

Subject: : Fly Tying

Topic: : Whip finishing small flies

Re: Whip finishing small flies

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URL:

For a long time, I've been tying parachutes using the method of finishing the fly without winding the hackle and turning it 90° to finish. It works well, especially for small flies. Two things also help. First, I use "Ultra Midge" tying thread. Many brands labeled 12/0 – 14/0 – 16/0, but aren't that small of a diameter since diameter rating on thread is not standardized. Ultra Midge is ultra thin. It comes only in white. I use a permanent marker to color if necessary. The thin thread adds almost no bulk to the fly and works great to tie off your hackle on the post. Secondly, I use a Matarelli type whip finisher to tie off my flies. It allows precise placement of the wraps and gives a good whip finish.

Good luck with your #28's. I have a lot of midge patterns down to size #30 on my list to tie this winter, but between the good weather on weekends for fishing, and the Eagles playoff games, I haven't tied much at all. Go Birds!