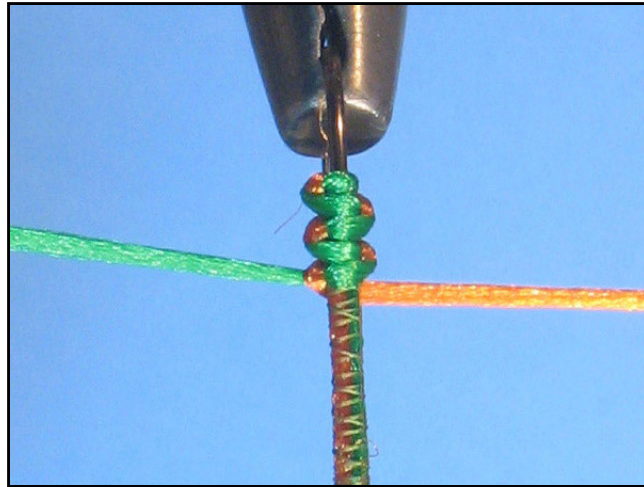
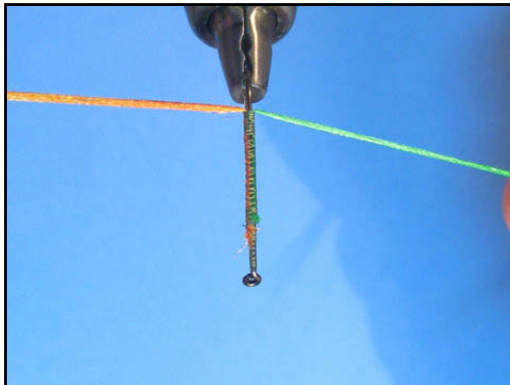


A step at a time: PARALLEL WEAVE



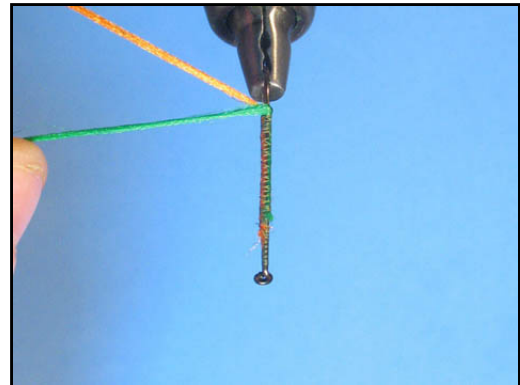
Here's a step-by-step of a weave that can give quite an imitative fly. A nice segmentation, a flatter body and the coloration like nature intended it - looking dark from above (against the bottom) and light from below (against the sky).

Step 1



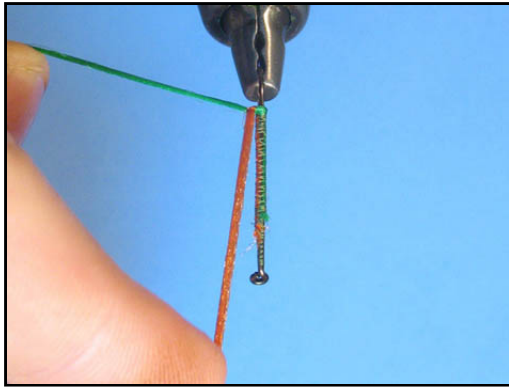
Starting point: The color for the back (here green) tied in on the right side, the color for the bottom (here orange) tied in on the left side, the tying thread tied off and finally the vise positioned so the hook eye points towards you. (Pictures show a top view when sitting at the vise.) Now wipe your hands and take the materials with a firm grip in each hand. You won't let go of them until the weaving is done and a constant and balanced tension on the both strands is essential, so you don't want to feel them start slipping through your fingers...

Step 2



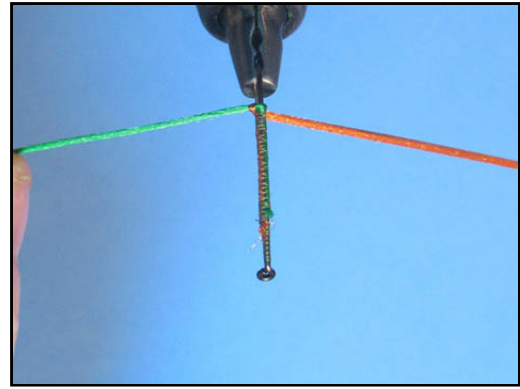
Lay the green strand over the hook to the left side, in front of the orange strand.

Step 3



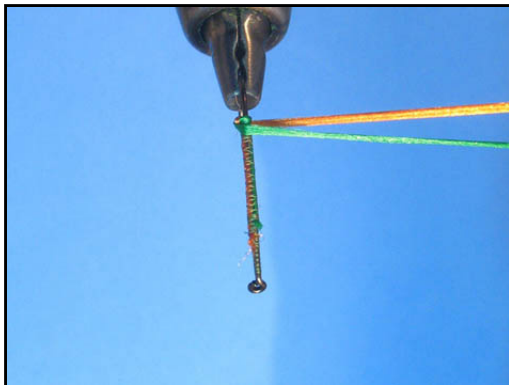
With the left hand, lay the orange strand over the green strand and stretch it towards you. To avoid pulling the green material (that's already on the hook) forward, angle the green strand slightly backwards and compensate with some tension also on that one.

Step 4



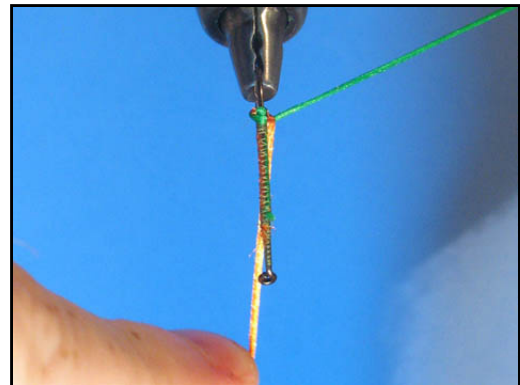
Continue in under the hook with your left hand and the orange material and then stretch it out to the right. Now you will sit with your arms crossed and have the left on top of your right. Not a comfortable position, but we will straighten it out.

Step 5



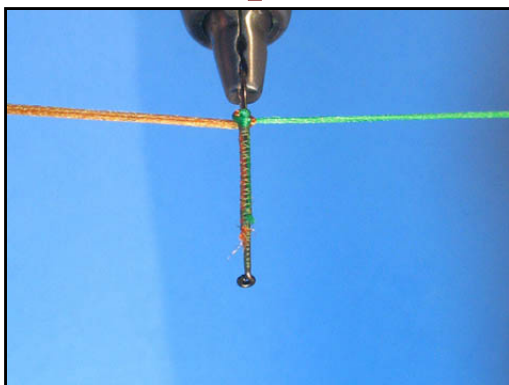
While keeping the orange strand stretched to the right, lift your left arm a bit to give room for your right hand to come back over the hook. Lay the green strand over the hook in front of the orange strand. Now we will sit with the left hand above/behind your right hand and we're ready to untangle our arms.

Step 6



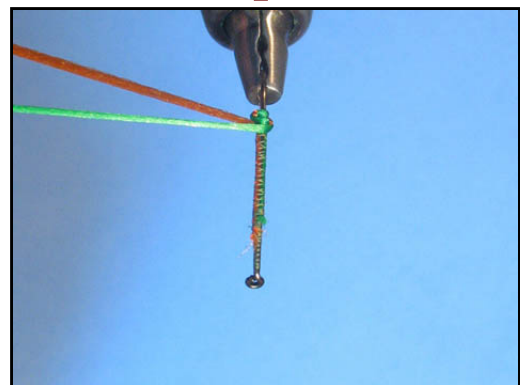
Pull the left hand towards you and the orange strand will automatically come back on top of the green strand. Just like on picture 3, keep the green material on the hook in place by compensating with tension backwards on the green strand with your right hand.

Step 7



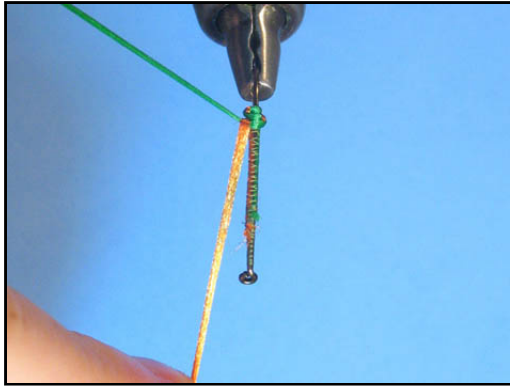
From the position on picture 6, the road is clear for the left hand to return to the left side by continue with the orange strand under the hook. Arms untangled and back in the position where we started.

Step 8



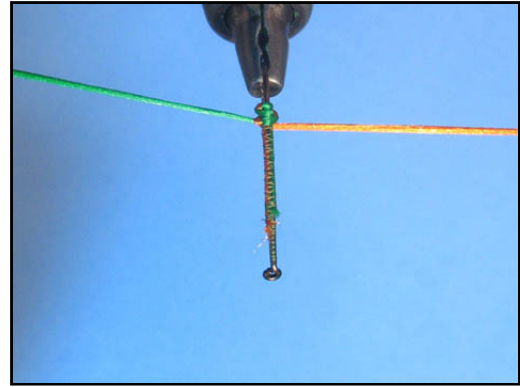
Let's continue. Over with the green/right...

Step 9



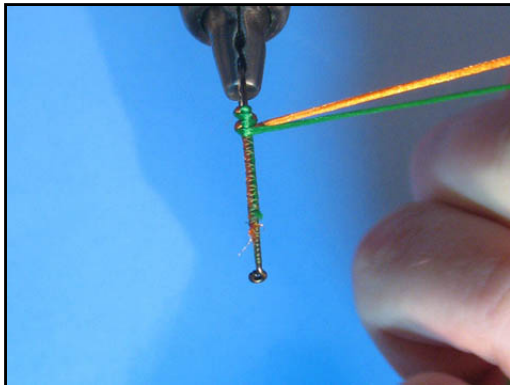
"Catch" it with the orange strand, while compensating backwards with the green...

Step 10



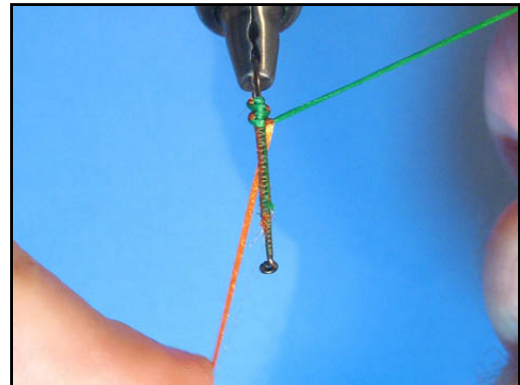
Continue down under the hook with the orange (and tangle up your arms again)...

Step 11



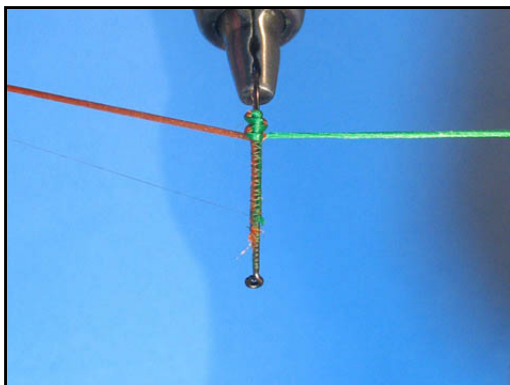
Back over the hook with the green/your right...

Step 12



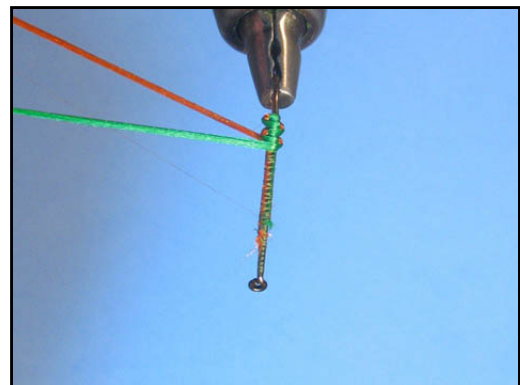
Catch the green with the orange...

Step 13



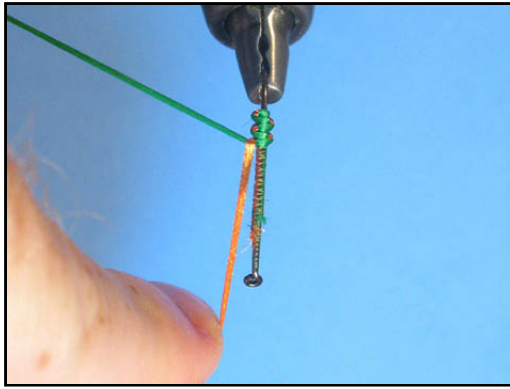
Back under with the orange and call the wife to come and wipe the sweat from your forehead... as you can't let go of the materials and do it yourself.

Step 14



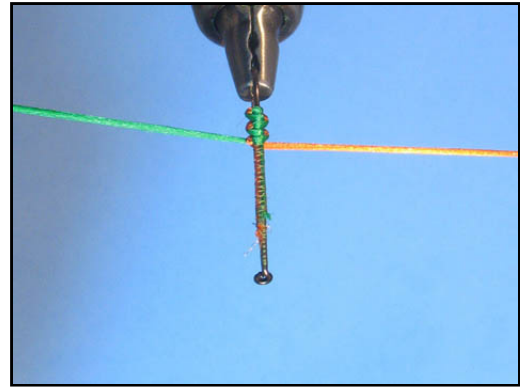
Starting to catch the drift?

Step 15



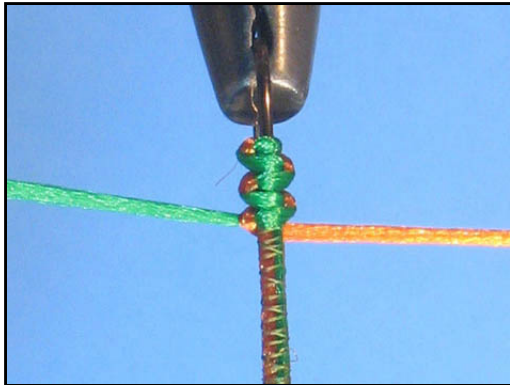
After a little while the moves are "just there".

Step 16



This will be the last one. It's just the same anyway. 'Over/catch/under' and 'back/catch/back'. But...

Step 17



... let's take a closer look at this last one anyway. It shows what happens when the tension isn't equal on both sides. I've been sitting in a very weird position to be able to do the shots, which has caused harder tension on the orange strand, but only on one side. So on the hook's right side, the "catch-in" points have been pulled down, while on the left side they instead lie very high. Gravity sucks. Sit comfortably and you will FEEL when it's done right.

Top view...



Here I have made one sitting right, with the hook close to me and my arms balanced. Some difference. On this one I have also (intentionally) been slightly harder on the orange on BOTH sides. This has pulled down the green on both sides and made it go a "detour" (up-across-down) on its way over the hook, which gives the body a natural rounded back.

Bottom view...



The orange strand on the other hand has more of a plain zig-zag pattern, that just locks the green without going far up the sides itself... giving it a flatter ventral side.

Side view...



From the side the difference between the two is very obvious. The green strand goes all the way down before turning, while the orange strand turns around almost immediately.