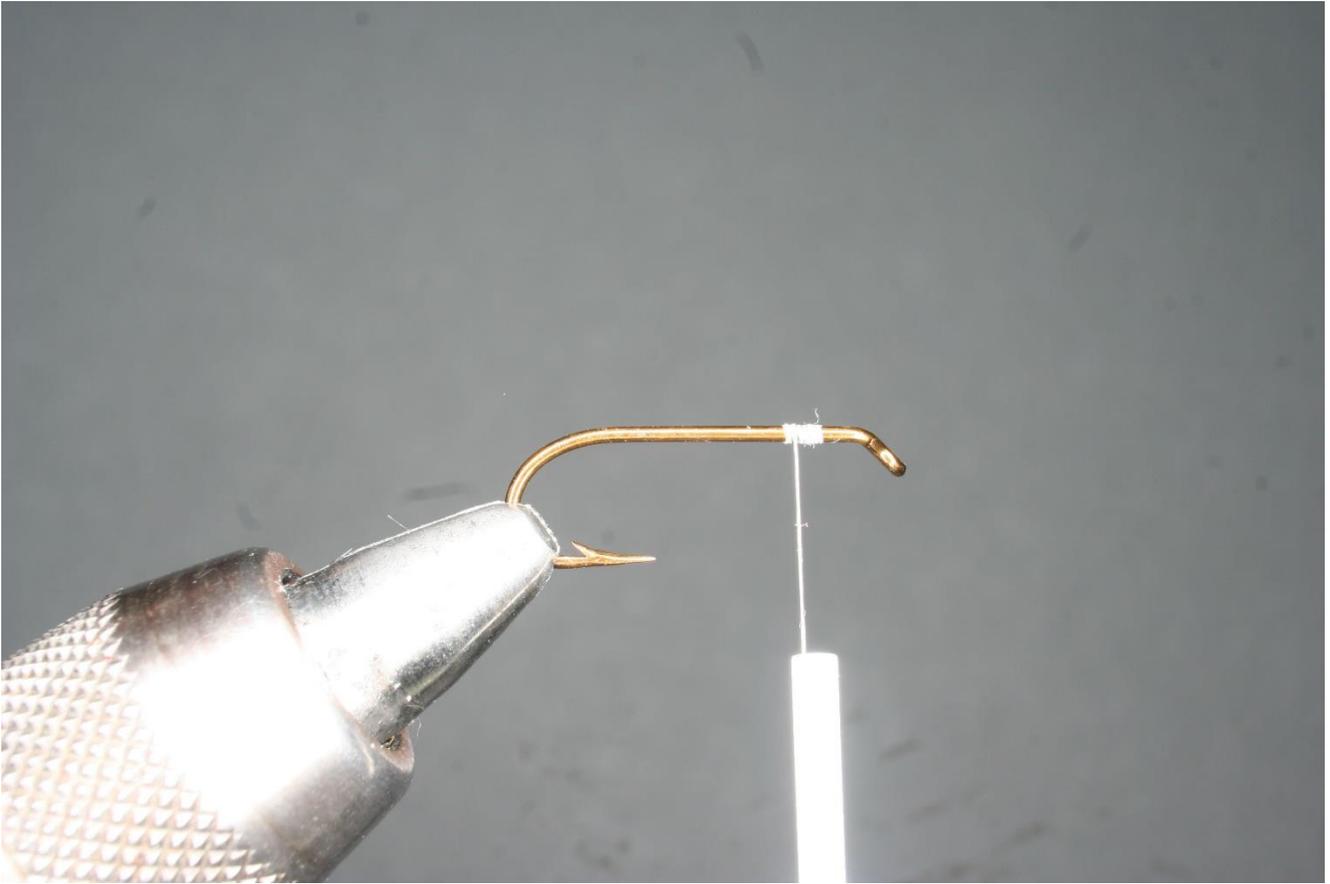
Step 10

Both wings are now complete and set them aside.



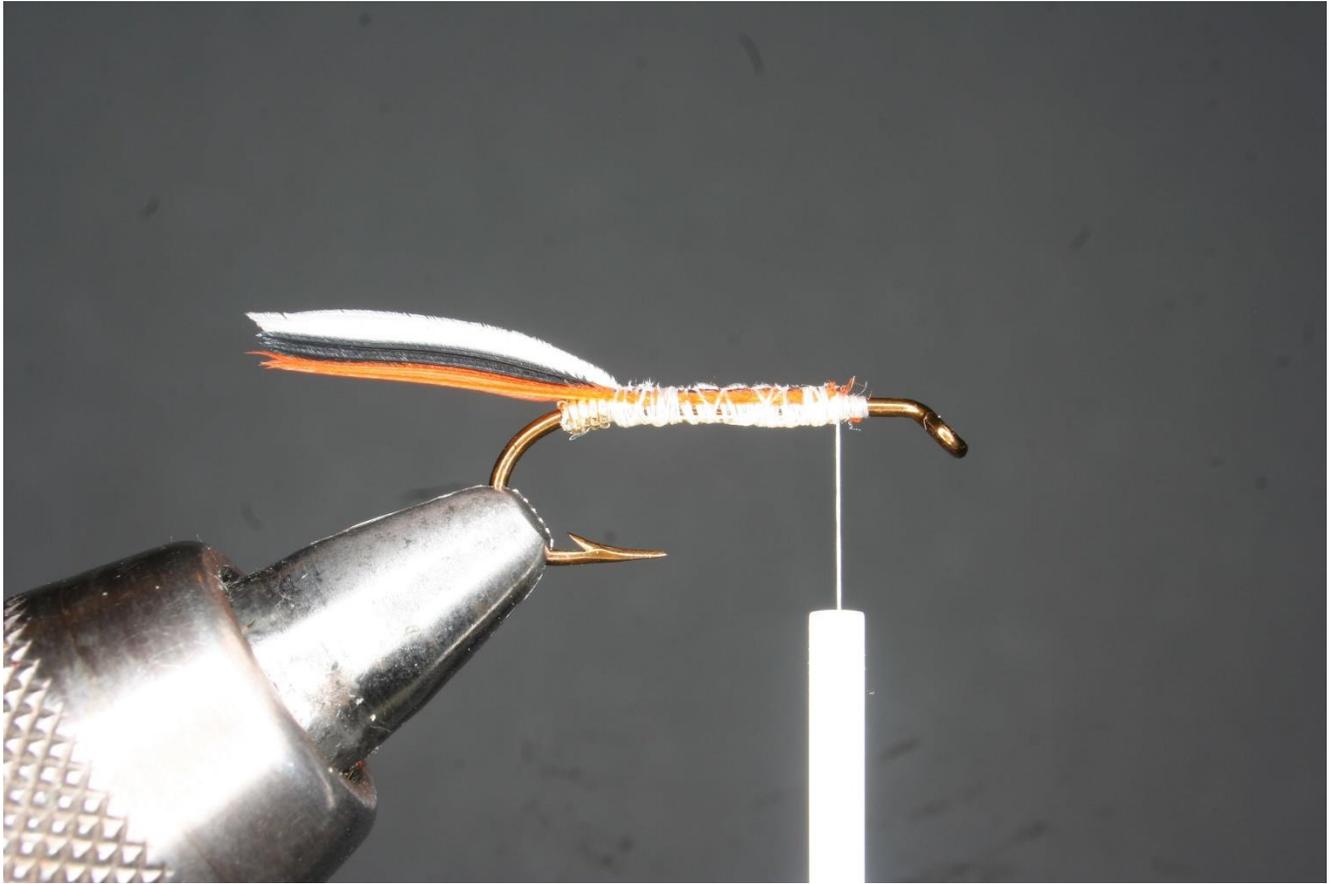
Step 11

Now let us place the dry fly hook in the vise.



Step 12

Tie the white thread about 1 eye length behind the eye.



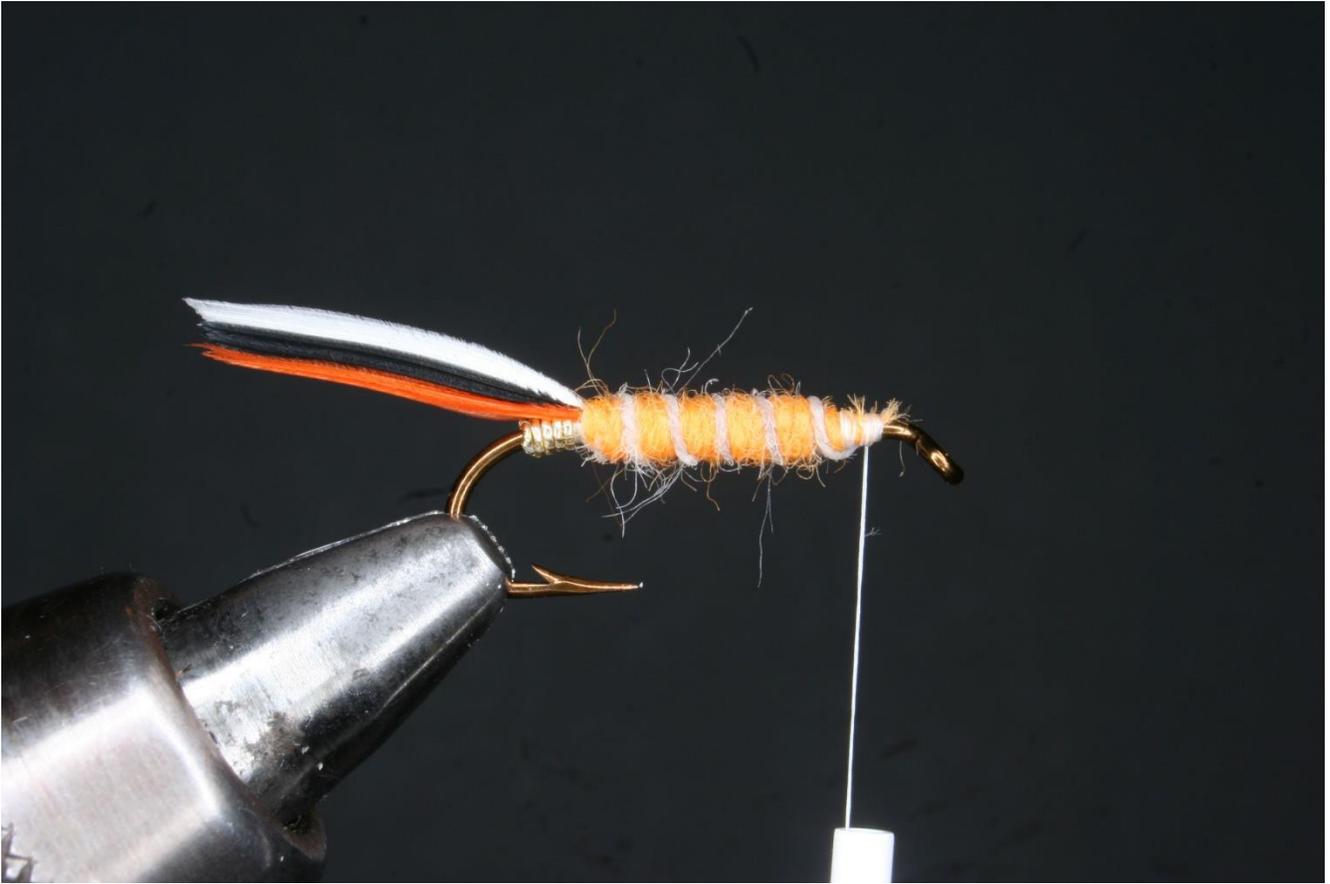
Step 13

Tie at the bend a gold tag of 5 wraps of fine oval gold tinsel. Then tie the married wing fibers of the tail at the bend of the hook.



Step 14

Tie the white strand of wool at the bend of the hook. Wrap orange wool to form the body.



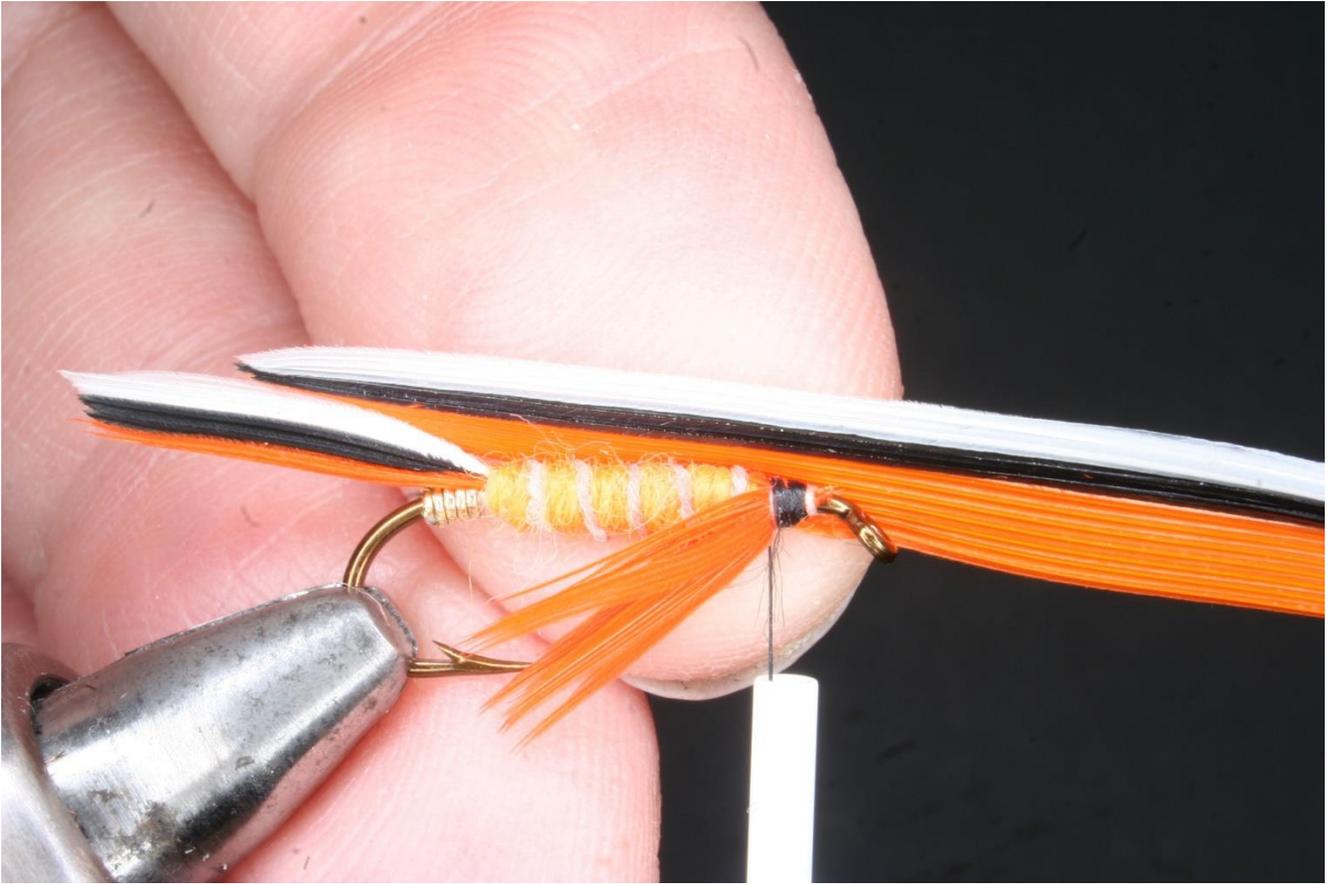
Step 15

Counter rib the body with the white wool strand, twisting it tight. Try to get 5 wraps through the body.



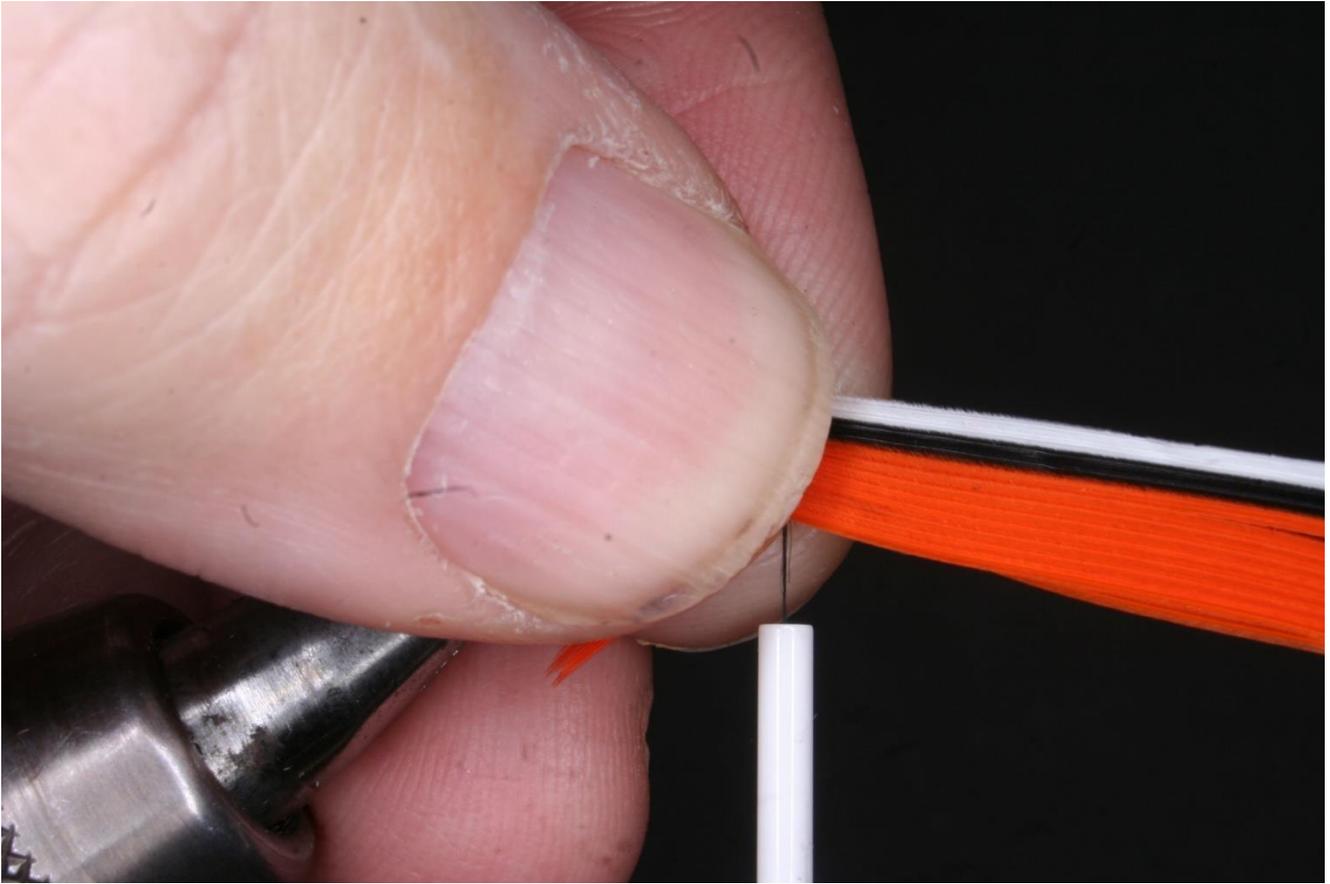
Step 16

Orange Hackle tied in as a throat hackle. Switching the thread for black.



Step 17

Hold the far side wing with your index finger



Step 18

Now hold the near side wing with your thumb pinch hold both sets of wings. Using the pinch method and let the thread loosely grab hold of the wing, using the weight of the bobbin then pull up, securing the wing.



Step 19

Trim the wing fibers and create a head. Whip finish and add head cement to the head wraps.

Editors Notes: Comments from the editor.

Fly of the Month:

Do you know someone who deserves to be featured in the Fly of the Month? If you have a camera and computer, you can write a Fly of the Month article to honor your favorite tier tying their best creation. For details contact the Fly Tying Group at ftg@flyfishersinternational.org.

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