

## Whitlock Red Fox Squirrel-Hair Nymph

We have not featured this famous nymph since our May Newsline, 2011. It is time to repeat this recipe. Like the Adams, Hare's Ear Nymph and Woolly Bugger, Dave Whitlock's RFSHN ranks as one of the best. Dave is often asked why the nymph is so effective. He feels that it is the simple generic color pattern and it looks like a lot of different natural foods. Another feature that makes this fly so special is, the more it is fished, the buggier it becomes.



Recipe:

**Hook:** Tiemco #5262 or #5263 in sizes #2 - #18

**Thread:** 6/0, color black or orange

**Weight:** Non-toxic lead wire (diameter of hook wire) or optional gold or black bead sized to the hook size.

**Tail:** Small tuft of red fox squirrel back hair including guard hairs and underfur

**Rib:** Gold oval tinsel or orange Flashabou

**Abdomen:** Red fox squirrel belly hair with a 50/50 blend of sparkle dubbing or Dave Whitlock's Plus SLF #1

**Thorax:** Red Fox squirrel back hair blended with a 50/50 blend of sparkle dubbing or Dave Whitlock's Plus SLF #2

**Legs:** On hook sizes #12 or larger one turn of Metz dark ginger hen saddle, speckled hen or partridge. On smaller hook sizes, pick out legs from the dubbed thorax

Tying Instructions:

1. Crush down the hook barb, attach the tying thread behind the hook eye and wrap rearward to the hook bend.
2. At mid shank add 10 -12 wraps of lead wire. Build ramp each end.
3. Tie-in tail at the hook bend allowing just the tan and black tips to show. Tail length should be 1/3 to 1/2 hook shank in length.
4. Tie-in rib at bend tie-in point.
5. Dub a shaggy tapered abdomen forward to 2/3 the hook shank length to in front of the wire raps. Tie-off and trim.
6. Wrap rib forward in 4 or 5 open wraps and tie off and trim.
7. Dub a robust thorax saving room for the hackle and a neat head. The thorax should be thicker than the tapered abdomen.
8. On hook sizes #12 and larger strip fibers from one side of the hackle and tie-in by the tip. Make one turn of hackle, tie-off and build a small neat head. Whip finish and cement head from the bottom.
9. On hook sizes #10 - #18 pick out guard hairs to represent legs.

Go fishing,  
-Bob Foster