

## “TOP TO BOTTOM - BUILDING A MIDGE RIG”



### COPPER RED BUTT (Wes Wada)

A copper and holographic flash version of Brian Chan's Red Butt. Has been a very dependable pattern for local fishing.

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Hook: Standard scud or nymph hook to approximate a #14 shank length

Thread: Red or Black 8/0 or 6/0

Tag: Red Holographic tinsel

Abdomen: Black Holographic tinsel

Rib: Copper Wire, Brassie gauge

Thorax: Peacock Herl (UV2 or regular)

Beadhead: Copper 3/32" or 2.4mm

Breather Gills: Madeira Glamour Opal

Note: Also tied in a more standard black version using silver wire and a black nickel bead.



### WADA NINJA (Wes Wada)

A very popular original pattern that has color and shape-shifting features that attract fish. In its first season, it caught rainbows, brookies, kokanee, and Lahontan cutts. A big fish fly.

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Hook: Daiichi 1150 #12 (up eye, 1XH, 2XS scud hook - preferred)

Thread: Red or Black 8/0 or 6/0

Abdomen: Red Holographic tinsel and Mirage Opal tinsel

Rib: None. Segmentation comes from the tinsel

Thorax: Unbleached Orange-dyed Peacock Herl

Beadhead: Tungsten Black Nickel 3/32" or 2.4mm

Breather Gills: Madeira Glamour Opal



## Wes's NZ-cator System

In addition to the step-by-step instruction for the two fly patterns, there will be a digital presentation and demo about the latest recommended techniques to make and use *Wes Wada's NZ-cator system* for your midge rig and other strike indicator needs.

Materials are supplied to make the indicators in class, plus will give you enough of the recommended materials for at least a season of fishing. A larger full kit of materials and a tool will be available for purchase in class at \$8. Let me know if you plan to get one, and I will save it for you. (The kits - easily good for five seasons or more - may be available in the future at \$9 until gone.).

Finally, we will explore one way of making a two-fly rig, including the knots, a knot-making tool for a non-slip loop knot, and ways of storing ready made rigs. Even if you have never fished using a midge setup before, you will be ready and rigged to give it a try this season.

### WHY MIDGES (CHIRONOMIDS)?

Chironomids are the food source most available to fish throughout the year. Some studies say that the pupal and larval stages of these insects make up to 90% of a fish's diet. Chironomids are especially key to anglers in early season before mayfly, caddis and terrestrial hatches become a regular part of the fishing calendar. Although these are small imitations, large fish show no hesitation at all to feed on them. Adding chironomids to your fishing bag of tricks will extend your season and increase your catching opportunities both for stillwater and river fishing.

### TOOLS AND MATERIALS:

- All the materials are supplied. Spirit River is graciously providing the beads.
- Thanks also to Patient Angler for discounts on other materials.

### YOU WILL NEED:

1. Suggested threads are red or black: 8/0 or 6/0. Flat threads are best.
2. Your tying vise and normal tools. and cements.
3. A disposable cigarette lighter will be handy, but not necessary.
4. Some 4X, or both 4X and 5X tippet material to construct your own chironomid rig.

(Choose the size tippet for the fishery you frequent. For Crane Prairie, for example, 4X would be needed. Other waters may allow you to use a lighter and less visible tippet. Fluorocarbon is recommended.)

### QUESTIONS?

Call Wes Wada at 541-306-4316 (voice messaging)

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PLEASE VISIT THE FLY FOUNDRY SITE for more details: [www.flyfoundry.com](http://www.flyfoundry.com)