

Bubbleicious



Materials

Head:

½" foam cylinders
3 mm craft foam
6 mm plastic eyes from Orvis
Rubber legs
Ceramcoat acrylic paint, green, yellow and black
Ceramcoat Delta gloss exterior/interior varnish

Body:

Saber #7060 Bass Bug/Salmon hook, size 2
White thread
Yellow buck tail
Green Flashabou
Grizzly hackle, yellow and olive
Olive schlappen

Weed guard:

16lb Mason Hard Mono

Making the Head

1. Glue foam cylinder on 2mm foam sheet with super glue. Using Sleazy Steve's $\frac{3}{4}$ " foam cutter, cut the cylinders free. You can use a small glass or other template and a razor blade to cut the collars, but Steve's cutters make it faster and easier.



2. Shape the head using a Dremel tool and an emery board.



3. Slice the bottom $\frac{1}{3}$ to form a flat base.



4. Mark 5 evenly spaced points around the collar. Punch holes with a 2-2.5 mm punch at the marked points. (I use a sharpen brass tube from a craft store)



5. Place head on a kabob stick and paint the entire head green. Blend in some yellow on the bottom to lighten the belly.



6. Add black dots to the top and green dots to the belly using a kabob stick with the point trimmed to the desired dot size. Allow to dry. (You can use permanent markers and eliminate drying time)



7. Trim the peg on a pair of plastic eyes or use stick on eyes. Secure the eyes using super glue making sure that the pegs will not interfere with the hook placement. (I prefer the peg eyes simply because they are more durable)



8. Coat the entire head with 1-2 coats of varnish and set aside to dry. (I add some pearl glitter to the varnish for extra sparkle) Use a straight pin to keep the collar holes clear of varnish.



Making the Body

1. Dress the hook to the bend. Tie in a 3" piece of Mason Hard mono on each side of the hook using the natural curve of the mono to allow it to flare out as shown in the insert. Wrap the mono to a point halfway down the bend and return the thread to the tie in point. Color thread yellow and coat with super glue.
2. Tie a small clump of yellow buck tail, letting it extend the length of the shank past the bend and spacing it evenly around the shank. Wrap the buck tail forward to 1 to 2 eye widths behind the eye and trim. Tie in a small clump of green Flashabou to the top of the buck tail and trim to the same length as the buck tail. Use a tapered cut to avoid a blocky look.
3. Tie in 1 yellow and 1 olive grizzly hackle to each side of the hook using the natural curve of the hackle to allow the hackle to flare out. The hackle should be $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 times longer than the buck tail. Place the head on the hook and note the point where the collar meets the hook. There should be about $\frac{1}{4}$ " +/- between the head and the hackle.
4. Remove the head and palmer an olive schlappen to fully cover the space between the hackle and the head. Run the thread to the eye, whip finish and cut.



5. Dry fit the head, remove add super glue to the front $\frac{1}{4}$ of the shank and mount the head making sure it is properly aligned. Super glue sets quickly, you only have one shot at aligning the head. (I found that putting a good amount of glue on a small section of the shank give you a bit more time to align the head) Use pins to mark location of weed guard.



6. Use the kabob stick to widen the pinholes. Insert one weed guard in the hole, remove and trim so that the weed guard will be $\frac{1}{2}$ " +/- above the hook. Remove from the pinhole and trim the remaining weed guard to the same length. Dry fit, when satisfied, remove from the pinhole, add a small drop of superglue to the tip of the mono and reinsert. Allow a few seconds to set.



7. Insert a pin through the head behind the eyes and just above the hook shank for the legs. Remove the pin and insert a threaded and pull 3 rubber legs through the head. Trim legs even with the bend of the hook.

