



Materials

Hook: TMC 2457 or 2487 or equivalent, Sizes 16-26

Head: Bead of appropriate color (metal, tungsten, or glass)

Body: Tying thread

Collar (Optional) – Dubbing to match thread color, ostrich herl or peacock herl

Rib: Fine or extra-fine wire

Tying a Zebra Midge

*Instructions Provided by Kyle Hand
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Step 1: Debarb the hook and place the bead on the hook. Use an appropriate size bead to match the hook. You can find charts on the Internet or [e-mail me](#), and I will get you one. The proper way to thread the bead onto the hook is to put the point of the hook through the smaller of the two holes in the bead and simply move it around the bend to the eye of the hook. I do this by placing the bead in my hand or bead tweezers, placing the hook in a pair of hemostats, and simply threading the bead onto the hook. On a glass bead, it will not matter which end you go through as they are the same size.

Step 2: Place your beaded hook into the vise and attach your tying thread directly behind the bead. Build up a small reservoir of thread behind the bead to keep the bead in place.

Step 3: Cut a length of fine or extra-fine wire and attach it with your tying thread behind the bead on the far side of the hook. Continue wrapping your thread in side-by-side wraps, overlapping the wire as you wrap to the rear of the hook. I actually will wrap my thread down around the bend a little on this fly.

Step 4: Simply build a body of tying thread by working your thread to the front of the fly to just behind the bead. If you want a fatter body, simply wrap your thread back and forth from front to back to front as many times as you need to build the tapered body you desire.

Step 5: When you get the body done, spiral wrap your wire forward to just behind the bead, tie it off and clip it off. You should get 5 wraps of wire.

Step 6: Take a small amount of dubbing, usually the same color as the thread body, and dub a small collar behind the bead. This will help hold the bead in place and will hide the wire tie down point.

Step 7: Whip finish your thread either behind the bead or move the thread under the bead and whip finish in front of the bead, whichever you want to do.

I usually tie this fly in black, red, olive, gray, and brown. Vary the type of bead (i.e., silver or gold or colored metal or glass seed bead). This fly works well below the indicator or as a dropper fly.

Now tie a dozen or so and go fishing.

