

Fly Tying Bench *by Paul Sequira*

Orange & Brown Clouser Deep Minnow

The “Clouser Deep Minnow”, aka “The Clouser Minnow” or just “Clouser”, was developed by Bob Clouser for fishing the Susquehanna River for small mouth bass. Designed to imitate baitfish, the Clouser Deep Minnow has become one of the premiere flies for saltwater. This orange and brown version has become one of my favorite winter flies.

Dressing:

Hook: Mustad 3407 or similar (standard or long shank)

Size: 4 – 1/0

Thread: Orange 3/0 or Flat Waxed Nylon

Eyes: Lead bar bell or bead chain

Flash: Copper Krystal Flash

Under Wing: Brown buck tail

Over Wing: Orange buck tail

Tying Instructions:

Place hook in vise. Tie in thread with a jam knot approximately 1/3 shank length behind the hook eye. Make a small bump of thread at the rear of the tie-in point.

With the hook right side up (point down), tie on bar bell eyes directly in front of thread bump using a figure eight wrap (see the “Clacker Clouser” instructions in the November 2006 issue of “On The Fly ” for details). It is a good idea to place a drop of superglue or head cement on the thread after tying on the eyes.

With the hook still right side up (point down), tie in the under wing of the fly with a sparse bunch of brown bucktail. The wing should extend approximately half the length of the hook shank beyond the hook bend. Lash the bucktail down to the hook shank in front of and behind the barbell eyes.

Turn the fly over so that it is upside down (point up). Tie in 6 to 8 strands of copper Krystal Flash using the fold-back method directly behind the hook eye. Trim the ends of this even with or slightly shorter than the bucktail. Do not trim the ends of the Krystal Flash even; you will get more sparkle if the ends are slightly uneven.

Take a small bunch of orange bucktail and measure it along the hook shank so that it is equal in length to the under wing. Line up the tips up slightly and trim the butt ends even. Tie in the over wing of orange bucktail over the copper Krystal Flash directly behind the hook eye.

Wrap a neat tapered head, whip finish, cut the thread and the fly is finished. Give the head several coats of head cement. If you desire, paint eyes on the barbell and coat them with head cement. This fly differs from most Clousers in that the light colored bucktail (orange) will be on top and the darker color (brown) will be on the bottom when the fly is swimming; that’s how it was designed.

Note: When fishing with sink tip or intermediate lines as described in Capt. Pat’s excellent article on the previous page, and depending upon water depth, you can very often get down deep enough using an unweighted fly. A good choice would be an orange & brown bendback (with or without a body wrap) as depicted opposite. Tying procedure was described in the On The Fly, Fly Tying Bench, Dec. 2006, Carl’s Glass Minnow.



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