



Materials

Hook: Any straight-eye dry fly hook (TMC 101) sizes 14-20

Abdomen: Tying thread, preferably UTC 70, 6/0, or 8/0. Color is up to the tier.

Head: Formed with tying thread. The color can either match or contrast the rear hump of thread.

Body coating: Epoxy, Hard as Hull, Hard Head, UV Knot Sense

Hackle: Good-quality dry fly hackle.

Wings (if desired): Organza, Z-Lon or some other synthetic material for the wing. If you use them, tie them in prior to tying in the hackle.

Tying a TransparANT

Instructions provided by Kyle Hand

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Step 1: Build up the abdomen with thread on the rear half of the hook until it is about $\frac{3}{4}$ the final size. Whip finish, cut, and remove the thread at mid-shank. Reattach the thread for the front bump just behind the eye of the hook. It is imperative that the area between the abdomen and head remain bare for wrapping your hackle. Build up the head area directly behind the eye of the hook to about $\frac{3}{4}$ the final size. Cut and remove the tying thread.

Step 2: Mix a small amount of epoxy (or other material to harden the body) and, using a bodkin, pick up enough epoxy to form the abdomen. While rotating the fly, feed the epoxy from the needle onto the body to cover the thread wraps and form a smooth surface. Make sure the thread wraps are covered uniformly as the epoxy will fill in any holes.

Step 3: To form the head, follow the same procedure as in Step 2. Do not allow the epoxy to flow into the eye of the hook or the open area in the middle of the two body segments. Rotate the fly for 4-5 minutes until the epoxy has hardened or place it into a rotary dryer to allow the epoxy to cure.

Step 4: When the fly has cured (usually no more than 30 minutes), reattach the thread and tie in the wings (if so desired); then attach the hackle for the legs just in front of the rear body segment.

Step 5: Wind the hackle once or twice, tie it off, and trim it (on the bottom). Whip finish the thread and cut it off.

Step 6: Tie a colony and go fishing. Vary the colors and sizes according to ants you have seen on the water. All black, black and red, cinnamon, black and cinnamon, etc.

