

San Juan Worm

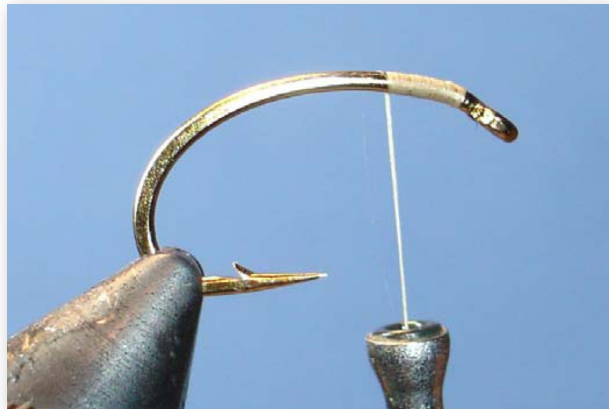
Photos: Doug Haacke

Materials (size accordingly):

Hook: #8 or #10 scud hook

Wire: Medium gold wire

Thread: 6/0 Tan, Red, Orange or Wine



STEP 1 Start with a short thread base as shown below.



STEP 3 Stop advancing the thread somewhere near the mid-bend area, and begin wrapping back towards the hook eye. Try to make smooth and even wraps.



STEP 2 Tie in the gold wire, and continue to wrap in the wire as the thread progresses down the shank.



STEP 4 Stop wrapping once you're about two hook eye lengths behind the hook eye. Throw a half hitch in to keep the thread from sliding off when you wrap the wire.



STEP 5 Wrap the wire forward using widely spaced and even wraps. Pull the wire firmly. Stop wrapping when you've reached the thread, as shown below. Snugly wrap the wire with the thread with 6 or 8 good tight wraps and trim off the excess wire.



STEP 6 Add thread wrap as needed to smooth out the head, whip finish and add a drop of head cement to secure.



NOTES This variant of the San Juan Worm doesn't use chenille, sinks quickly, and is an excellent fly to use above a dropper. I've had more luck with this wire variant than I have with the chenille types. Be sure and tie them in several colors. Tan, Red, Orange and Wine colors are the most popular..