

# Frank Sawyer Pheasant Tail Nymph



Pheasant Tail Nymph or PT Nymph.

The fly has been modified many times since the original was tied and used. Frank Sawyer was a river keeper for The Fishing Association in Wiltshire, England. The river Avon was one of the rivers in his keep. The materials needed for the fly is the proper size hook, the center tail feather from a cock pheasant and thin, about .005", dark colored relay coil wire.

FS recommends a size 15 or 17 hook. The English use odd numbered hooks. The hook 15 is between our size 14 and 16. The size 17 is between our size 18 and 16.

The relay coil is at bottom. The copper brown Ultra wire at upper left is good. The copper Ultra wire at upper right is not correct!



With the hook in the fly tying vise, start by wrapping the wire in the thorax area building the size thorax you desire.



Wrap the wire back to the rear of the hook stopping at the hook bend. Tie the tips of 4 or 5 strands of cock pheasant center tail feather fibers about a hook gape long. Secure with two wraps of wire.



Wrap the pheasant tail butt strands around the tying wire and wrap both the wire and pheasant tail fibers evenly to the rear of the thorax. Unwrap the pheasant tail fibers from the tying wire and secure them with two turns of tying wire at the rear base of the thorax.



Wrap only the wire over the thorax to the point between the eye of the hook and the thorax. Pull the pheasant tail fibers over the top of the thorax and secure with two wraps of tying wire.



Move the tying wire back to the point behind the thorax. Pull the pheasant tail fibers back over the top of the thorax and secure them with three turns of tying wire. Move the tying wire to the front of the thorax, wrap a neat head and secure with half hitches and break or cut the wire.



The last step is to cut the excess pheasant tail fibers. Now you have a Pheasant Tail Nymph tied its original way.

Jerry Hopewell [fluestang@comcast.net](mailto:fluestang@comcast.net)