

Mickey Finn



Recipe

Hook:	6 xl – 8 xl streamer hook size 4 through 10
Thread:	Black 6/0
Rib:	medium silver oval tinsel
Body:	medium silver tinsel
Lower wing:	yellow bucktail
Middle wing:	red bucktail
Upper wing:	yellow bucktail.

Tying Instructions:

Start the thread behind the eye using a jam knot. To keep a relatively thin body, you do not need to lay down a thread base on the shank for this fly. You will be doing that in the next step. Using a gathering loop, tie in a 5" piece of oval silver tinsel on the side of the hook shank behind the eye of the hook. Hold the tinsel on your side of the hook, parallel to the shank and a little below the shank. Bind the tinsel down as you wind the thread to the rear of the shank trying to keep the tinsel on the side of the shank. After you wrap to the bend, return the thread to the original tie in point using a traveling wrap. Apply a thin coat of head cement to the body.

Using a gathering loop, tie in a 8" piece of silver mylar tinsel on the bottom of the hook shank. The silver side should be against the shank as we want that to be the body color after wrapping the body. Wrap the mylar tinsel in side by side wraps, moving towards the bend of the hook. Try not to overlap them as you wrap. Remember always wrap the tinsel away from you, over the top of the shank.

After covering all the thread wraps that secured the oval tinsel (at the bend), reverse direction and continue wrapping the tinsel back to the original tie in point. In an effort to minimize "bulk" on the top of the shank tie the mylar tinsel off on the bottom of the shank. Three tight wraps should secure the tinsel. Trim the excess tinsel close to the shank.

Wrap the oval tinsel in "ribs" over the mylar tinsel body. Space out the wraps so that you have 5 to 7 wraps of oval tinsel as you wrap towards the original tie in point. Again, tie off the oval in the same manner as the mylar, on the bottom of the hook shank. Secure it with 3 tight wraps and trim the excess. At this point you can apply a thin coat of head cement for durability. Wait for the cement to dry before continuing.

Select a small bunch of yellow bucktail, stack to even the tips. Place the bucktail on top of the shank, at the tie off point of the tinsel. The wing should be 1 1/2 times the shank length. Use the pinch method but don't apply too much thread tension as this will cause the bucktail to flare. Secure with 3 or 4 wraps that get tighter as you advance the thread towards the eye. Wrap the thread back to the original thread wrap for the wing. Make sure the yellow bucktail is on top of the hook shank, if it isn't, grasp with both hands and roll it to the top.

Select a small bunch of red bucktail equal to the yellow, stack to even the tips, place the bucktail on top of the yellow bucktail (on top of the tie off point of the tinsel). Use the pinch method but don't apply too much thread tension as this will flare the bucktail. Secure with 3 or 4 wraps that get tighter as you advance the thread towards the eye. Make sure the red bucktail is directly on top of the yellow. If it isn't, grasp the red bucktail with both hands and roll it to the top.

Select a bunch of yellow bucktail equal in size to the yellow and red bunches together. Stack to even the tips, place the yellow bucktail on top of the red bucktail (on top of the tie off point of the tinsel). Use the pinch method but don't apply too much thread tension as this will flare the bucktail. Secure with 3 or 4 wraps that get tighter as you advance the thread towards the eye. Make sure this bunch of yellow bucktail is directly on top of the other two. If it isn't, grasp the bucktail with both hands and roll it to the top. Wind the thread back to the first wrap of thread over the bucktail. Lift approximately 1/3 of the bucktail butts straight up and wrap 2 tight thread wraps in front of the butts you are holding. Then lift another 1/3 and wrap 2 tight thread wraps in front of the butts you are holding. Finally grasp the last 1/3 and do the same. Then grasp all the butts and trim at an angle that will start to form the head. Apply a drop of head cement to secure the butts.

Use 3 or 4 half hitches or a whip finish to finish the head. Clip the thread and place a small amount of head cement on the thread head.