

# TYING CONVERTIBLE TUBE FLIES



## Convert - A - Damsel

A simple and effective pattern for any water. A new tube nymph tied by Tony Pagliei.



1. Slip Jct Tube on tube, and mount in tool; wrap jct tubing. Tie in tuft of olive chickabou over jct. tubing, then clump of olive ostrich herl for wingcase.



2. Dub around base of fiber groups; tie in olive hen saddle hackle. Bring thread forward and palmer hackle, about 2-3 turns.



3. Tie in dumbbell eye in front of hackle. Cover thread with dubbing. Bring herl wingcase forward and tie down in front of eyes. Whip finish and cement head. With razor, trim excess tube off front, and with butane lighter, melt back the tubing against thread to finish head.



4. Nymph Tail: Wrap thread base; tie in 4 ostrich herl strands, then wind forward furry foam or dubbing. Whip finish.



5. Buzzer Tail: Wrap thread base, and return thread to front of hook. Tie in 2 chickabou feathers behind hook eye. Whip finish, and cement head.



## Tube Deceiver

A classic saltwater pattern that adapts perfectly as a convertible tube fly; try combinations of color, size, materials; w/ or w/o eye; weighted or not.



1. Wrap thread base; leave 1/4" space at rear of tube for jct tubing that you'll slip on later. Tie in a clump of calftail on top and bottom.



2. Tie in small bunch of bucktail on top and both sides.



3. Tie small clump of arctic fox in on top, bottom, and both sides.



4. Tie in grizzly saddle hackle for lateral line, and tie in several pieces of flashy stuff. Add eye if desired, then finish head. Cut 3/8" piece of junction tubing of your color choice, and slip over end of tube where you left space.



5. Tie preferred tailing material onto hook ca. 1/4" behind eye.



## Frank's Jig Fly

Incredibly versatile pattern - can be fished as a bugger, leech, sculpin, even a clouser. Try different head weights, materials, etc. Tied by Tony Pagliei.



1. Slip jct. tubing over rear of tube; mount tube in tool. Wrap thread over jct. tubing. Tie in maribou feather - your choice of color. Bring thread forward.



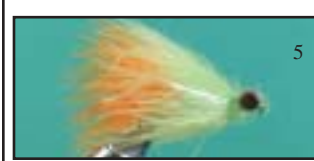
2. Palmer maribou forward about 3-5 tight turns. Wrap thread forward to create thread base for eyes.



3. Wrap on eyes tightly. Apply dubbing to thread, and cover eye wraps. Finish head. Use exacto knife or scissors and trim tube to 1/16" of thread. Use small flame to melt tube back to thread.



4. Ultra-braid Tail. Cut ultra-braid to desired length; tie in 3/16" back from eye. Dub over thread wraps with choice of color; whip finish.



5. Jig fly with green head and bright orange maribou tail, a color combination especially good for steelhead and salmon.

## Fishing Tube Flies

### Getting Rigged

Thread tippet through front of tube, then tie to dressed hook of your choice. Then pull tippet back through tube and snug hook into junction tubing or rear of tube.



Jim Bedford Photo

**Fish your tube flies** just as you fish ordinary flies. But when a fish takes, the tube will slide up the leader out of the way of gnashing teeth and slashing gills. After you land (and release) your fish, simply re-connect the tube to the hook, and go catch another one.

Try **stacking tubes** to create longer flies or to combine varying weights to get the depth and action that you need.

Keep a supply of **extra coneheads, or short weighted heads** that you can slip on the tippet in front of any tube fly, when needed, to get just the right depth or action you need to hook fish.

### WHICH HOOKS?

The best tube fly hooks are short-shanked, straight-eye hooks. The table lists in no particular order hooks that we have seen and know work well. Other hook brands/models are surely out there. The choice is yours.

	MODEL #	SIZES
MUSTAD	9174	2-8
TIEMCO	105	4-10
DAIICHI	1640	2-20
DAIICHI	X510	4-8
LOOP	80531 Double	2-8
GAMAKATSU	C14S	2-12
KAMASAN	B983	2-14
PARTRIDGE	MM3ST	2-8

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED



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March, 2002



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 ■ **Plastic**, large and small diameters, 0.5" to 3" long  
 ■ **Aluminum**, plastic lined to protect tippets  
 ■ **Copper**, heavy, lined to protect tippet.



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White popper with green tail, tied by Masahito Sato



Conehead Sculpin w/ rabbit strip tail, tied by John Albright



Realistic Sand Eel, tied by Masahito Sato



Hackle Flash Tube Fly tied by Tony Pagliei



A Complete Guide to Tying  
and Fishing Tube Flies

CATCH FISH

TUBE FLIES



Steelhead photo by Tony Pagliei

Brown Trout photo by Jim Bedford

Free



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## A TUBE FLY is

a fly tied on a tube. They're easy to rig and fun to fish. Better yet, they are the most versatile and effective flies you can use for all kinds of gamefish.

To rig a tube fly, simply thread the tippet through the tube, then tie it to your hook of choice. Snug the hook eye into the rear of the tube, and you're ready to catch fish.



Top: tippet through tube, tied to hook.  
Bottom: hook snugged into tube, ready to fish. Note: These small nymphs do not use jct. tubing - the hook rides directly in tube.

## FOUR REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD TRY TUBE FLIES:

**Hook more fish** -- adjust where the hook rides in the pattern to eliminate short strikes.

**Land more fish** -- tube flies use short shank hooks, even on very large tubes, so fish has less leverage to throw the hook.

**Flies last longer** -- the tube slides up the leader during the fight, so it doesn't get chewed. So you keep those carefully-tied and deadly patterns longer.

**Most versatile** -- mixing and matching tubes and dressed hooks gives you more flies for your money, and it means you can "build" patterns on the spot to match any fishing condition.



Tony Pagliei Photo

These 3 heads (unweighted; conehead; dumbbell eyes) and 3 tails will yield 9 patterns with differing actions, profiles and sink rates. Start mixing colors, too, and the possible combinations are endless.

## If tube flies are good, then Convertible Tubes are Best.

The best tube flies are "convertible" tubes. The 'head', or front part of the pattern, is tied on a tube, and the tail is tied on the hook.

Convertible tubes let you mix and match weighted or unweighted heads with tails tied with differing materials and colors for an endless array of colors, materials, fly profiles, actions, and sink rates.

All kinds of existing patterns can be improved by tying them as convertible tubes: buggers; zonkers; leeches; fresh and saltwater baitfish patterns, deceivers, clousers, even small or large nymphs - the possibilities are endless.

## COLD, WARM, FRESH OR

**SALT...** Tube flies are proven effective for all gamefish, from blue-gills to blue marlin. From tiny nymphs to tuna rigs, tube flies will help you catch more fish!



Striper taken on convertible deceiver pattern with extra-long white hackle tail. J. Albright Photo.

## BRAND NEW!

### Tying Convertible Tube Flies

with Tony Pagliei



Learn the techniques of tying Interchangeable Tube Flies for your favorite gamefish!

## Tying Tube Flies is Simple...

If you can tie on a hook, you can tie on a tube. Let the HMH Tube Fly Tool hold any tube securely, and let Tony Pagliei, master tube fly designer, give you step-by-step instructions for 5 proven patterns, from streamers, to nymphs, to poppers.

## ...and Economical.

Get more flies for your money -- mix and match convertible heads and tails to yield far more fishable patterns than conventional flies on hooks.

Get Started: the HMH Tube Fly tool fits any vise, and includes enough tubes and junction tubing to tie a couple dozen tubes, all for only \$19.95.