



Chubb's Shad Buster

By
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May 2005 Fly of the Month

The shad season will soon be here and a pocket full of shad flies will keep you a happy fly fisher. There is a great deal of variation in shad flies. The one feature that most have is bright colors, usually yellow, chartreuse, white, hot pink, red and combinations of each of all of the colors! An effective shad fly must sink and drift along the bottom, so bead chain eyes, lead eyes, and lead wrap can all be used to get it down where the fish are. This fly is a version of one originated by Master Tier, Wayne Chubb. It proved deadly on the American in past seasons, and we began to call it "Chubb's Shad Buster".

MATERIALS

HOOK: Any medium shank, size 4-6

THREAD: Usually 6/0, color to match materials or white. Bright colors are best.

COLORS: Bright!

COLORS: Chartreuse calf tail, or crystal flash, marabou, you name it.

BODY MATERIAL: Chartreuse 15 lb. Amnesia monofilament, also can use chenille in bright colors.

EYES: Medium bead chain, also lead eyes or similar.

COLLAR: Pearl or clear crystal flash, or color of choice.

HEADWRAP: Medium chenille, bright orange or red.

Tying Instructions

1. Place the hook in the vise
2. Start the tying thread a short distance behind the eye of the hook and wrap a small bump of thread. (Figure 1 above)
3. Place a pair of bead chain eyes on top of the hook and use the thread to wrap them to the hook using a "figure eight" wrap (wrap over the middle behind the far eye, under and over the middle again and under the closer eye and back again). Keep thread tight or the eyes will shift. Tie off the thread and cut. (Figure 2 above right)
4. Tie in the thread again at a point just above and slightly behind the hook barb. (Figure 3 above right)
5. Cut a small piece of calf hair from the tail. Clean any fuzz or excess from the bunch and tie in just above the hook barb as shown. (Figure 4 above right)
6. Trim off the excess hair and tie down the ends of the calf hair. (Figure 5 at right)
7. Cut off a 6 foot piece of Amnesia 15 lb. test chartreuse mono from the spool and tie in the end just behind the bead chain eyes on the top of the hook shank. (Figure 6 at right)
8. Hold the mono on the top of the hook shank and wrap the thread down the mono to the tie-in-point and wrap the thread forward with big long wraps to the space just behind the eyes. (Figure 7 at right).



Figure 1

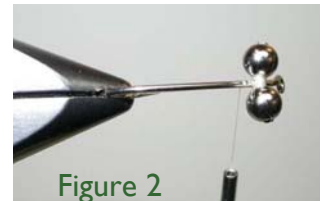


Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

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9. Wrap the Amnesia around the shank of the hook, starting at the tie-in point and moving forward. Keep the wraps as tight as possible. This will form a tough, colorful body for the fly. Tie off the Amnesia just behind the bead chain eyes and wrap the end several times. (Figure 8 at right).

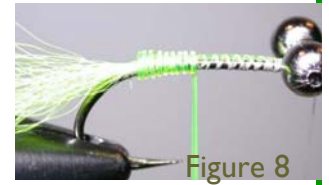


Figure 8

10. Choose a small bunch of clear or pearl Krystal Flash. Tie in just behind the bead chain eyes on both the top and bottom of the hook. Spread around the hook shank as shown to form a collar of Krystal Flash. Trim to length of the body or about even with the hook barb. To add strength, place a drop or two of "super glue" or head cement over the wraps on the bead chain eyes. (Figure 9 at right).



Figure 9

10. Cut a piece of medium red or orange chenille. Tie in just behind the eyes. Move the thread to a point just behind the hook eye. Wrap the chenille once around the hook shank, then over middle of the eyes and under the far eye and back forming a nice fuzzy head around the bead chain eyes. (Figure 11 at right). This adds color (and hides the thread wraps). End the wrap just behind the hook eye in front of the eyes and use the thread to tie off the chenille.



Figure 10

11. Trim off the chenille, wrap a nice head and tie off.



Figure 11



You're ready to fish!

