

Fly Tying Bench — Grass Shrimp *by Al Pitcher*

This fly was originally designed by Jay Murakoshi

Materials:

Hook: Mustad 3407 size #2 to #6

Thread: Danville's Flat Waxed Nylon or equivalent

Wax: Waspi Dubbing Wax

Carapace: Gray Bucktail

Body: Whitlock's Dubbing Blends #2 by SLF; Use a blend of Minnow-Belly and Stonefly-Gills. Alternatively, use any off-white dubbing.

Shell: Gray Bucktail

Antennas: Two stripped grizzly hackle quills

Eye's: Black Mono-Medium

Glue: Head cement and Zap-a-Gap CA+



Grass Shrimp tied and photo by Al Pitcher

Tying Instructions

Step 1: Starting at the hook eye lay down a base of thread back to the hook bend and then back towards the eye until just opposite the hook point. Tie in a pair of medium-sized black mono eyes using figure-eight-wraps just opposite the hook point. Add a drop of Zap-a-Gap on the figure-eight-wrap.

Step 2: Tie in a bunch of gray bucktail, in front of the eyes and slightly before the hook bend, making sure it stays on top of the hook shank. Pull the bucktail up, and wrap thread underneath to form a post. Then wrap the thread back to the front of the hair. Trim the tip ends of the bucktail at an angle.

Step 3: Tie in a pair of large grizzly hackle quills that have been stripped of their barbs along each side, splayed slightly outward to form the antennae. Don't wrap too tightly because you can easily cut the quill. Trim off the butt sections and remove a little from the tip ends. Add a drop of Zap-a-Gap to the thread.

Step 4: Make a dubbing loop about 5 inches long and apply a small amount of wax to the thread. Open up the loop and add the dubbing material; using a dubbing tool spin the loop and material into a dubbing strand. Wrap the dubbing strand forward almost to the eye of the hook forming the body, and tie off. Leave enough space to tie down the tail. With a bodkin, tease out some of the dubbing to form the legs of the shrimp.

Step 5: Pull the bucktail down over the top of the body forming a shell and tie off at the eye of the hook.

Step 6: Make a few wraps at the front section of the tail to flair it at a 45 degree angle. Splay the bucktail to give it a wide look. Now take a few more wraps to secure all material. Whip finish, cut the thread, and apply a drop of head cement to the thread wrappings.