

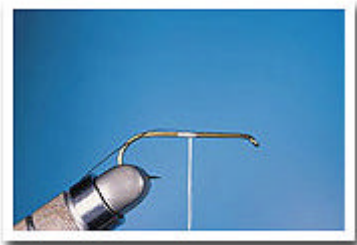
Jack Gartside's Soft-Hackle Streamer

October 5, 2001

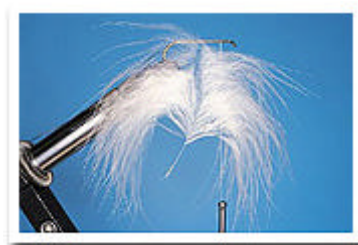
As we get into fall, conditions change on the rivers and in the lakes and ponds. The weather becomes crisp and enlivening. Hopefully, the equinoxial rains have replenished stream flows, and water temperatures are ideal for the trout and salmon. It's time to get in those last precious days of fishing before another harsh winter grips us.

Hatches will be scarce or nonexistent, so we resort to attractor flies that stimulate the fish's feeding and territorial instincts. There are few indeed that match Jack Gartside's Soft-Hackle Streamer for sheer effectiveness. With a little practice in wrapping marabou as though it were hackle, you'll find them pretty easy to tie. The main thing is to help the marabou encircle the hook with each turn, so it doesn't ball up.

Tying Steps:



Step 1. Tie on here and tie in one or two strands of Flashabou or other glitz of your choice. Then double the material over to the rear and bind it down.



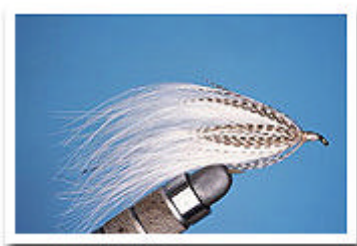
Step 2. Strip off the junky fronds around the butt end of a marabou plume and tie it in as shown.



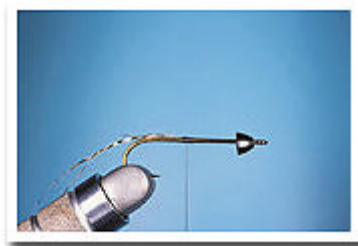
Step 3. Wrap forward, helping the material encircle the hook as you go.



Step 4. The marabou wrapped. Note that a little space is left up front.



Step 5. Finish off the fly by wrapping a mallard or teal flank feather collar-style in front.



Step 6. If you'd like to add a bead or cone head, run it onto the hook first, then tie on the glitzy stuff.

Jack Gartside's Soft-Hackle Streamer continued



Step 7. Proceed as before. Here, I've wrapped two colors of marabou at the same time, in order to create contrast.

Soft Hackle Streamers can be tied in whatever color combinations turn you on. They make great bass flies as well. For more on our intriguing colleague, visit www.jackgartside.com. And for more about these flies and much more, consult the American Angler Magazine.

For other Fly Tying Projects, please visit my website at www.dicktalleur.com. You will also find information about past and upcoming guided fishing trips, my books and instructional videotapes, recommended products, and upcoming classes and shows.

