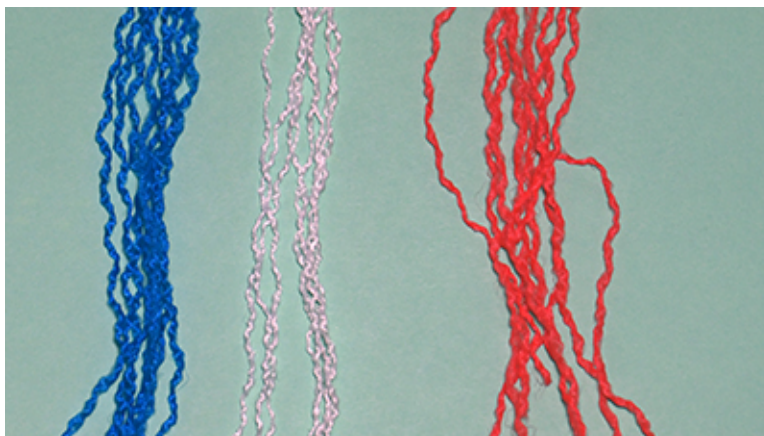


## Lower-cost Fly Tying Alternatives EP type Fibers

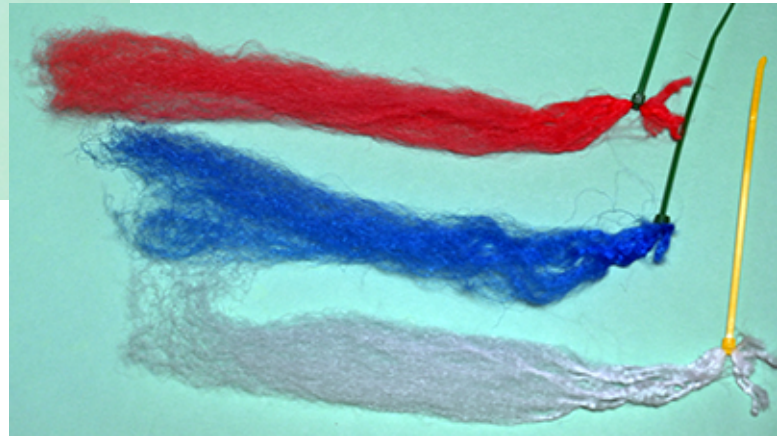
In this article we will be talking about how to create a low cost alternative to EP type fibers, named for - Enrico Puglisi, an innovative enthusiast who has had a huge impact on fly tying. The process is very simple. It does not require very few tools but the right type of material is very important. The material we will be using is called "Bonnie Cord" and can be found at most fabric stores. The material comes in an array of colors. I often find I cannot get the exact color I want, but that is not a problem. This material readily accepts color and it is very simple to dye.



The first step is to unravel the Bonnie into individual strands.



Using a fine tooth pet brush, gently stroke/comb the fibers of the Bonnie Cord; continue brushing the fibers until they are separated. I find using 6-8 inch of cord works extremely well. When completed, I use a tie wrap to keep the fibers bundled together.



If you have access to a Dubbing Brush machine, the cost of generating a dubbing brush is less than 10 cents per brush (neglecting the cost of the dubbing brush machine, which ranges \$60 - \$100). However, I routinely loan out my machine and I estimate the overall cost of a brush off of my machine is approaching 25 cents per brush, considerably less than the branded EP fiber.



Below are a couple of flies I tied with dubbing brushes and EP type fibers.



This fly was tied with two dubbing brushes, one white and one reddish in color. Then I simply made a couple turns with a red hackle.. It is a very simple fly to tie and it will catch fish.

Below is a url on youtube that demonstrates how to tie a bait pattern using a dubbing brush.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtCou5cR5RQ>



The second fly was tied using two colors EP type fibers (white and a green) and a few strands of micro flash material. I used an alcohol based pen to couple the fly and to enhance the color. By tying with an all white EP type fiber you can change the color of your fly top to your liking.

Below is a url on youtube that demonstrates how to tie a bait pattern using a EP type fibers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRksd7ItFKI>