



Glossary of Terms from theevilweevil.com

Acetate Floss

A fairly uncommon type of floss used for bodies of nymphs or worms when dipped in acetone hardens and becomes glossy or shiny.

Antron

A synthetic yarn material made of long sparkly fibers used for many aspects of fly tying including wrapped bodies, spent wings, and trailing shucks. It is also used for dubbing material.

Attractor Pattern

A style or variety of fly that is effective in eliciting strikes, but has few apparent characteristics of a natural food item. Often an attractor is flashy and bigger than life.

Bead

An extremely popular material in fly tying. glass, brass and tungsten beads are commonly fastened just behind the eye of a hook to provide weight or mimic an air bubble

Buggy

Refers to the body or thorax of a fly looking lifelike or full of legs or brushed out.

Caddis

The term Caddis is used to describe a large diverse family of aquatic insects characterized by down wings. Also the American term for the sedge fly.

Craft Foam

Sheets of foam that can be purchased at craft stores in a variety of colours or millimetres of thickness. Typically used on attractor style dry flies to create buoyancy.

Dubbing

Fly tying material (usually strands or fibres, including fur, yarn, wool, or synthetic fibres) that are wrapped onto a thread (commonly using wax) and wrapped around the shank of the hook to imitate the abdomen and/or thorax of an artificial fly.

Dun

Term used to describe an adult aquatic insect following emergence from the water.

Film

Refers to the surface of the water where an insect floats.

Flash

Refers to material used to make a fly sparkle or stand out. Materials such as Uni-Mylar or Krystal Flash would be good examples.

Floss

Multi-strand silk or synthetic substitute material for tying flies.

Goose Biots:

These are the short thick barbs from the leading edge of the first flight feather typically from a goose or a duck. Used to simulate tails, legs, antennae and other parts. Can be found dyed in many different colours.

Hackle

Any soft-stemmed neck feather with non-adhering barbules. Typically used to refer to hen or rooster chicken feathers. Tied to represent the legs of an insect.

Half Hitch

A knot made by passing the end of a rope around itself and then through the loop thus made.

Head Cement

A type of thin glue used on the head of a fly to keep it from falling apart.

Hook Shank

The long straight part of a hook. This is typically the part of the hook to which material is tied.

Marabou

Turkey feather fibres used extensively as wings and tails of lures/streamers. A Wooley Bugger would be an example of a fly that uses marabou for the tail. Common varieties of marabou include blood quill and Woolly Bugger.

Midge

Various gnat- like flies of the family Chironomidae, found worldwide and frequently occurring in swarms near ponds and lakes.

Nymph

A general term used to describe the subsurface forms of aquatic insects prior to emergence. Also used as the name of flies imitating these insect forms

Rib

Wire, thread, or monofilament used to create segmentation on a fly or to secure material such as hackle etc.

Saddle

Refers to the long feathers on the back of a rooster. They are commonly used on dry flies to make them float. Popular brands include Whiting and Metz (Umpqua)

Scud

A term used for freshwater shrimp.

Simi Seal

A type of dubbing produced by Arizona Dubbing with long fairly coarse fibres meant to simulate seal hair. Often use to create a buggy thorax on large nymphs or bodies on leech patterns.

Spent Wings

This describes how wings of an insect flatten out and become translucent once it dies.

Stonefly

Family of aquatic insects commonly imitated in fly fishing. Many species are found in western streams.

Thorax

The front portion of the body of an insect to which the wings and legs are attached.

Tinsel

A thin silver, gold or brass-colored ribbon used in adding shine to flies, often as ribbing or for fly bodies.

Trailing Shuck

Refers to the nymphal skin that trails behind an adult insect once it has emerged. In fly tying it can be mimicked by antron yarn etc .

Two-tone

Refers to a fly or tying material that is made of two different colours.

Trude

A type of attractor dry fly that has tent style wing typically made of calf tail or calf body hair.

Uni-Mylar Pearl

A product from Uni that comes on spools that is typically used for creating flash on bodies or as a wing case.

Wing case

Either of the horny front wings in beetles or some other insects which cover and protect the functional hind wings

Whip Finish

A knot used to tie off the thread when finishing a fly. Whip finishing is commonly accomplished with a whip finishing tool such as a Matarelli or Thompson.

Zonker

A style of streamer fly created by Dan Byford in which a strip of rabbit fur is tied over the body.