



**March 2022
FLY OF THE MONTH
"Frank Sawyer's
Pheasant Tail Nymph"**



Edition: March 2022
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Photographed By: Jerry Coviello
Creator: Frank Sawyer

Frank Sawyer's Pheasant Tail Nymph

Frank Sawyer's was the originator of the Pheasant Tail Nymph (PTN), he was employed by The Fishing Association in Wiltshire, England for forty-one years as the Riverkeeper along the upper Avon, the only materials used to tie his fly are a 2X long nymph hook, usually in sizes 16 and 18 to match , long pheasant tail fibers from the center tail of a male pheasant and very fine copper wire, Frank's description of the copper wire had to be a little ticker than a human hair.

Here is a video of Frank Sawyer tying the Pheasant Tail Nymph, film is from 1950 no sound.

<https://youtu.be/416Os9V84n8>

Materials

Hook: 2X Nymph Hook 14—18

Tail: Male Ringneck Pheasant Center tail

Underbody: Extra Fine Copper Wire.

Abdomen: Extra Fine Copper wire wrapped with Male Ringneck Pheasant Center Tail fibers

Thorax: Male Ringneck Pheasant Center Tail Fibers over a larger wrapped copper wire shaped thorax.

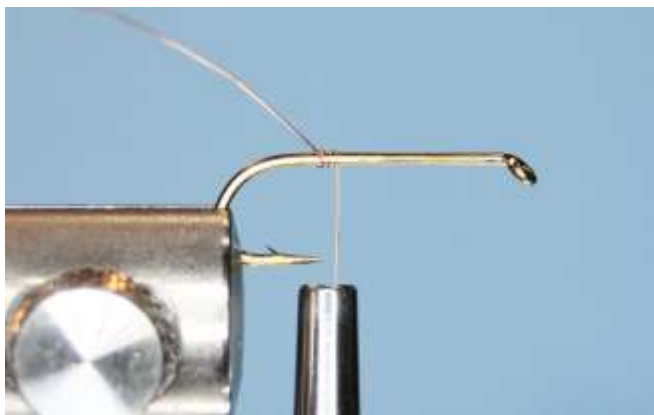
Wingcase: Male Ringneck Pheasant Center Tail Fibers folded over 2 times



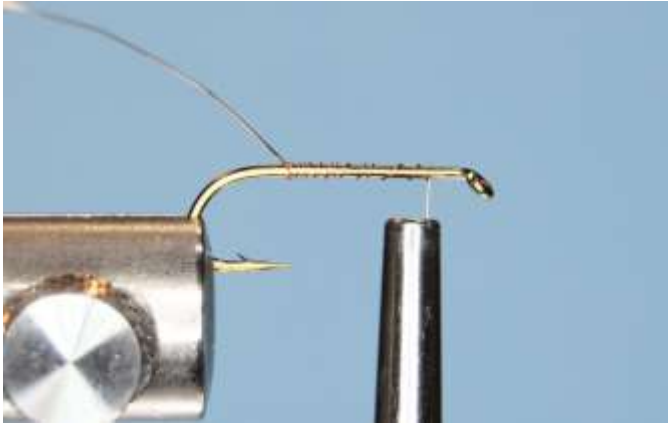
Here in the States when we think of the Pheasant Tail Nymph, we are familiar with Al Troth's version of brown thread, pheasant tail fibers, copper wire rib and peacock herl thorax with legs. Also known as the American version Both flies work very well.



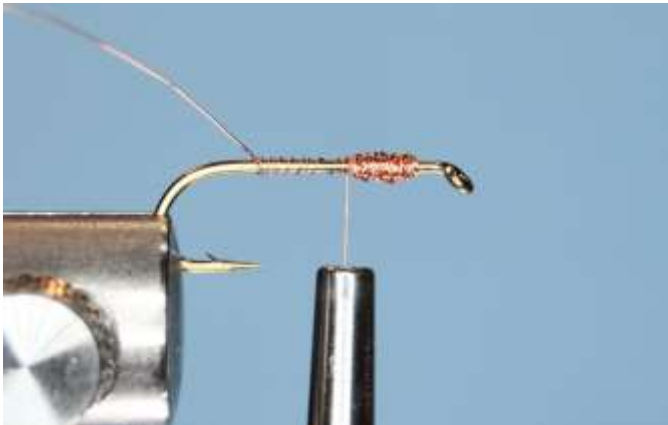
1. Place hook in your vise



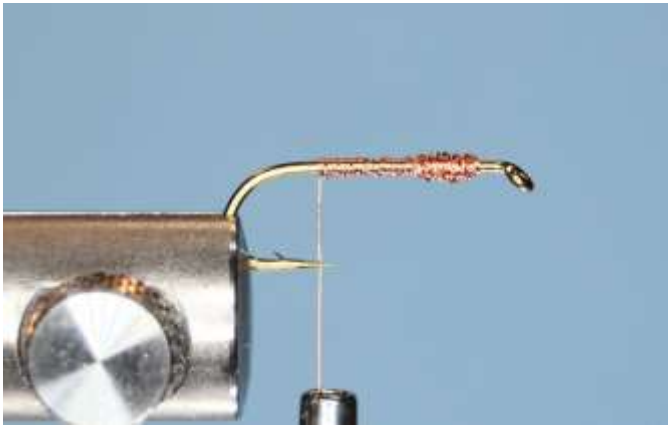
2. Tie in the Extra Fine Copper wire at the bend of the hook



3. Bring the copper wire towards the eye of the hook and stop one eye length behind the eye



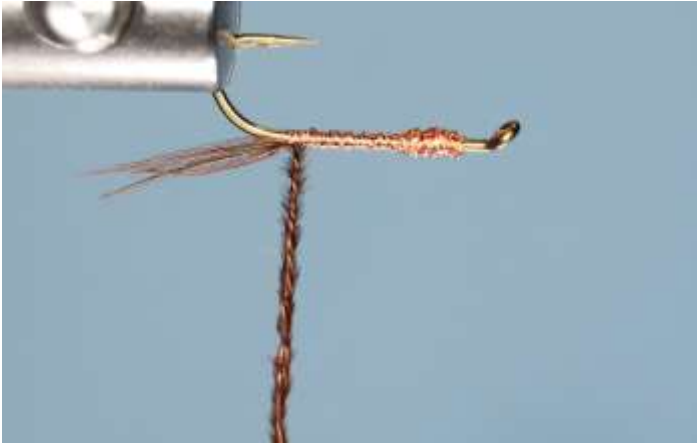
4. Build the thorax shape with the copper wire



5. Wrap your copper wire back towards the bend of the hook and wiggle the copper wire tag to break off.



6. Tie in 4 strands of Pheasant Tail fibers at the bend of the hook using the copper wire to bind them to the hook



7. Twist the pheasant tail fibers with the copper wire, forming a dubbing noodle with the copper wire and pheasant tail fibers (Rotated the hook for wrapping ease)



8. Wrap the copper wire and pheasant tail noodle to form the abdomen. If you run out of the pheasant tail fibers you can always add more.



9. Wrap over the thorax to behind the eye. Stopping one eye length behind the eye



10. Bring the copper wire behind the thorax and fold over the pheasant tail fibers to start forming the wingcase



11. Bring the copper wire behind the eye, one eye length behind the eye



12. Fold the pheasant tail fibers over the thorax and secure behind the eye of the hook with the copper wire



13. Whipfinish



14. Add a drop of head cement to the Wingcase. The fly is complete.

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.

Please note: The demonstration you are viewing makes no claim, implied or otherwise, that the presenter or demonstrator of the fly pattern was the original creator of the fly. This is the guest tier's version of this fly and it may differ from the creator's or other versions and variations.

Please Credit FFI Website or FFI Clubwire with any use of the pattern.
You can direct any questions or comments to
ftg@flyfishersinternational.org.