

Tying Bench - Al Pitcher's Glass Minnow (AGM)

There are probably as many glass minnow fly patterns as there are fly fishermen or fisherwomen. This pattern is one that I tie using Unique and Supreme Hair. These materials are very durable, which lends itself to not only trout, redfish, and snook, but to the toothy species such as Ladyfish and Spanish Mackerel.



Material

Hook: Mustad 3407 size #2 or #4; I prefer the #4

Thread: Danville's Flat Waxed Nylon (various colors) 210 Denier and Monofil .004; I use Monofil to tie in the material because it takes up much less room than conventional thread.

Body: Unique and Supreme Hair in various colors to "match the hatch". I usually use two-four colors such as white, yellow, tan, and blue.

Eyes: 1/8" or 3/16" Flat Stick On; either Silver Prism or yellow

Flash: Hedron's Lateral Scale Pearl and Fire Fly Skirt, and Spirit River's Glass Mylar Motion

Glue: Head cement, Hard as Hull, and Clear Cure Goo

Tying Sequence

Step 1: Starting at the hook eye lay down a base of Monofil back about half way along the hook shank; brush with a little head cement.

Step 2: All materials will be tied on the top of the hook shank using Monofil. Begin tying in the first color of Unique Hair which is usually white for the belly. The finished minnow will be about 2"-2 1/2". However, you can tie longer than that and trim later.

Step 3: A little ahead of the first material tie in the next color; do the same thing with each color allowing room to form a head at the end. A little practice will let you know where to begin and where to end.

Step 4: Next tie in, on top, three or four strands of Hedron's Fire Fly Skirt or Spirit River's Glass Mylar Motion making sure to allow the flash to extend beyond the body. If it ends up too long, you can trim later.

Step 5: Next tie in the Hedron's Lateral Scale Pearl; one tied on each side. Form a head with the Monofil and tie off.

Step 6: Next take the Danville Flat Waxed Nylon thread and complete the head. Since the Monofil is clear, the nylon thread will allow you to add color to the head. I use red, orange, and tan.

Step 7: Add the stick on eyes just behind the head. Secure the eyes and other material with the Clear Cure Goo insuring that you spread it about 1/4" behind the eyes. By extending the Clear Cure Goo behind the eyes, will help to secure the various materials on top. Take your time insuring that you have everything the way you want it; there is no hurry with Clear Cure Goo like there is with other epoxy.

Step 8: Once all the materials are just the way you want them, use the blue light to harden the material; about five to ten seconds is all it takes to harden the material. Because the Clear Cure Goo leaves a little tacky feel once hardened, I coat it with Hard as Hull or head cement.