

Tying Bench Dennis Marquis ties the Gummy Minnow



I bought a few gummy minnows at Bill Jackson's and had success so I decided to tie some myself. I could not find the body materials locally, so I ordered D's Flies Crystal Skin (thin) from Casters Online Fly Shop. The south side of Indian Key has been consistently productive for seatrout, small jacks and other species using small bait pattern flies on incoming and outgoing tides. The gummy minnow has worked the best. I found a hole that was so clear I could see the trout coming up to strike the fly.

Materials

- Hook: #1/0 - #06 Tiemco 811S
- .025 lead wire
- Thread: White 100 Denier Veevus GSP
- Body: Pearlescent Thin Crystal Skin or Sili Skin
- Back: Moss Green Thin Crystal Skin or Sili Skin
- Eyes: Super Pearl 3/16" Stick On Eyes or 4mm Living Eyes
- Overcoat: Clear Thin Crystal Skin or Sili Skin
- Glue: Loon Hard Head



Step 3: Cut and shape Thin Crystal Skin

Tying Sequence

1. Wrap lead around the hook shank starting from point of hook forward 10 wraps. Cover lead completely with thread, securing it on both ends. No glue is needed.
2. Using the Pearlescent Thin Crystal Skin for the body, cut a 2" long piece about 5/8" wide. Cut a slight taper from front to back on each side. Remove protective backing exposing sticky side, and fold sticky side down evenly over both sides of hook shank covering wrapped lead. Notice the body is placed on an angle to the hook. Squeeze body together working out air bubbles as needed. Scissor belly and tail to proper shape.
3. Using the Moss Green Thin Crystal Skin for the back, cut a 2" long piece about 3/8" wide. Cut a slight taper from front to back on each side. Remove protective backing exposing sticky side, and fold sticky side down evenly over top of body. Squeeze body and back together working out air bubbles as needed. Trim as needed to make it line up to the body tail edge.
4. Add eyes on each side using a dab of your favorite glue.
5. Using the clear Thin Crystal Skin to cover the whole fly, cut a 2" long piece about 6/8" wide. No taper is needed. Remove protective backing exposing sticky side, and fold sticky side down evenly over entire body. Squeeze body, back and whole fly cover together working out air bubbles as needed. Trim away excess as needed for shape. NOTE: It seals better if you let the clear to extend pass the body at all points, it sealed better.
6. Finish fly by starting thread behind eye and slowly work over material in front of eye over top and bottom of head to "squeeze" material to a softer point. When done, whip finish. Trim fly to desired appearance and cut off any extra material. You could apply some of your favorite glue along the seam that traverses the bottom of the fly.

Dennis