

Humble Bumble Variant

Original pattern By Ulf Hagstrom



Humble Bumble

● Materials

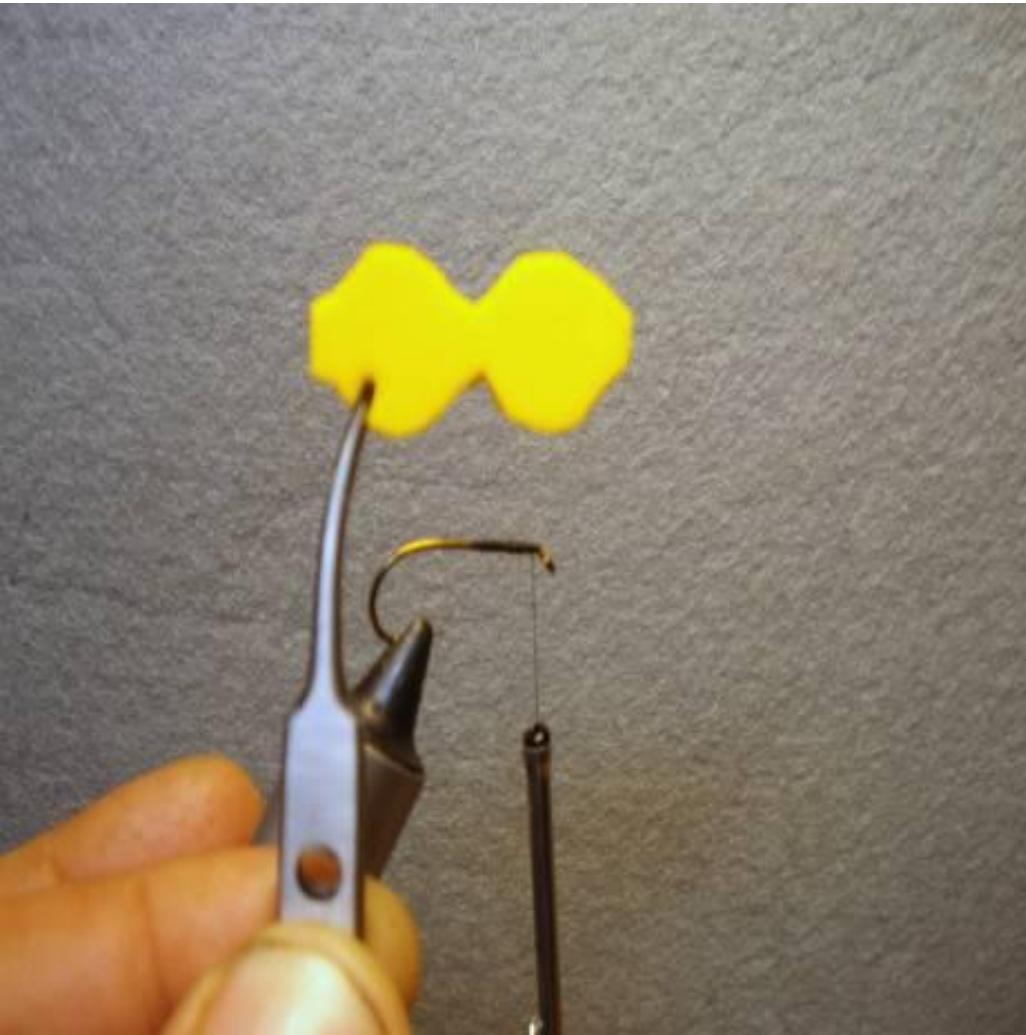
- Hook : Mustad 3399 size 10
- Thread : Black size 8/0
- Wings : Swiss straw Black
- Body : craft foam and furry foam
- Legs : craft wire and black hackle fibers
- Antennae : Japanese Nymph Legs

Humble Bumble



- Tie on at the eye of the hook

Humble Bumble



- Fold a piece of craft foam and cut a round section out of it to resemble this piece shown. Then cut in half leaving a tag on both ends.

Humble Bumble



- The two pieces should now measure 10mm wide X 12mm long. Now advance your thread to the bend of the hook.

Humble Bumble



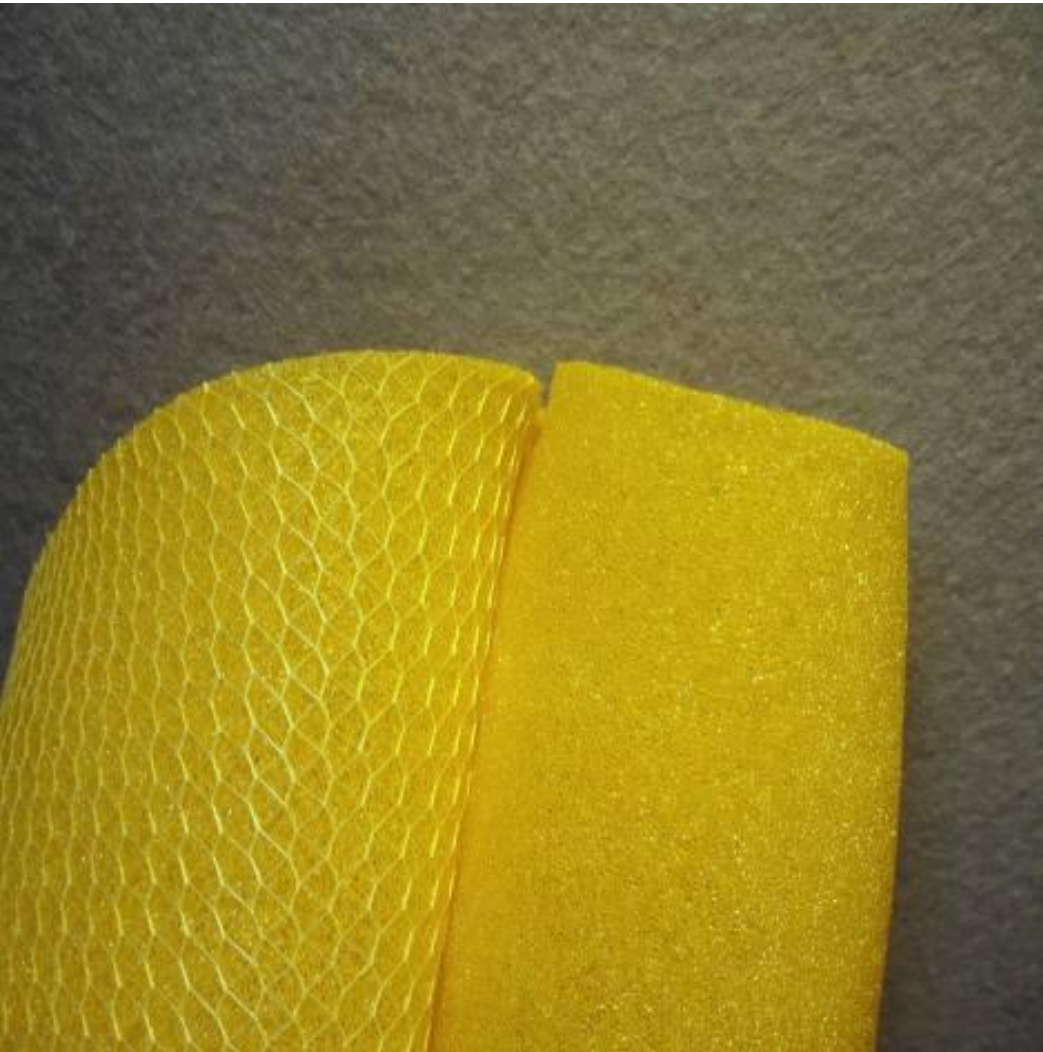
- Tie in at the bend of the hook. One piece above and below.

Humble Bumble



- Move your thread forward to the middle of the hook and tie down both pieces of foam.
- Notice how the foam is bunched up . This gives us a more rounded abdomen.

Humble Bumble



- Separate a piece of fury foam as shown.

Humble Bumble



- Cut two sections from the side with out batting twice as long and twice as wide as the hook w/ foam . Or 35mm X 25mm.

Humble Bumble



- Tie in both pieces at the bend of the hook behind the foam . Bottom section first . As you tie in the upper section ensure it's edges are outside of the lower section . Slide your thread forward just in front of the foam and tie in the furry foam.

Humble Bumble



- At this stage pull the pieces of furry foam toward the rear of the hook and place several thread wraps in front of them to form a ledge to help keep them out of the way.

Humble Bumble



- We will whip finish the fly at this point and remove from the vise. Now adjust your vise to hold the craft wire as we will prepare our legs in the vise.

Humble Bumble



- Cut three strands of craft wire. Front legs at 25mm middle legs at 32mm and hind legs at 35mm.

Humble Bumble



- After stripping the plastic coating off the wire. Place the wire in the vise and start your thread.
- Note: spider thread or another very small diameter thread should be used in place of the 8/0 used here .

Humble Bumble



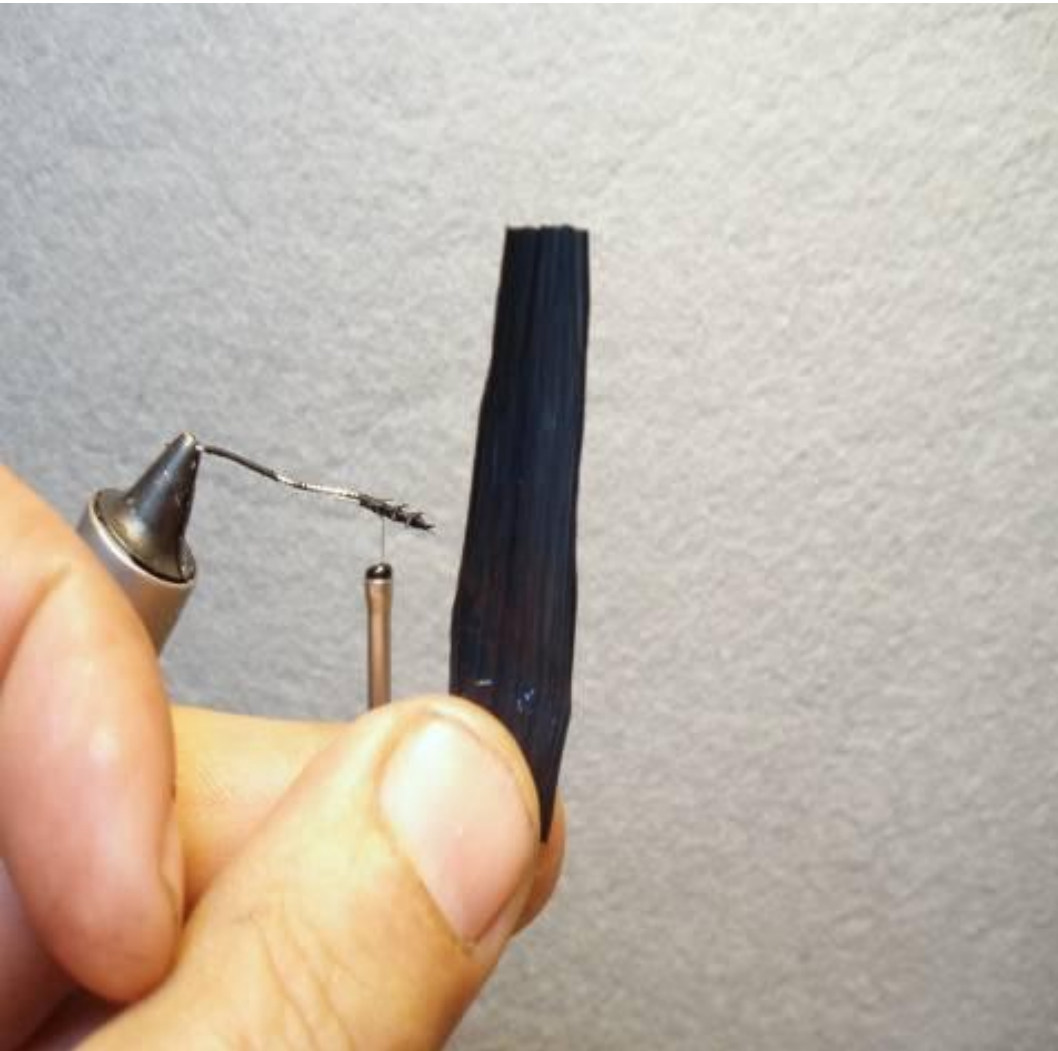
- Strip a hackle feather twice as long as your wire section. You may have to darken it with a marker as you will remove most of the dye when you strip it.

Humble Bumble



- Tie in two pieces along the end of the wire allowing them to over hang a couple of millimeters. Then tie in three 4mm pieces across the hook with a figure 8 wrap.

Humble Bumble



- Trim the hackle barbs to $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Next cut a two inch piece of Swiss straw and tear it in half vertically

Humble Bumble



- Move your thread 2mm past your hackle barb toward the vise. Then fold the Swiss straw around the wire at one end and tie in place with two or three wraps.

Humble Bumble



- Move your thread about 5mm toward the vise. Fold the Swiss straw forward and secure with a few wraps to form the lower leg section.

Humble Bumble



- Move the thread forward again another 5mm and repeat. For the last segment move the thread back to the vise and form the last and largest leg segment. Whip finish and remove from the vise.

Humble Bumble

- Complete six leg segments as shown.



Humble Bumble



- We will color the abdomen at this point. Using a black felt tip marker.
- I chose the coloration of the Sanora bumble bee. Although you may choose to color it after a bumble bee native to your area.

Humble Bumble



- Tie on anew and work your thread back to the foam where we will tie on the hind legs as close to the foam as possible .

Humble Bumble



- In the same fashion tie on the middle and front legs.

Humble Bumble



- Using a piece of Swiss straw about three inches long twist into a bowtie shape.

Humble Bumble



- Cut the bowtie in half to form separate wings. With curved scissors form wings to shape.

Humble Bumble



- After shading wings with a black marker. Fold upper half of furry foam forward. With a bodkin place a hole thru the furry foam where you would have the wings emerge.

Humble Bumble



- Place the tips of your tweezers thru the holes you made from underneath and pull the wings thru and tie down. Next tie two pieces of Japanese Nymph Legs for antennae. Now pull your furry foam forward and tie off just behind the head

Humble Bumble



- Now form you thread head. And whip finish.

Humble Bumble



- Finishing touches include a black stripe at the abdomen \ thorax junction and a large black band in the middle of the thorax where the wings are set. You may also add some epoxy for eyes on the thread head,

Humble Bumble

