

## Tying Bench – Slinky Shrimp *by Brad Lowman*

*Dynamite is illegal. This fly is a good (and legal) option*

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The Slinky Shrimp is a one-fly-fits-all imitation that excels in the grass, in sandy holes, and in channels or drop-offs during any shrimp season and in any shrimp area. Cast it up-current and let it drift back naturally, mending the line as necessary. Give it a few small bumps and, occasionally, a sharp pull. Don't work it

too quickly, though. Let it be a shrimp. I also tie this fly with a bend-back hook so the material covers the point to help prevent it from snagging grass and hanging up on oyster bars. For more detail and pictures refer to the Fly Tier's Bench in the [March/April 2008 issue](#) of Fly Fishing in Salt Waters.

### **Materials**

- Hook: Owner Mosquito 5377-121 2/0 or Tiemco 600 SP #2
- Thread: Monofilament .004
- Eyes: Puglisi Crab/Shrimp Eyes, large-natural
- Body: Steve Farrer Blend (Slinky Fiber/Angel Hair) Shrimp
- Legs: Sili Legs clear/pearl/silver flake and gold/black
- Antennae: Black Krystal Flash
- Flash: Pink Krystal Flash
- Adhesive: Head cement or Sally Hansen Hard as Nails.
- Barring: Pantone marker, brown

### **Tying Instructions**

1. Tie eight clear/pearl Sili Legs under the hook and opposite the hook point. Tie in four gold/black Sili Legs on the top of the hook shank. Trim. Secure with cement.
2. Cut a ¼-inch bundle of Slinky Fiber Angel Hair. Pinch it in the middle and rock it between your thumb and index finger to spread fibers evenly left and right. Then tie the middle of the bundle to the hook shank just in front of the legs. Pull the front fibers back and tie them in to blend with the fibers in back. Taper with scissors.
3. Tie in eyes on the back post with 30 tight wraps at a 45-degree angle in front of the hook eye then pull the eyes back behind the hook and secure the front post with 15 or more tight wraps.
4. Cut another but smaller bundle of Slinky Fiber Angel Hair, roll it between your thumb and index finger to even it out, then tie it in under the shank so that it hides the eye posts top and bottom.
5. Tie in four pearl Sili Legs under the shank. Tie in six Krystal Flash (pink) strands on top. Then, for the antenna, Tie in two Krystal Flash (black) strands to each side of the fly. These are the antennae.
6. Whip finish and mark the segments with the pantone pen.