

Tying Bench - Don's Fly by Paul Sequira

Don Coleman's flat wing streamer fly, a very effective spotted sea trout streamer.

Materials:

- Hook: Eagle Claw 254N or 254L size #2
- Thread: 6/0 black Uni-Thread
- Tail: Sparse white bucktail topped with two strands of pearlescent mylar
- Body: Red sparkle braid
- Underwing: Sparse white bucktail (2 times hook length)
- Top Wing: Sparse grey bucktail to end of tail
- Flash: 6 or 8 strands of rainbow Krystal Flash
- Topping: One blue hackle over one purple hackle (tied flat)
- Head: Black tying thread coated with head cement



Don's Fly — tied and photographed by Paul Sequira

Tying Directions:

1. Mash down hook barb and secure in vise. Start thread one eye length behind the eye.
2. Select a sparse batch of white bucktail, finger stack the hairs to even tips (more-or-less) and tie in on top of the hook shank to form the tail. Length should be appropriate to create a 3" long fly. Tie in 2 strands of pearlescent mylar on top of and same length of the tail.
3. Tie in the red sparkle braid under the hook, spiral the thread back to the end of the hook shank carrying the braid with it directly under the hook shank. Run the thread back up to the tie in point and now wrap the sparkle braid forward to the tie in point and tie off. Cut and remove excess braid.
4. Select a sparse batch of white bucktail for the underwing. Finger stack the hairs as before and tie in below the hook shank at the tie in point. The underwing should extend approximately twice the length of the hook shank.
5. Select a sparse batch of grey bucktail for the top wing, finger stack and tie in on top of the hook shank. Length should be to end of the tail. Tie in 6 to 8 strands of rainbow Krystal Flash on top of the gray bucktail. Tips of the Krystal Flash should extend as long as the gray bucktail and should be uneven.
6. Select one each, blue and purple saddle hackles and remove the fluff from the stem. Place the blue hackle on top of the purple hackle and tie them in at the tie in point -- laying flat on top of the hook. Length should be slightly longer than the tail. Cut and discard the excess stems.
7. Wrap a bullet shaped head and tie off with a whip finish. Coat with head cement.

Don's tying notes: The recommended hooks are elegant, lightweight; short shank hooks with an extra wide gap and nickel finish that will not overpower the fly. They will allow you to drift or swim the fly in currents and rips like a dis-oriented or helpless baitfish, using a wet fly swing or a "greased line" swing (which transcends fly fishing as a sport and moves it into the realm of art), or to utilize a normal strip retrieve. Eagle Claw's #254 (Seaguard finish) will work but avoid the heavier #254SS (stainless steel) hook for this fly. 6/0 Uni-Thread is strong enough and avoids the bulk caused by 3/0 or heavier threads. Other 6/0 threads are weaker. The black thread results in a black head, which gives the impression of a large eye pupil.

Sparse is the operative word. The underwing should veil the undersides of the body and be sparse enough so that the short, red body shows through as gills. Avoid stacking the bucktail; adjust the hairs the old fashion way for a graceful fly that doesn't look like a paintbrush.