

# Dougherty's Hellgramaniac

By: Brian Dougherty

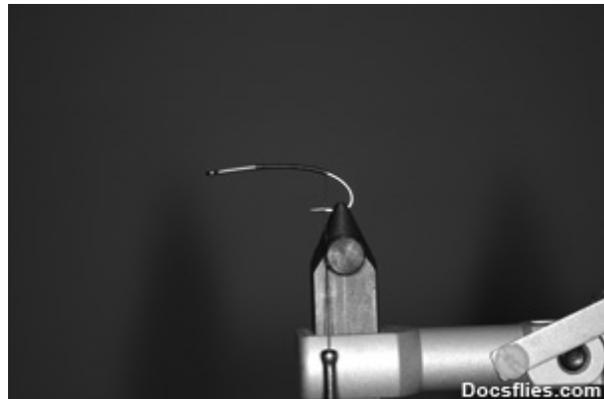


## **Materials:**

Hook: Size 6 Tiemco TMC 200R or similar  
Thread: Color-matching thread  
Legs: Olive rabbit  
Underbody: Flat spooled lead or lead wire  
Body: Grey rabbit dubbing  
Lateral filaments (gills): Brown size 14 Whiting 100 hackle  
Caseback: 1/8" Light olive Scudback  
Rib: Fine copper tinsel wire  
Tail: Pheasant tail

## **STEP 1:**

Using the thread, tie a solid thread-base to the hook. A solid base will help prevent materials from rotating around the hook once the fly is finished. Gluing between each following step is optional and dependent on the fly tyer's personal preference.



## **STEP 2:**

Cut 2 sections of lead wire and attach to either side of the hook. Tying-in the lead to either side of the fly provides both weight and a wider abdomen for the fly. The placement of the lead should still allow the tail to be tied-in. Apply glue to thread wraps to secure the lead. Allow the glue to dry.



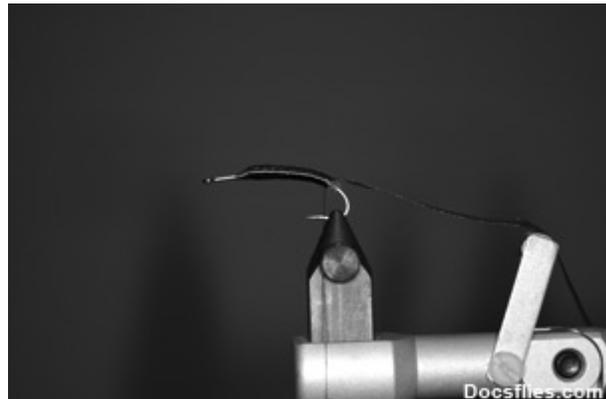
**STEP 3:**

Build up a small ball of dubbing towards the bend of the hook. Next, tie-in the pheasant tail. Several pheasant tail featherettes (fibers/filaments) may be used. The small ball of dubbing will help fan-out the pheasant tail.



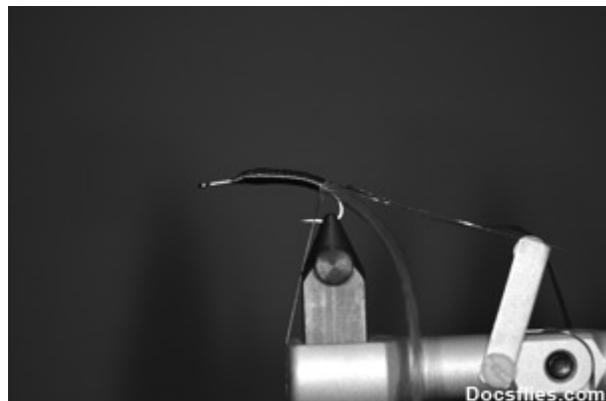
**STEP 4:**

Tie-in the Scudback. The Scudback should be tied-in far enough back so that once the Scudback is pulled forward, all wraps from the previous step are hidden. Additionally, the tag-end of the Scudback may be secured by tying forward the length of the lead. This will prevent an unnatural build-up of thread at the base of the tail.



**STEP 5:**

Tie-in one small wrap of dubbing (optional) just forward of the Scudback and tie-in the copper wire and brown hackle. The small wrap of dubbing is optional but will help prevent the copper wire from rolling off the abdomen on its very first wrap around the abdomen.



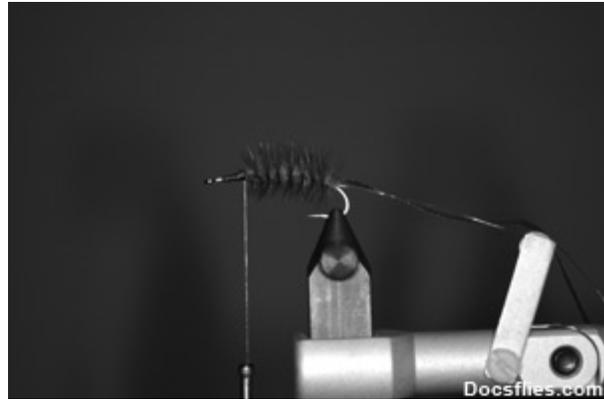
**STEP 6:**

Apply approximately 4-5" of dubbing to your thread. Apply glue to the abdomen and while still wet wrap the dubbing forward. Because it will take the glue a few minutes to dry, all steps requiring wrapping materials around the abdomen will be further secured once the glue dries.



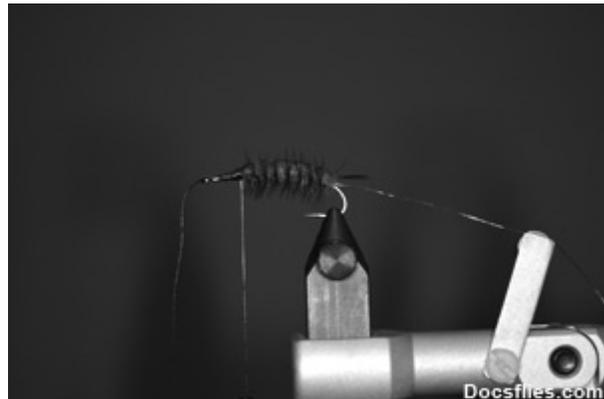
**STEP 7:**

Wrap the hackle forward and secure.



**STEP 8:**

Trim the top of the hackle off. Bring forward the Scudback laying it overtop the freshly trimmed hackle. Secure it with a couple of thread wraps. The bottom of the hackle will be trimmed, but only after the fly is finished and can be removed from the vise.



**STEP 9:**

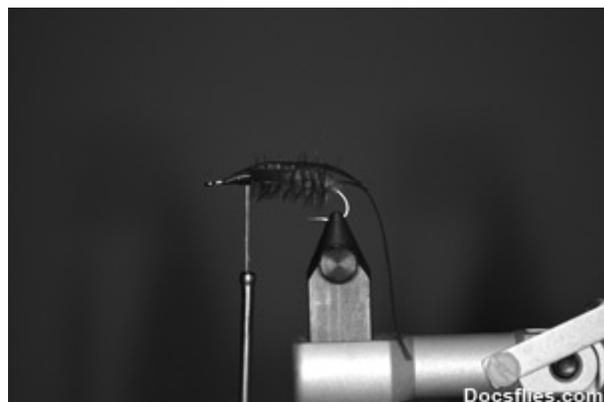
Wrap the copper wire forward and secure.



**STEP 10:**

Lay the Scudback back over itself and wrap over it. This will form the wingcase or thorax of the fly. Next, tie-in a small bundle of rabbit on either side followed by one wrap of dubbing. The rabbit will become the fly's legs.

A single partridge feather may be substituted for the rabbit. See Additional Comments below.



### STEP 11:

Repeat Step 10 two more times so there's a total of three small bundles of rabbit on either side of the fly.



### STEP 12:

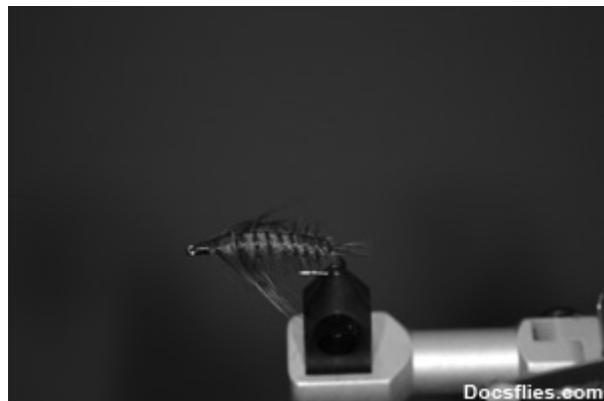
Once the legs are tied-in pull the Scudback ovetop forming the wingcase of the fly. Make a tapered head, whip-finish and trim the thread.



### STEP 13:

Finish the fly by trimming the hackle on the underside of the fly. Apply glue to the head.

The fly is finished and ready to be fished.



### Additional Comments:

1. The color choice of grey and olive in the original version has proven to be successful. These colors darken once they become wet. More traditional choices of all black or all brown are also possible.
2. A single partridge feather may be used as a substitute to using rabbit for the legs. Tie the feather in on top of the fly (finished side down leaving the stem or calamus unsecured). Apply dubbing to the thorax. Carefully bend the feather over the dubbing displaying the finished or colored side up. Pull forward the Scudback ovetop the partridge. The partridge's featherettes/filaments will become both the left and right legs.

Dougherty's Hellgramaniac is a very effective hellgrammite pattern. Try it for yourself.