



Tying the Rainbow Perdigon

by Carl Haensel photos by the author

Fly fishing during the winter months in Pennsylvania often means fishing subsurface. This easy-to-tie pattern is excellent for wintertime trout fishing anywhere you need to get deep underwater. Originating in competitive Spanish fly fishing events, Perdigon nymphs have become popular worldwide for their simplicity and effectiveness. Tiers should note that bead sizes are variable based on the desired weight of the fly. Since this fly sinks quickly, I like to carry a variety in different bead sizes and weights. Additional weight can also be added by wrapping on lead-free wire underneath the pearl tinsel. Anglers looking to try Euro or Czech nymphing methodologies will find these flies particularly useful. Try fishing Perdigon nymphs in runs, deep slots near cover or other spots with quick changes in depth in the stream. Keep a tight line and lower your nymph into the water just upstream of where you think the fish are holding. Follow the fly downstream through the water with your rod tip and wait for a strike. You'll find these flies get down quickly, and trout love them. ☐



Cast flies like the Rainbow Perdigon into deep winter trout streams like Big Spring Creek, Cumberland County, for excellent attempts at nice trout.

Tying the Rainbow Perdigon Materials

Hook: Jigged nymph hook in sizes 12-18

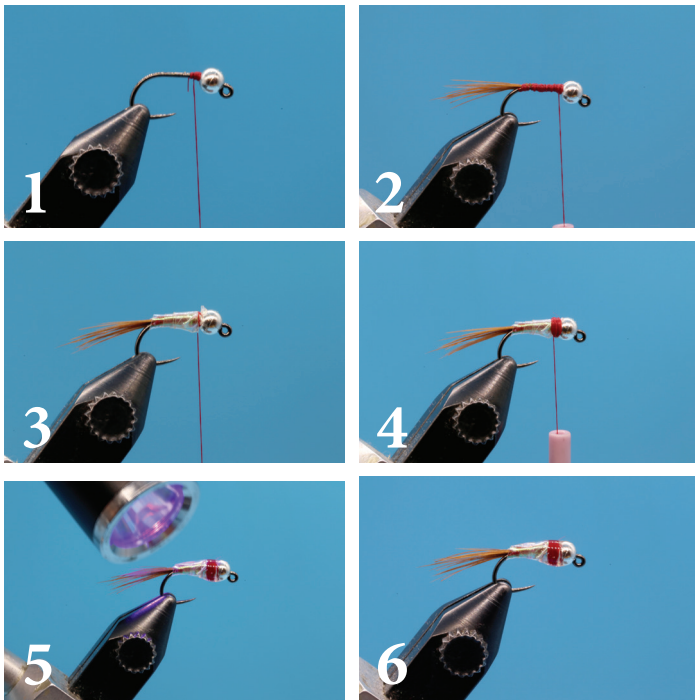
Bead: Slotted silver tungsten bead sized to hook

Thread: Red 8/0 or similar

Tail: Grizzly hackle fibers

Body: Wrapped large pearl tinsel

Glue: UV resin cure glue



- 1 Place the bead on the hook, and attach the thread behind the bead.
- 2 Wrap the thread to the bend of the hook, and tie in the tail. Wrap the thread back to the bead to keep the body of the nymph level.
- 3 Attach the tinsel behind the bead. Wrap the thread over the tinsel back to the bend of the hook. Then, wrap the tinsel back to the bead at the front and tie it off.
- 4 Wrap a small spot of red thread just behind the bead, and whip finish the fly.
- 5 Place a UV resin cure glue on the body and taper it to the bead. Rotate the fly and shine a UV flashlight on the fly to cure the glue.
- 6 Clear the eye of any excess UV resin cure glue.