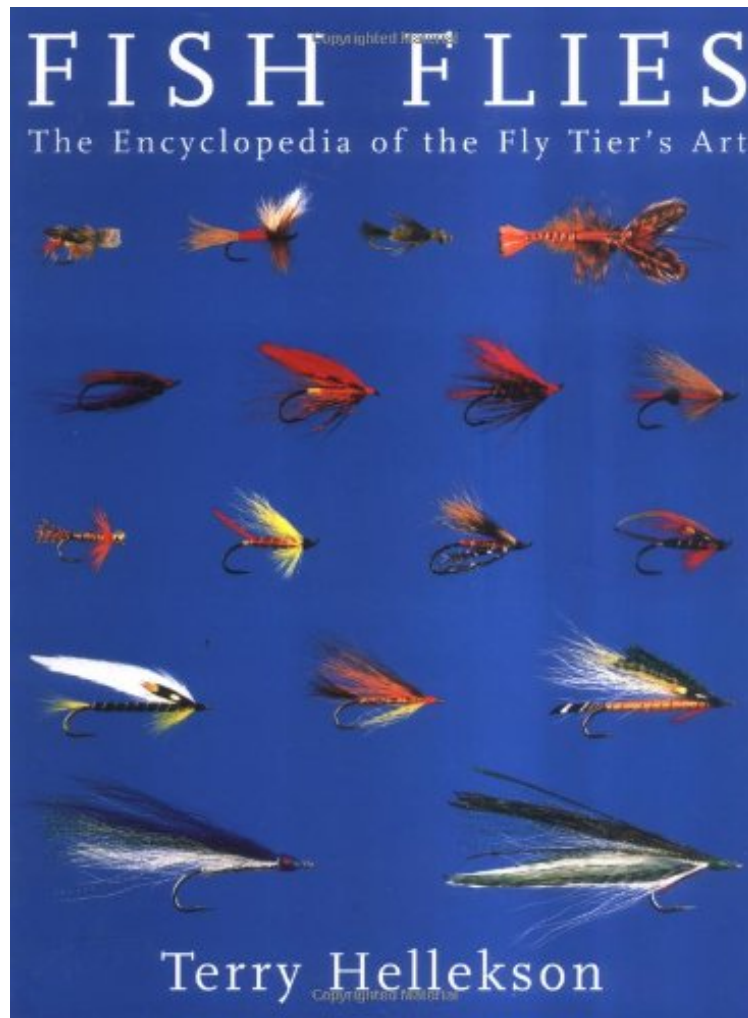


Fish Flies: The Encyclopedia of the Fly Tier's Art

Terry Hellekson

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Terry Hellekson : Fish Flies: The Encyclopedia of the Fly Tier's Art before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fish Flies: The Encyclopedia of the Fly Tier's Art:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. what a wonderful find. By jerseythis is the most comprehensive collection of recipes for fly tying I have encountered. also filled with a lot of useful information for the fly tyer. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fish Flies by Terry Hellekson By jackfennell I selected this book because I am a novice fly fisherman and a novice fly tier and the book is an encyclopedia of fly tying. The book has a very brief history of fly fishing and tying. The book covers the various insects that trout feed on and the flies that are designed to imitate them. Tools and materials for tying are well covered. The book lists thousands of flies and the materials used to tie them along with notes about the history of the fly in some cases. In addition there are several plates of flies in full color. It is a great reference source for anyone interested in tying flies. 0 of 0 people found the following review

helpful. Very Nice book on Fly Patterns By outboard Another Five Star Must Have Book if you are into fly tying and need patterns

In one of the enduring classics of fly-fishing literature, Terry Hellekson addresses everything from the history of fly fishing and fly-tying around the world, to fly-tying material and hooks. This newly revised and updated version offers the original two volumes combined in one hardcover edition to create the definitive book on fly-tying. This is not just another book on popular fly patterns, although it is the authority on those as well. Terry shares the insights and interviews with fly-tying greats of years past, along with the history of some of the popular individual flies and fly-tying vises, making this a great read. He also shares years of wisdom and knowledge on colors, fly-fishing techniques, and tricks of the trade on the best kinds of tools and materials to buy and where to find them. This new edition is organized into two clear parts: the first section deals with the origins of fly-fishing, the concepts of vision and perception of color, the tools and materials from which flies are created, and looks at species of mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies. The second section of the book progresses on to the other insect orders, terrestrials, and crustaceans, then delves into the specifics of streamers, shad flies, steelhead flies, and more. Even a fly-tying novice will be enthralled, with illustrations that clarify the patterns and a reader-friendly style.

From the Inside Flap This is the definitive book on fly-tying, with thousands of fly patterns included for the enthusiast. Expert angler, fly tier, and author Terry Hellekson addresses everything from the history of fly-fishing around the world to the history of fly tying and fly-tying materials. Hellekson shares interviews with fly-tying greats of years past, along with the fascinating history and background of some of the popular individual flies, making this a great read. His colorful recollections of people and events will intrigue and delight even the most serious fly tier. He also shares years of wisdom and knowledge on fly-tying colors; fly patterns; fly-tying tools, hooks, and materials; and fly-fishing and fly-tying methods. Hellekson depicts hundreds of intricate patterns for dry flies, wet flies, and nymphs. Mayfly, stonefly, and caddisfly species are widely represented with simulations of the phases of their respective life cycles. Detailed patterns for terrestrials, damselflies and dragonflies, leeches and worms, midges, crustaceans, streamers, shad flies, steelhead flies, Atlantic salmon flies, Spey flies, Pacific salmon flies, and salmon and steelhead dry flies round out the book. This encyclopedia is organized into two distinct parts: the first section describes the origins of fly-fishing; the concepts of vision and perception of color; and the tools and materials from which artificial flies are created. It addresses dry flies, wet flies, nymphs, stoneflies, mayflies, and caddisflies. The second section of the book thoroughly attends to the simulation of other insect orders, such as terrestrials and crustaceans, and then delves into the specifics of streamers, shad flies, steelhead flies, and more. Even a fly-fishing novice will be enthralled with illustrations that clarify the patterns in a reader-friendly style. Line illustrations throughout, plus more than 2,950 detailed fly patterns-including 695 flies shown in full color-make this a comprehensive fly-tying encyclopedia beyond compare. Terry Hellekson was born into the world of fly-fishing and spent his early life in Happy Camp, California, where his father had a fly-fishing guide service on the Klamath and Trinity rivers during the 1940s and 1950s. Hellekson not only fly-fished and tied flies as a youth, but he developed many new fly patterns and eventually became immersed in all phases of the fly-fishing and fly-tying businesses. He founded Fly Fishing Specialties, a wholesale and retail business. He continually exchanges information with leading experts in fly-fishing and fly tying. Hellekson has traveled the world discovering sources for fly-tying materials and other products that he sold on the international market. He has also fished many of the great lakes and rivers of the world, traveling to such far off places as Kashmir to test the waters of the Himalayas. Hellekson is one of the founders of the Northern Utah Fly Fishers and the Granite Bay Fly Casters in northern California. Through fly-tying classes and fly-fishing clinics, he has taught countless numbers of fly fishers the fine points of the sporting art. Besides the many articles he has written on fly-fishing and fly tying, he has authored two books, *Popular Fly Patterns* (1976) and *Fish Flies* (1995), with this revised edition the culmination of a lifetime of work. He has also made generous contributions to the works of other authors. He now lives and fishes with his wife, Patricia, in Montana, where they have the famous Kootenai River at their doorstep.

About the Author Terry Hellekson was born into the world of fly-fishing and spent his early life in Happy Camp, California, where his father had a fly-fishing guide service on the Klamath and Trinity Rivers. He founded Fly Fishing Specialties, a wholesale and retail business. He has traveled and fished the world, seeking out sources for fly-tying and fishing in such far-off places as Kashmir in the Himalayas. He now lives and fishes with his wife in Montana.

Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. In March 1997, as I was driving east on Highway 2 out of the Idaho panhandle into northwestern Montana, I became very apprehensive as I found myself literally having to plow through the snow. Flakes as big as silver dollars fell and overloaded my windshield wipers time and time again. What a contrast from the Sacramento Valley that I had left just a few days earlier, where some of the trees in the orchards had already started to bloom. I was heading for the last best place: Libby, Montana. My father first brought me to this part of the world when I was ten years old. We used to float the Kootenai River for days, catching some remarkable fish. Although we returned a number of times after that, it was never enough and we both dreamed of how wonderful it would be to someday come here and never have to leave. My father never quite made it, but now it was

finally coming true for me. The fishing forecast for the Kootenai River that year was gloomy. Some say over thirteen feet of snow fell in the Kootenai River Valley, to say nothing of the snow they received in Canada where the Kootenai originates. The runoff that year was as expected with that kind of winter. I was anxious to go fishing, but the water was too high and fast. I was getting a bit frustrated. Finally, I received word one day in August that a world record rainbow, over 33 pounds, had been taken by the David Thompson Bridge on the Kootenai. That got my adrenaline going! I now had a renewed excitement and I knew after seeing this magnificent country once more, I wanted to write again. However, I also realized that there were many obstacles in my path that might prevent me from doing one of the things I love. Before I left California, I had placed my personal belongings into storage temporarily. Shortly after my arrival in Montana, my daughter contacted me to report that some perpetrators had taken all of my fly-fishing books, manuscripts, pictures, fly-tying tools, materials, and other priceless memorabilia from the storage facility. This was disheartening, to say the least, as much of it was of no consequence to anyone except me. After learning of this, I felt it would be impossible to reconstruct years of work and collecting, and I despaired of doing any more writing. One day, while I was having my car repaired, a fellow drove up and I noticed his license plates read, "ENGLISH." As he walked by me I could not resist commenting on his choice of plates. On introducing ourselves, we recognized each other's names; he was Glenn Overton of Wonder Wax fame. Although I had often purchased his wax, I had never connected him with Libby, Montana. Right away, Glenn had to show me all of the access points on the Kootenai River. It was not long before I realized why they called this one of the best tail-water fisheries in North America, and I've been fishing the Kootenai tirelessly ever since. While getting some great fishing under our belts, Glenn and I came to know each other rather well. As a result of our common interest and friendship, Glenn offered me the use of his extensive fly-fishing library. With a lot of hard work, I was finally able to reconstruct much of what I lost in the way of manuscripts. In many ways the whole experience of the loss of my personal library and collections might have been an awakening, as it forced me to look at my writing from a whole new perspective. And thanks to Glenn, I was able to work with a very complete fly-fishing library. It is said that we are our own worst critics and I am no exception. I'll be the first to say that the first edition of Fish Flies, with another publisher, was not as complete as I had envisioned and it lacked clarity in some places. Thanks to my wife, Patricia, who has devoted huge amounts of time typing at the keyboard and working with the graphics, this edition of Fish Flies is what I wanted to create from the beginning. I would still be struggling had it not been for her support, her work, and her love of fly-fishing. It is nice to have a partner who loves fly-fishing as much as I do.