



About this fly...

It is fun experimenting with different types of saltwater flies and I have been expanding my tying experience to include a few spoon fly patterns. I have had good luck with spoons when spin fishing and I thought that a lighter spoon would be great on a fly rod. I have caught a few fish on this new (to me) fly including small redfish, puffers, trout, ladyfish, catfish and crevalle jacks. I am working on the "big" redfish and snook.

I find this process is more like making a lure than tying a fly, but it still fishes like a fly only with lots of wiggle and wobble. I know that there are different recipes on the Internet for spoon

flies and I have tried a number of them. I really like this silly putty version; it is light enough to easily cast and yet it sinks nicely.

Materials:

- Hook: Mustad, 1/0 Saltwater Streamer Hooks 2XH/4XL
- Spoon to use as a mold: I like to use either a 1/8 oz Johnson Spoon or a 1/8 oz Little Cleo
- Thread: Red UNI-Thread 6/0, I use mono to tie in the Weed Guard
- Red Krystal Flash
- Nail Polish with Gold Glitter
- .030 lead
- 16 lb Mason Hard mono for the Weed Guard
- Silly Putty
- Epoxy : I like to use Clear Cure Goo, thick for the initial coats, and then I top coat it with the thin Hydro



or a 1



Tying Sequence

1. Bend your hook to match the shape of the spoon that you are using.
2. I like to tie in a little of the .030 lead on the keel of the fly so that it sinks quicker and with more action. This weight is optional, but I find that it makes the fly wobble more as it sinks.



3.(Left) Layer the lead with red thread and cover with glue (or Clear Cure Goo epoxy).

4. (Right) Lay a base of thread and palmer in red Krystal Flash. This gives color to the fly and also provides a base for the epoxy to grip.



5. (Right) Tie in a mono weed guard using the 16 lb mason line for the guard and the clear mono thread.
6. Take the hook out of your vice.

Tying Bench, continued... **Bob Burkard's Silly Putty Spoon Fly**

7. (Right) Make a spoon mold in the Silly Putty with your chosen spoon. Roll the putty into a ball and then press it flat. Gently press the spoon into the top surface of the Silly Putty to make an impression. I like to go in a little deeper than the final thickness of the fly. Remove the Spoon from the Silly Putty: you now have your spoon fly mold.



8. (Left) Brush the mold with a thin layer of Clear Cure Goo. I cure this layer with my UV light before adding the hook to the mold. Brushing epoxy up the sides will help make a concave face.

9. I add another thin layer of epoxy and hold the hook in the mold as I cure it with the UV light.



10. (Right) Remove your spoon fly from the mold by stretching the Silly Putty away from it until it separates. Bend the spoon "blank" just a little more to give it a concave underside by placing it in the meat of one hand and flexing the eye with the other hand. At this point in the process the spoon fly is very thin and very flexible, so be careful not to bend it too much or it will break.



11. File or trim any rough edges with scissors or an Emory board file. The additional layers of Clear Cure Goo epoxy that you will add later in the process will also help to smooth out rough edges.

12. Place the fly in your vice and paint the fly with the gold glitter nail polish. Cover both sides. Let the nail polish fully dry before proceeding further.

13. If necessary, give the spoon fly one final touch-up with the emery board file.

14. I like to give the spoon fly another coat of thick Clear Cure Goo (but not too thick), and then finish up with a top coat (or two) of the very thin Hydro Clear Cure Goo. Make sure that you fully cure the epoxy with the UV light between each layer.