

Tying the Super Shrimp



Always begin by looking carefully at the example fly. This will help you understand what each step is trying to accomplish. Each piece of material is being placed on the fly for a reason. The other thing is that once a mistake is made it is very hard to make it go away. It is far better to recognize a mistake as it is being made and back up a step and do it over correctly. An excellent fly is never made by building over a mistake.

Start by attaching the tying thread to the rear of the Waddington Shank. A shank can be tied in a normal vise but you must remember that the TOP of the fly is either toward you or away from you depending on how you like the eye. This pattern uses Giorgio Benecchi iridescent thread and since it is used for the body, which is a significant part of the fly, the choice is important. The thread is spun with Mylar so it sparkles a bit and looks very natural in the water.



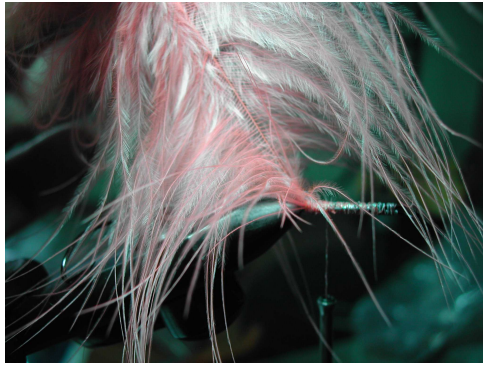
Take a foot of Fireline and attach it to the far side of the Waddington Shank and lace it down toward the front for about a quarter of an inch. Take the tag end, the end toward the front, and put it through the eye of the shank and pull it back tight to the tie in point. Wrap it around the shank 3-4 times and run it back through the eye and pull it back tight. Wrap it around 3-4 times and pull it back tight again. Then pull it to the rear and

lace it tightly to the shank and trim the excess. Repeat the process with the other end of the Fireline leaving a loop that is 2" from the front of the shank to the end of the loop. Insert an Owner hook into the loop and you

are ready to go.

You can adjust the weight and buoyancy of the pattern by adjusting the size of the hook. Following these instructions exactly will result in a trailer loop which will not pull out.





Take a piece of Marabou by the tip and stroke it to stand all the fibers straight out from the stem. Pull off the tip and tie it in by the stub of the tip at the rear of the shank. We want the natural curve of the feather to be so that the tips of the fibers run towards the rear of the fly and everything will lay very naturally. At this point most folks would fold the marabou with a scissor to make it easy to wrap but I would not do this. We want the marabou to stand very proud of the shank, as perpendicular as possible so we will fold it with our fingers as we wrap it so as not to break the backbone of

the fibers. With the fingers of the left hand gently pull the fibers we are about to wrap towards the rear of the fly and take a wrap. Keep stroking the marabou to the rear and make sure it does not bunch up where it goes around the shank. Keep stroking it to the rear and wrapping until you have 4-7 wraps. You can adjust the amount of wraps to create the amount of bulk you desire on the fly. Note in the picture how the marabou stands out from the shank and creates a big profile. Even when wet this fly will try to return to this shape as the current eases. The fly will pulse and look very alive.



When you tie off and trim the marabou be careful to create a fairly smooth transition from the marabou back to the shank. Using the thread, which is also the body material, start building a nice tapered body from the marabou to the front of the shank. When you

have the body the way you like it return the thread to the rear of the body and tie in the Mono eyes.

Remember that the top of the shank is towards you if you are using a non rotating vise. Using the thread make the final wraps of the body to the front, whip finish and cement.

