



January 2023
FLY OF THE MONTH
"The Hackled Comparadun"



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Hendrickson Hackled Comparadun

While the Comparadun is a wonderful fly for selective trout it's not a great floater. This fly is a guide favorite on Michigan's Ausable River at Hendrickson time. A few turns of hackle behind the deer hair enhances the floatation, making it a viable choice for float trips. The size and color can be varied to imitate mayflies found anywhere.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO SEE THE TYING VIDEO

MATERIALS

Hook:	Standard dry fly #10-#16
Thread:	Gray
Wing:	Deer Hair dyed dun, or natural deer hair
Tail:	Dun hackle or microfibrils split
Body:	Badger dubbing or Adams Super Fine
Hackle:	Dun



1. Start the thread 1/6" behind the eye and wind it to the halfway point on the hook. Then wrap it forward to the ¼ mark, halfway back to the eye.



2. Mount a cleaned and stacked bundle of deer hair, tips forward, on top of the hook. Bind it down with 6 turns rearward, then trim the butts at an angle to form a taper. Wind the thread back to the bend of the hook. The wing should be shank length or a bit longer.



3. Dub a short piece of thread and create a dubbing ball at the bend with x-wraps. Wind the thread forward to just behind the wing. Tie in 8-10 strands of hackle and bind them down halfway to the bend.



4. Divide the hackles evenly and spread them apart. Hold the near bundle angled down slightly on your side of the hook and wrap back to the dubbing ball. Thread torque should take the far fibers down, but if not, coax them along as you take the thread back. Each set of tails should bisect the dubbing ball vertically when you're done. Adjust as necessary.



5. Dub the thread and wrap it forward to just behind the wing, forming the body. It should taper slightly from back to front. To accomplish this, it's preferable to dub the thread finely and evenly along its length. Then overwrap as necessary to form the taper. You may, of course, dub the taper onto the thread to begin with, but I've had better results using the former method.



6. Tie in a hackle leaving space behind the wing in which to wind it. Bind it down forward, both behind and in front of the wing.



7. Wind the hackle forward to the back of the wing. Secure the tip there by trapping it with turns of thread behind, in front, and behind the stem. Trap it at least twice. As you're trapping, hold the tip up with the left hand under tension. Post the thread in front of the wing.



8. Dub the thread and complete the thorax in front of the wing. Whip finish and cut the thread. Hold the hackle tip up and trim it by opening the tips of the scissors and pushing them through the base of the stem.



9. Trim the hackle flat on the bottom.



10. Verify that the deer hair looks like this from the front. It should form at least a 180-degree spread.

Editors Notes: Comments from the editor.

Fly of the Month: Do you know someone who you think should be featured in the Fly of the Month? If so, feel free to refer them. If you have a camera and computer, you can write a Fly of the Month article to honor your favorite tier tying their best creation. For details contact the Fly Tying Group at ftg@flyfishersinternational.org.

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