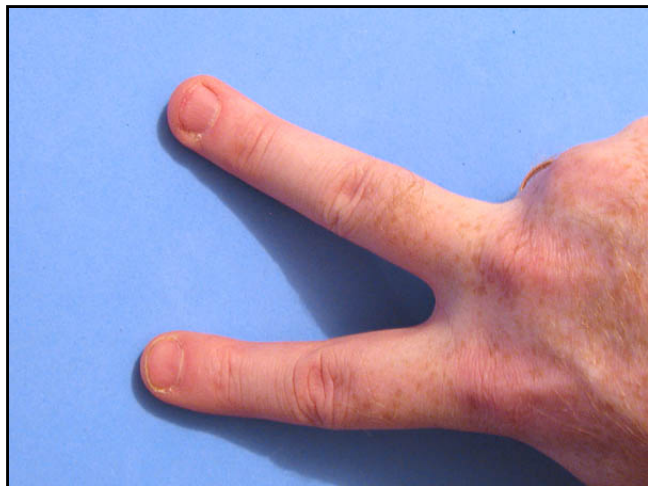


A step at a time: FINGER WHIP-FINISH



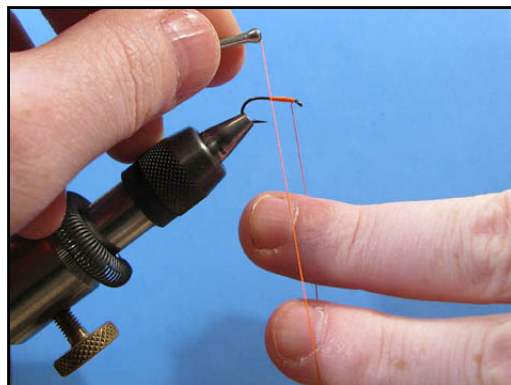
The finger whip-finish is a good one to have in your back pocket, even if you still prefer to use the tool. The loop you get using the tool has a size that is quite limited. This is good if you want to avoid things to sneak into it and get tied down, but isn't as good if you want to tie off further back and therefore want things to be able to pass **through** it when wrapping. With your fingers you can shape a thread loop that won't make it a problem to tie off far back on a big hook with a lot of stuff in front of the tie-off point.

Step 1



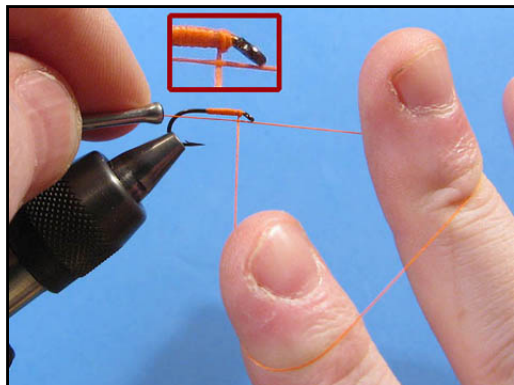
Place your index finger and your middle finger against the thread.

Step 2



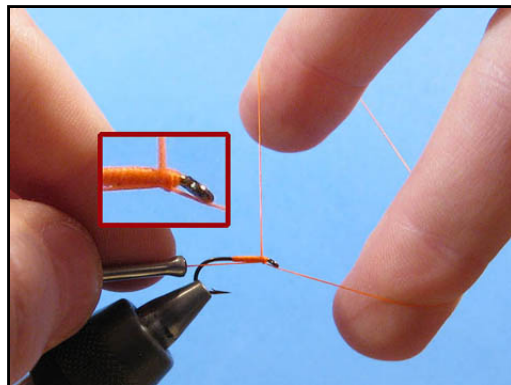
Lift the bobbin and form a thread loop around your fingers.

Step 3



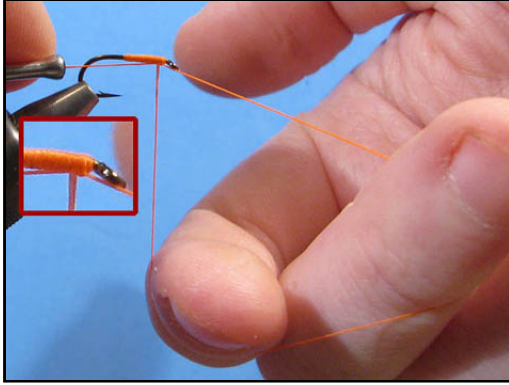
With your middle finger, catch the thread coming from the bobbin and bring it to the right, outside the hook eye. Together with your bobbin hand, position it parallel to the hook shank.

Step 4



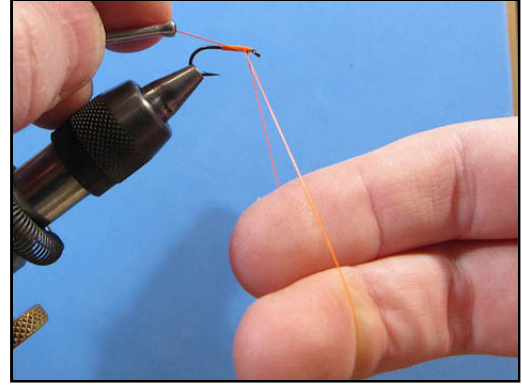
Here's your whip-finish tool, with your index finger in the role of the real tool's top hook, your middle finger in the role of the bottom hook and your wrist in the role of the handle. Now, while rotating your hand 180 degrees clockwise, bring the thread coming from the hook up with your index finger and trap the thread coming from the bobbin against the hook shank.

Step 5



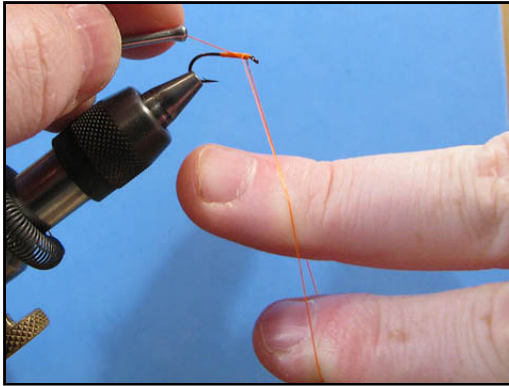
Complete the wrap with your index finger by bringing the thread down on the back side.

Step 6



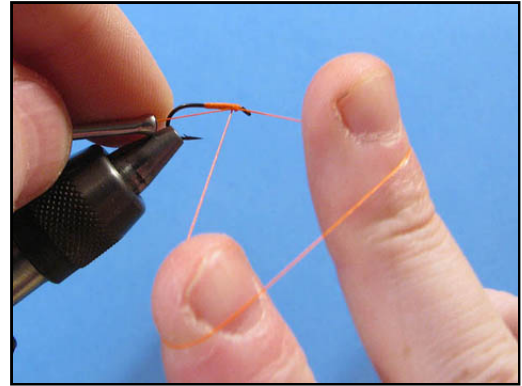
At this point this type of "handle" has reached its limitations and cannot be rotated further. In order to continue wrapping, the hand must return to its initial position. So start with bringing both sides of the loop back down under the hook.

Step 7



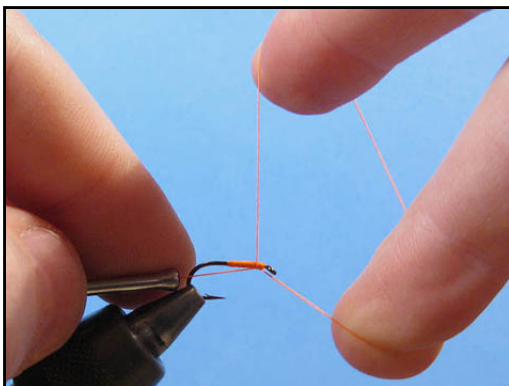
Rotate your hand 180 degrees counterclockwise, allowing your fingers to switch places in the loop. When this is done you'll be back at where you were in Step 2, able to "continue by starting over"... so to speak.

Step 8



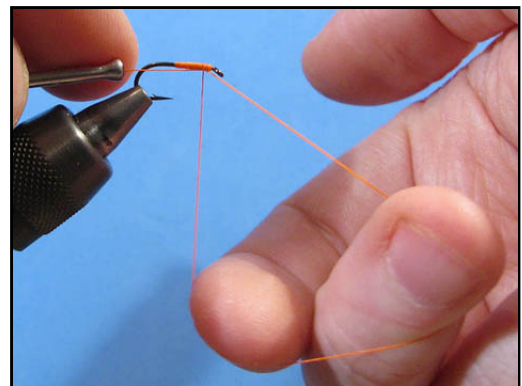
With your middle finger, catch the thread coming from the bobbin and bring it back out to the right, forming the same kind of thread triangle as in Step 3.

Step 9



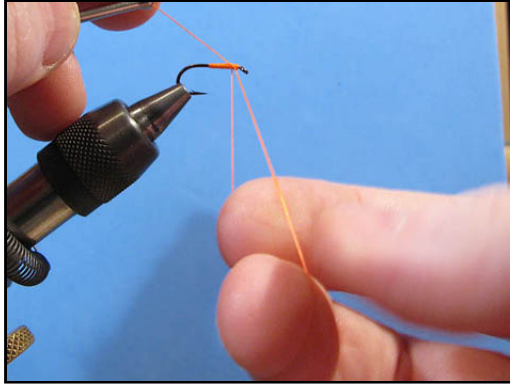
Then start a new wrap with the thread coming from your index finger...

Step 10



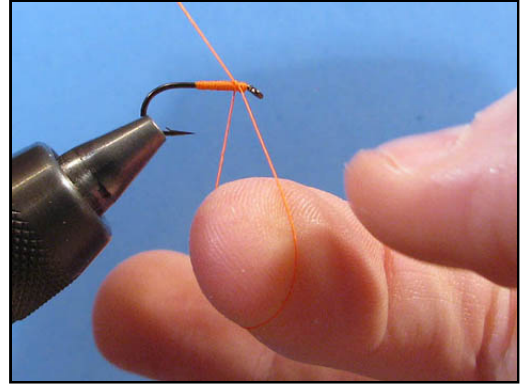
... and complete it.

Step 11



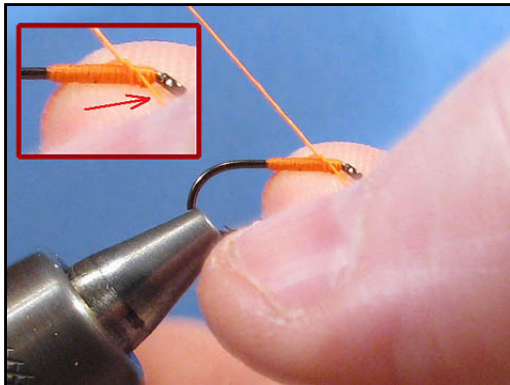
Let's say you have done another 1-2 wraps and it's time to finish the knot: Pull the bobbin and the loop around your fingers will start to tighten up.

Step 12



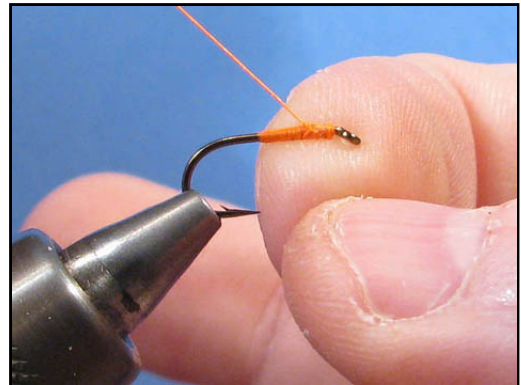
When it's getting crowded in the loop, pull the middle finger out of the game and continue tightening up.

Step 13



Let the thread leave the last finger by sliding down the tip of it, where you will have the thumb ready to trap it. This little loop often gets a life of its own when set free, so you want to keep it under control and as an open loop tightening up between your fingers. You can also use the closed scissor blades instead of your finger to be able to follow the loop all the way up to the hook shank. It will not spoil the "one less moment" idea, since you're still going to pick it up it after tightening the knot. (Maybe you've had it in your hand the whole time.)

Step 14



There!! Loop gone... whip-finish done.