



THE CANADIAN TUBE FLY COMPANY

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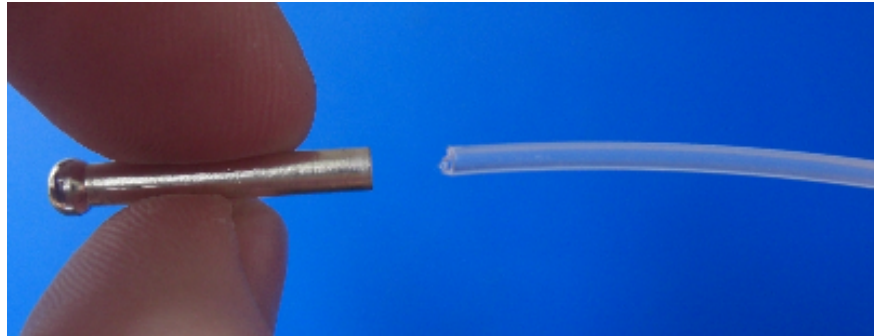
Russian Intruder

A fly by Stuart Anderson

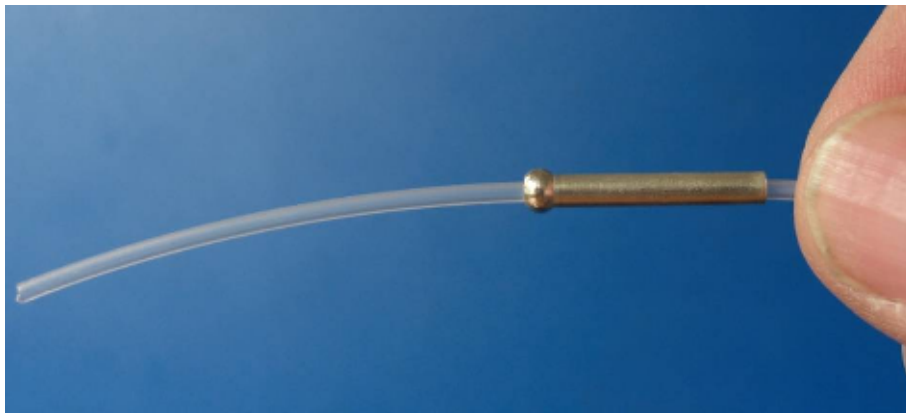
I've had many requests to list a step by step for this series of flies. The Russian Bullet style of tying was originated by the late Juri Shumakov. He used a series of cones on a plastic tube that had fur and feathers tied in between each cone. This style has long proven to be successful. Intruder style flies have also proven themselves winners for both salmon and steelhead. Now available in countless variations, these flies consistently out fish many others. I have combined both these ways of tying into a pattern combining the best attributes of both styles.



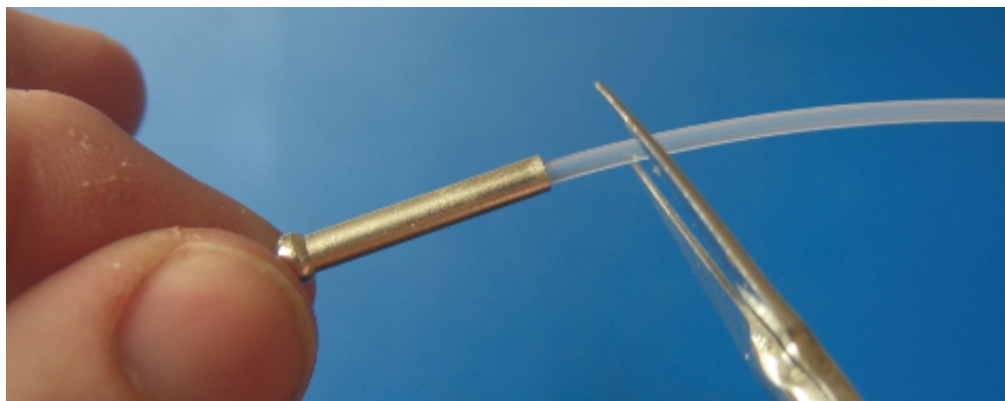
The tying of all Russian Intruder flies is not difficult. Most of the steps are repeated three times, with the basic sequence of materials going on the same way after each cone. Let's see how it's tied from start to finish.



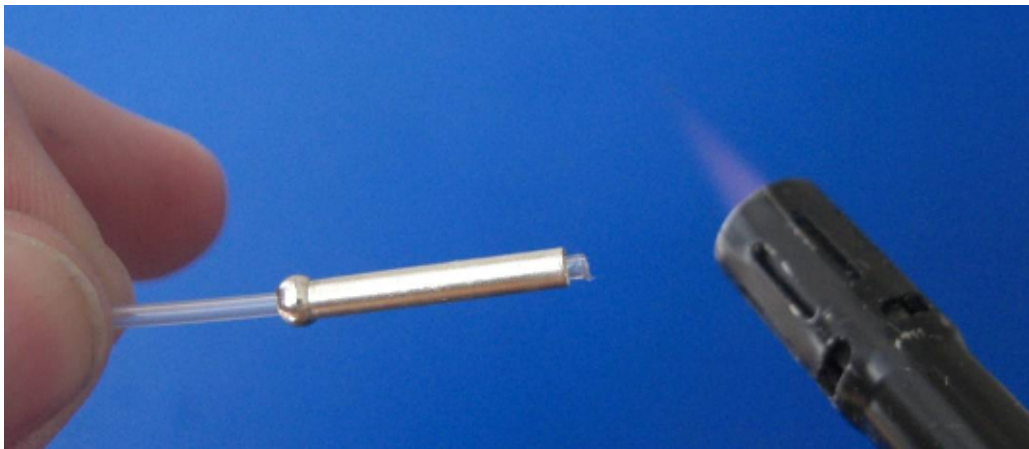
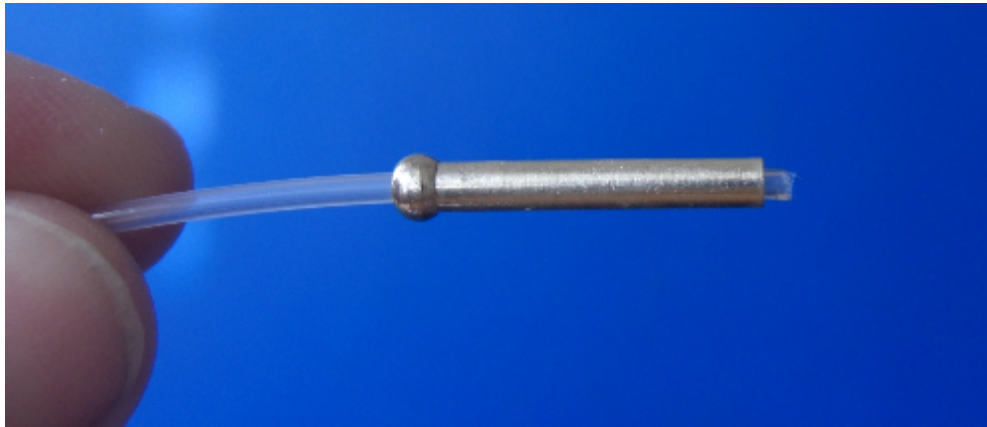
We like to use a Nubby tube as the base of this fly, the way the ball holds up the first wrapped hackles give the fly some bulk. You will need to cut a 3 inch (approximately) piece of inner liner tube. Insert it into the Nubby Tube.



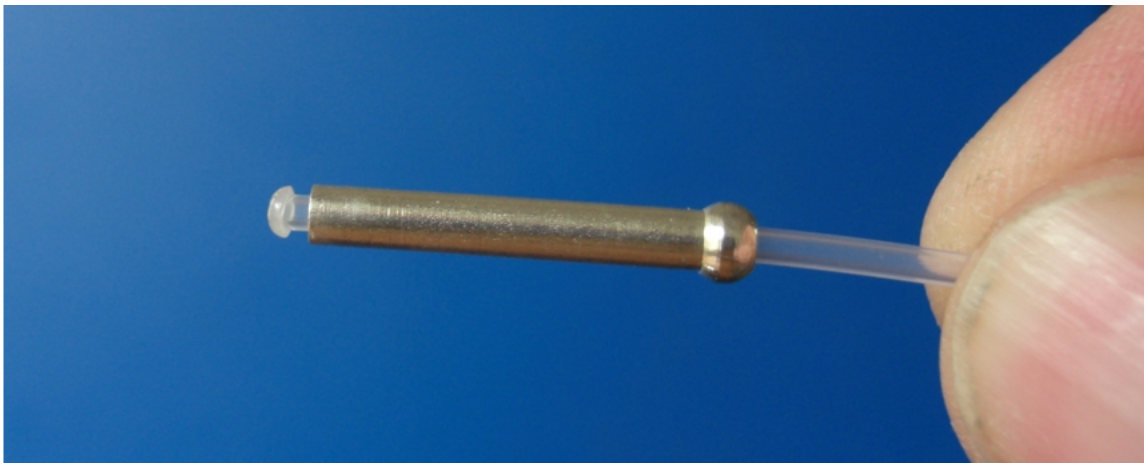
The inner lining tube extending from the front will be where all of the cones will be added and the tying be done.



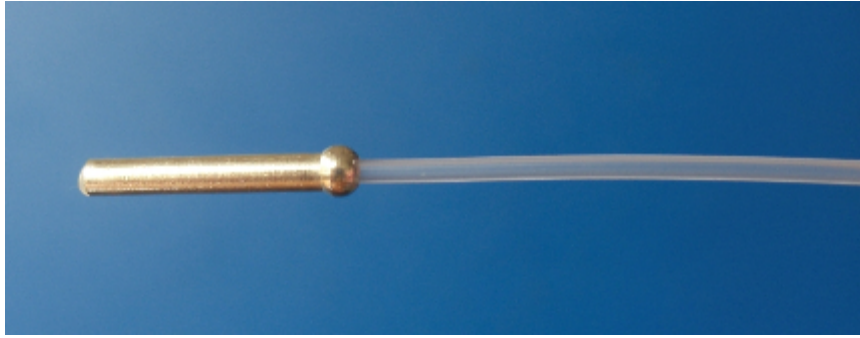
Cut the inner liner tube leaving a 1/16 of an inch extending behind the Nubby Tube.



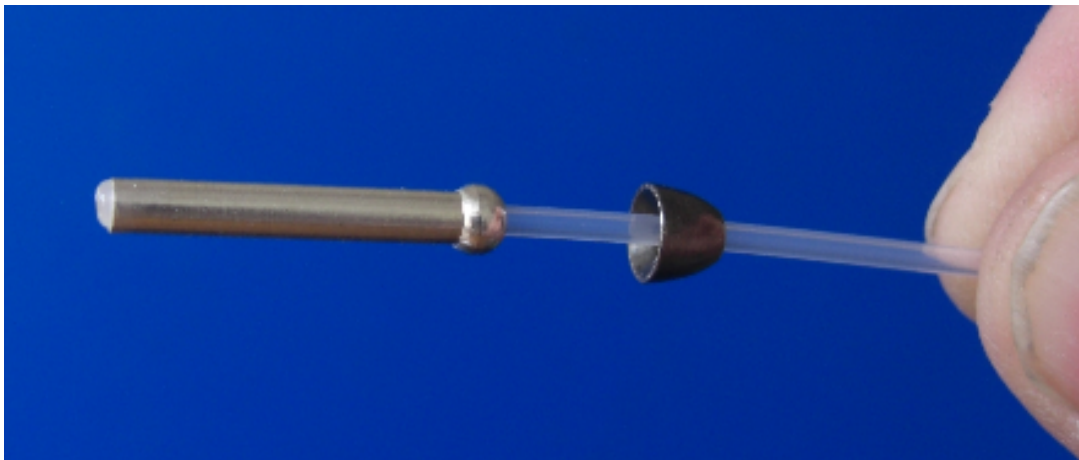
Using an open flame, melt a lip in the inner lining tube. Be careful not to put the tube directly in the flame.



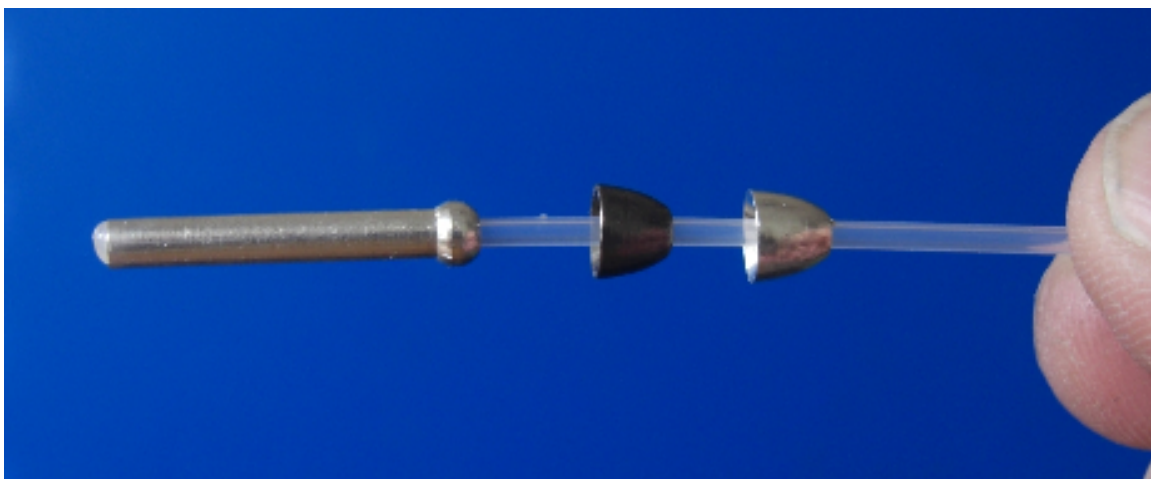
A nice lip is formed that holds the Nubby tube onto the lining tube.

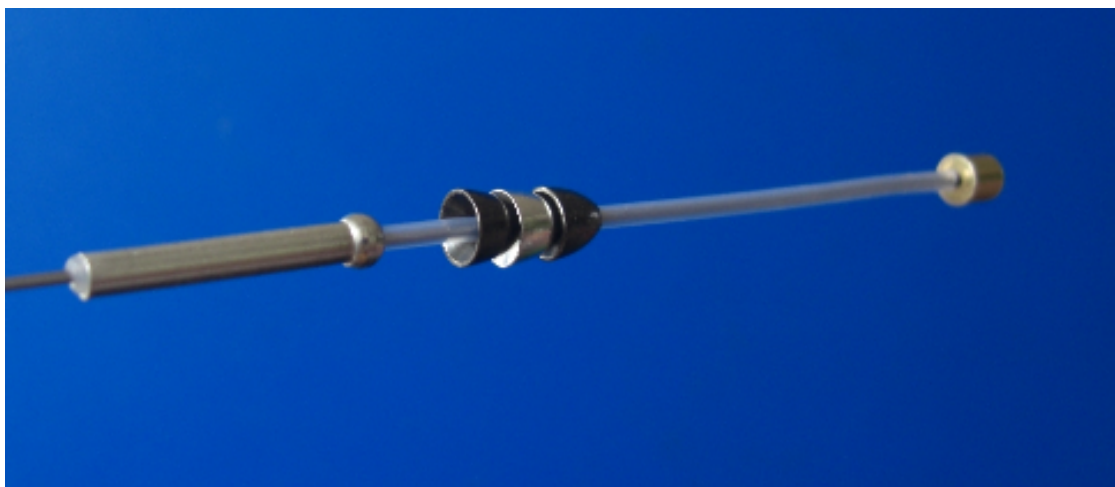
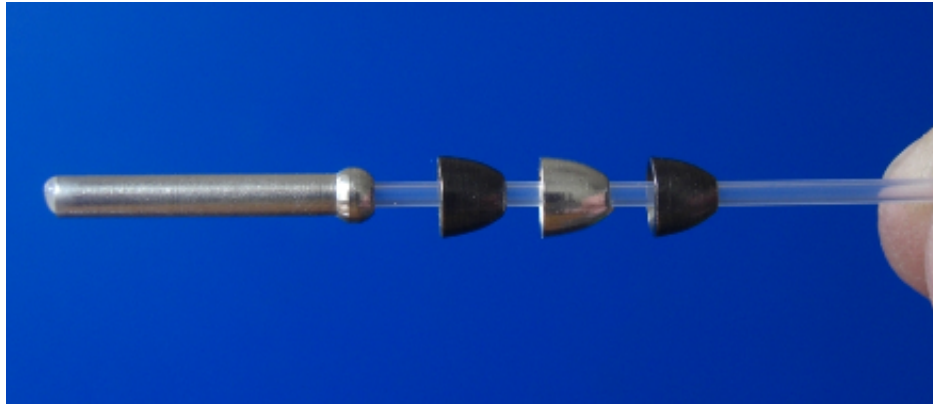


You are now ready to add your cones.

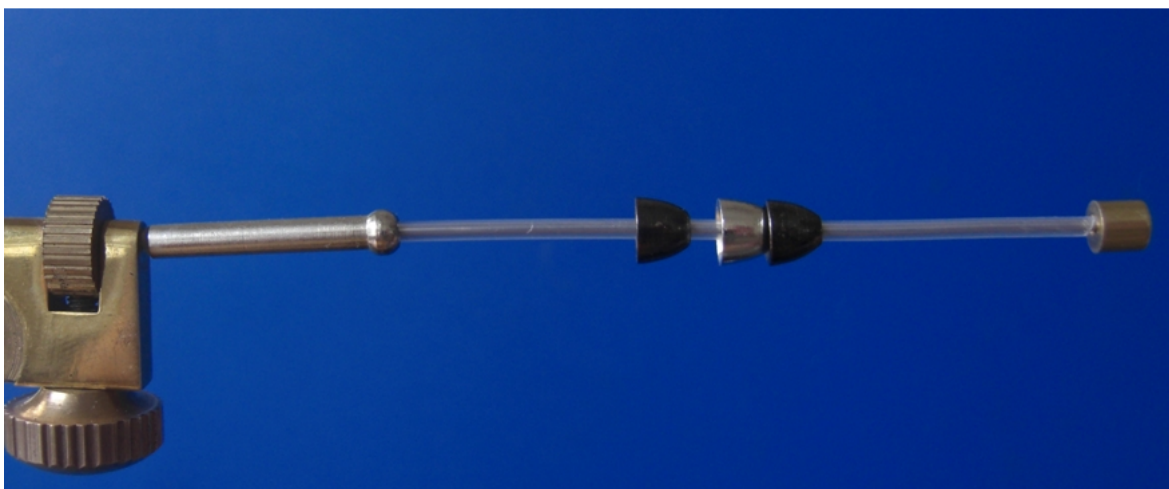


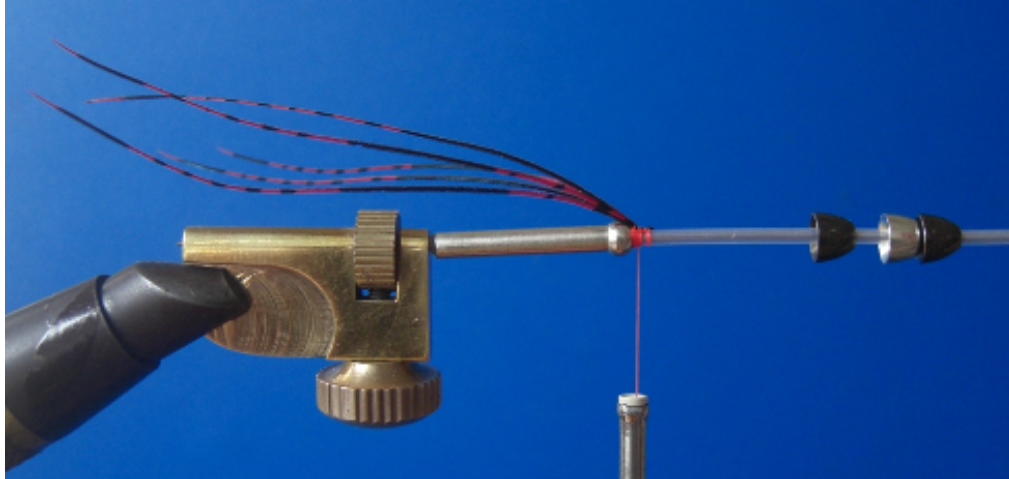
I like to add metallic cones, though coloured ones are also acceptable. I usually alternate finishes, in this case a gunsmoke tube on either end with a silver one in the middle.



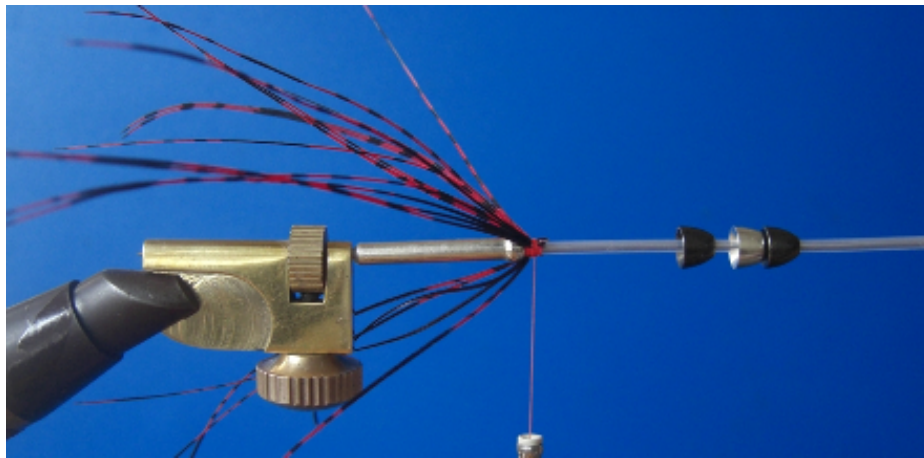


Slip your cone onto your mandrel, you'll notice that the cones just "hang loose" until you need to incorporate them into the tying.

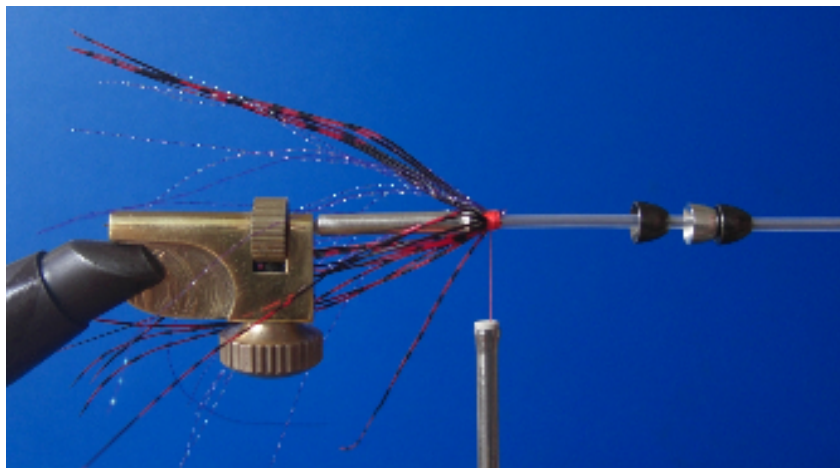




Tie on just in front of the ball on the Nubby Tube. Tie in 5 or 6 strands of Lady Amherst tail fibers. Be sure to separate the fibers from one another.



Rotate your tube and tie in two more clumps of Lady Amherst.



In two different clumps, tie in a few strands of purple Crystal Flash.



Tie in a pink hackle and wrap it forward.



Tie in a purple hackle and wrap forward.



Tie off the purple hackle. Be sure not to make a head or a large lump of tying thread. You want the cone to press in tight and compress the hackle down.



Whip finish the thread, glue the “head”, and tie off. Slide down the first cone.





Tie on again and repeat the steps of Lady Amherst, Purple Crystal Flash, then pink and purple hackles.





Just like before, tie a “head”, glue it, and tie off. Slide the next cone forward and tie back on.



Repeat the steps of Lady Amherst, Purple Crystal Flash, then pink and purple hackles.





Again, tie a “head”, glue it, and tie off. Slide the next cone forward and tie back on. We have sometimes topped at this point and had a pattern that is finished with a cone. Usually though, we add one more layer....the steelhead seem to like it 😊



Tie on again and repeat the steps of Lady Amherst, Purple Crystal Flash, then pink and purple hackles.





Slightly wrap back and compress the purple hackle. You do not have a cone to add this time so you need to sweep everything back slightly.



Add a few strands of your favourite flashabou. I like to use a mix of purple, red, and silver on this fly.



Tie in a large pink guinea fowl feather from the tip. The bigger the feather the better.



Wrap the guinea fowl and tie back.



Add Jungle Cock to both sides. I like to have the “eye” of the Jungle Cock ending up about halfway down the fly.



Take the fly off of your mandrel and glue the head.



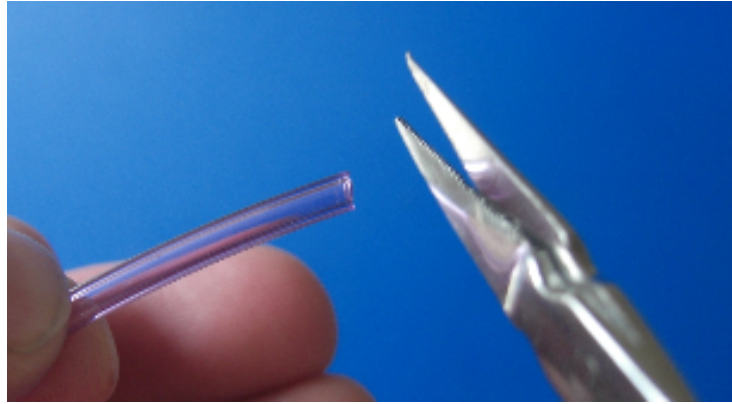
Cut off the excess inner liner tube. You need to leave 1/16 of an inch.



Burn a nice lip at the front of the fly.



You can see that if you have burnt the lip properly you end up with a nice looking head.



Cut a long piece of transparent purple Flex Tube. I also like to use hot pink Flex Tube on this pattern.



Carefully pull back the feather and flash to expose the butt end of the original Nubby Tube.



Squeeze on the Flex Tube so that 1/8 of an inch is on the Back of the Nubby Tube. The flex tube does not need any glue, it holds permanently on the fly.



Carefully cut the Flex Tube to the desired length. I usually go with about a 2 inch piece. Be careful not to slice any of your feathers or flash.



Add your Hook. I like to use a size #2 Partridge Nordic Tube Fly Hook. You'll notice that I like to put the hook point up, this is all personal preference though.



Here are a few other colour and slightly different tying variations.



Stuart Anderson,
February 2009