

Adding & Dropping Thread Colors

Adding and dropping threads is a very cool way to add some basic artistic flare to your thread wraps and inlaying thread(s) to create fades, shading, and tiny trim bands is much easier that you might think!

This picture tutorial will walk you thru some steps I use.

Lets start by wrapping a solid band (in this case yellow) and then inserting a pull loop. (see photo A)



Now we want to add another color (blue green) and also continue with the yellow so we run the blue green thru our tension device and pull the end under the yellow with the pull loop. You now have a blue green thread under tension on the right side of the yellow (see photo A.1 below) oops! There should be more yellow over the blue green!. Oh well, you get the drift.



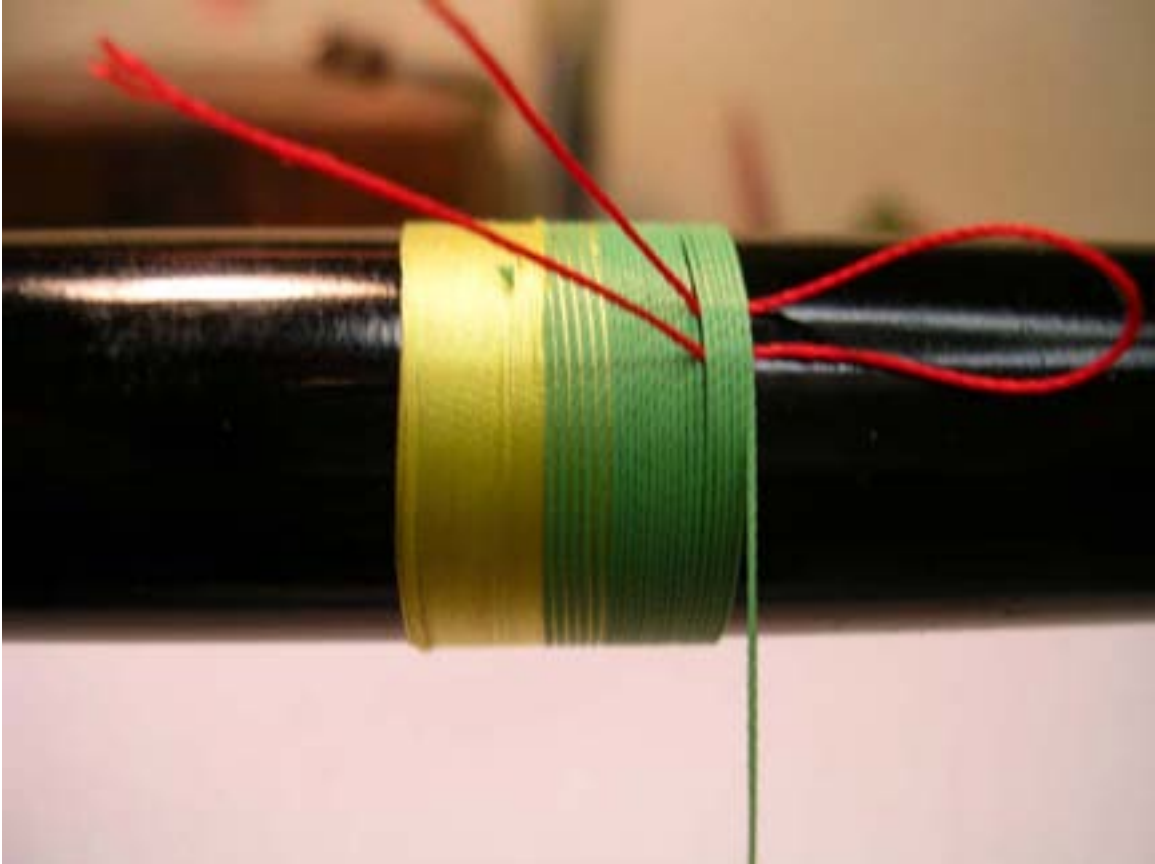
Now it's just a matter of wrapping both threads together as one for as many turns as you want. (see photo B below)



Now I want to drop the yellow and continue with just the blue green so I cut the yellow and lock it down by wrapping over it with the green. (see photo C below)



Now I cut the tag end of the yellow and continue with just the blue green for a bit then put in my pull loop again. (see photo D below)



Time to add another color (light green) so same as before we run the L. green thru our tension device and thru the pull loop and pull under the blue green and continue with both colors for a few turns. (see below)



And like before now we drop the blue green by cutting it and locking it down with the L. green. (see below)

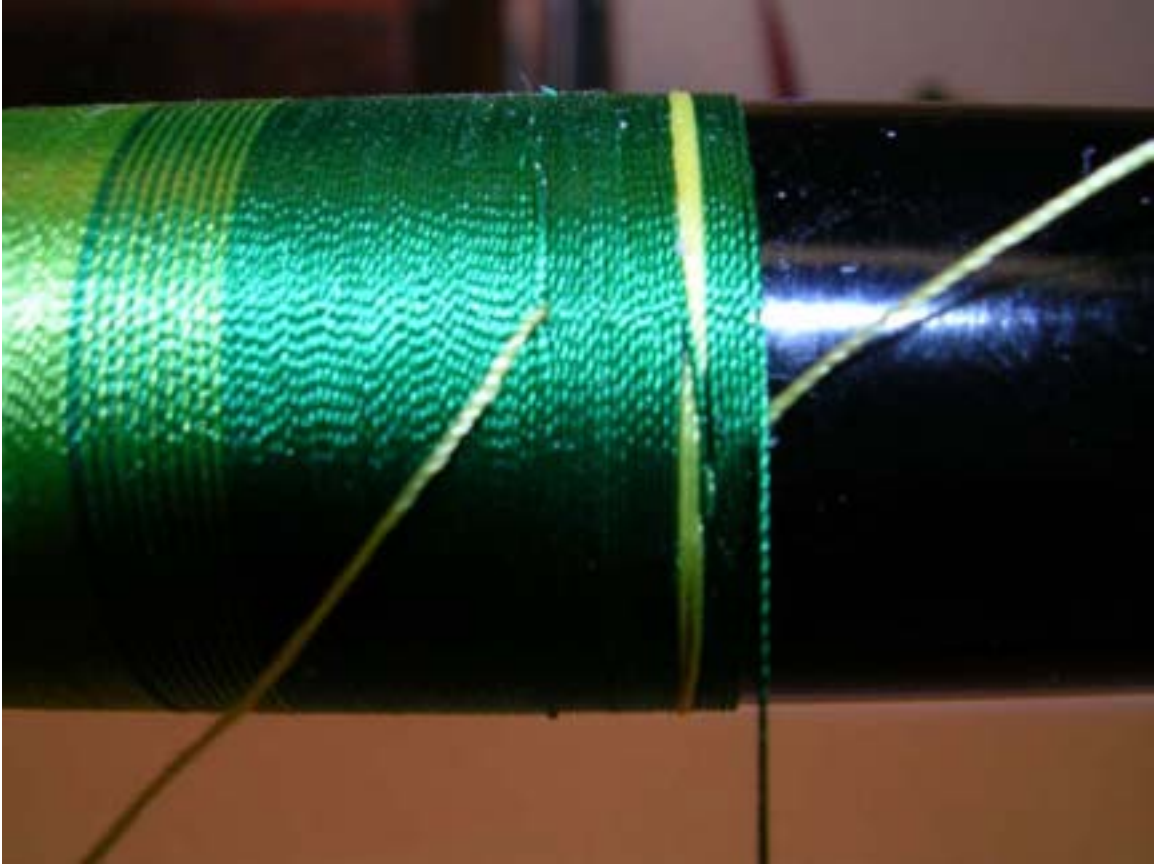


More turns with the L. green by itself, put in a loop again and add the final color dark green and wrap them together then drop the L. green and end with dark green alone same as before except this time just before we end the wrap we add yellow again but NOT under tension or attached to a spool. Just insert a length yellow under the green and lock it down. (see below)



Now we leave the rod still and wrap just the yellow around rod by hand for a couple turns and create a thin solid band of yellow then we lock the yellow down by crossing the green over the yellow band and turning the rod as normal. (see below)





Now it's time to end the wrap so we cut the yellow tag and continue a little bit more with the green. Now we want to end the wrap with a tiny band (only 1 or 2 threads) of yellow. The easiest way I know how to do that is to put in 2 pull loops at the point where we would normally put in 1 to end the green thread. When we come to point where we pull the green thread under we also ADD a yellow thread into that same loop and pull them both under together. Now we just make one or two final wraps with the yellow and use the already installed 2nd loop to pull it under. Both ends of the tiny yellow trim are well under the green and WON'T pop out while packing or burnishing. (see below)





Now obviously this completed wrap is nothing to write home about. It was just a demonstration. However, I hope you can see and understand how to use these techniques to do some very attractive wraps on your next rod project.

If this helped you please share it with others!!