

Birds Nest



Class:	Nymph – Caddis
Matches:	Most Caddis by matching the size and coloration of the natural
Originator:	Kal Bird
Source:	Most Fly Shops and Fly Retailers

Clay's Notes

The Bird's Nest is a nymph pattern designed by the late Cal Bird in 1959. Cal developed this fly for the Truckee River. Usually tied in tan colors to imitate caddis pupae, other colors used are cream, brown, and olive. Cal actually used a blend of Australian Opossum and dyed Coyote for the dubbed body. He also insisted on Woodduck flank for the tail and hackle to achieve the proper stiffness. Often, other fly tiers will substitute Teal or Mallard Flank and utilize Haretron or a similar dubbing for the body. Frank Matarelli designed a hook, known as Cal Bird's Dubbing Tool, This tool is used within the "improved" Bird's Nest to create a dubbing loop in which the Opossum dubbing is applied for a buggier look on the thorax. The Bird's Nest is generally considered an attractor pattern that can be fished on a dead drift, either weighted or unweighted. It works for summer caddis.

Birds Nest Tying Recipe

Hook:	Daiichi 1710 #10-16
Thread:	Danville Camel 6/0
Rib:	Small Copper Wire
Tail:	Lemon Wood Duck Flank
Abdomen:	Natural Australian Opossum
Thorax:	Natural Australian Opossum
Hackle:	Lemon Wood Duck Flank

For information on Guiding, Classes, Workshops & Technique Clinics, Contact Clay Hash

