

# OSPREY FLY BOX

## BLACK BOSS

*contributed by*

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When I decide to go fishing for steelhead, trout, cutthroat or any other species of fish in rivers in Lower Mainland or any other rivers, for that matter; I never forget to take a few Black Boss flies with me. This fly has proven successful for me on many occasions, especially on the Squamish. The Black Boss is my first fly of choice. The best way the fly is described by Jason Aki, a fly fisherman with years of experience.

*“The Boss series of flies were originally created by a northern California fly tier, Grant King to catch steelhead on the famous Russian River. Traditionally intended for steelhead, the Black Boss has boasted many super sized catches of Chinook and Coho salmon over the years. The effectiveness of this pattern is not limited to this great states borders, the Boss has become a staple steelhead fly among serious fly anglers all the way to Alaska. The Boss fly pattern has a few unique features suited for fishing the faster flowing waters of the Pacific Northwest. The heavy dumbbell eyes allow this pattern to dredge down in the cool, deep flows and stir up even the most lackadaisical of fish. The stiff bucktail hair that is used for the flies tail also helps to*

*keep the fly from fouling on those long casts that are needed to get the fly to where the fish are holding.*

*When fishing the boss pattern there are no special techniques needed, simply fish it as you would any other big streamer fly. A traditional upstream and across cast is used to present the fly, then allow the fly to dead drift down stream drag free and swing at the end of the run. A good idea is to use some sort of strike indicator coupled to this pattern since the fly will be on or near bottom and light takes by fish will be hard to detect.”*

What I do differently from the original recipe, I use Arctic Fox for the tail. I use the posting technique when I am tying the tail to the hook to prevent fouling. I use different types of hooks: standard salmon style hooks & streamers fly hooks. Sometimes I will tie them in different colors also, like pink & red for Pink salmon or green & red for Coho salmon.

So don't leave home without it.

## MATERIALS



<b>Hook:</b>	Tiemco 9394, Size 4 to 10
<b>Thread:</b>	Black 6/0 (to match dubbing)
<b>Eyes:</b>	Silver Bead Chain or Silver Dumbbell ( <i>depending on water conditions</i> )
<b>Tail:</b>	Arctic Fox or other fur ( <i>original recipe calls for bucktail, but others can be substituted .... squirrel, bear, etc</i> )
<b>Body:</b>	Black Chenille
<b>Rib:</b>	Silver Tinsel #14
<b>Hackle:</b>	Red Saddle

## TYING INSTRUCTIONS

*Photography by Peter Chatt*



- Debarb the hook.
- Lay a thread base to the bend of the hook.
- Tie Bead Eyes in place with figure 8 loops. Add a drop of zap-a-gap to cement in place.
- Tie in hair for the tail (*skunk used here*). Tightly wrap three or four turns around the base of the tail to prevent fouling.

**TYING INSTRUCTIONS**

*Photography by Peter Chatt*



- Tie in the silver mylar, followed by the chenille.
- Wrap the chenille forward to the eyes and tie down. Clip the excess chenille.



- Wrap silver tinsel rib forward to the eyes. Tie down and clip the excess.
- Prepare the hackle feather. Strip barbs from one side of the saddle hackle, and stroke fibres back.
- Tie in the tip of the hackle and clip the excess.



- Make three or four wraps of hackle behind the eyes.
- Tie down and clip the excess.

*The Finished Fly*



- Stroke hackle fibres back and "lay the hackle down" with a few wraps of thread.
- Finish the head and whipfinish.
- Add a drop of head cement.

*Black Boss*

**BLACK BOSS VARIATIONS** ~ all tied with Artic Fur for tail

