

OSPREY FLY BOX

MICKEY FINN

by Terry Bragg

I've used this fly for many years. My first introduction to it was in Calgary in the '70s. I enjoyed 10 years there fishing local streams and rivers such as the Highwood, Cataract, Jumping Pound & the Bow River.

The Mickey Finn is an important fly to use when flies imitating food sources are not working, I've caught brookies, browns and rainbows on this fly and since living here this same fly has done very well for me on cutthroat & coho.

My most treasured catch however was while on a fishout as a member of the Calgary Hook & Hackle club on the Bow river. My partner Dave White had just landed a 26" brown & shortly after I landed a 24" rainbow from the same run on a Mickey Finn.

I've had good success with the Mickey Finn on local beaches for both cutthroat & coho, if all else fails tie on the Mickey.



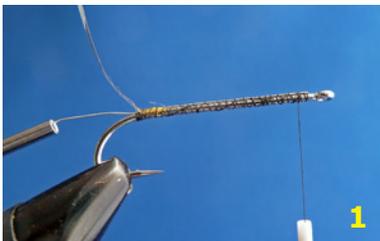
Mickey Finn out of Terry's fly box.

MATERIALS



- Hook:** Tiemco TMC 9394, Size 6
- Thread:** Black
- Body:** Flat Silver Mylar
- Rib:** Silver Wire
- Wing:** First Layer: Yellow Bucktail
Second Layer: Red Bucktail
Third Layer: Yellow Bucktail
- Eyes:** White Head Cement, Paint or Nail Polish
Black Sharpie Pen or Paint.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

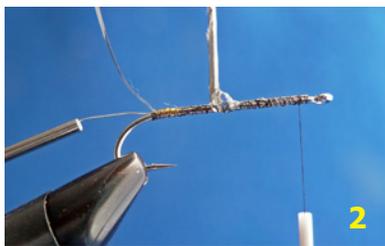


Debarb the hook.

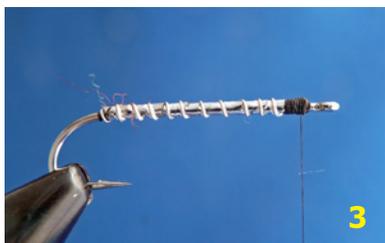
Put a base of thread on the hook then back to the eye.

Start the silver wire at the eye and lay on top of the hook held down with the thread.

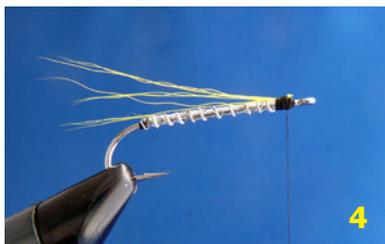
Tie in the flat silver mylar at the bend of the hook.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS (cont'd)

Put head cement on the thread base of the hook.



Wrap the flat silver mylar forward to the eye and tie off.
Wrap the silver wire forward forming an evenly spaced rib.
Paint the finished body with head cement.



Tie in a sparse wing of yellow buck tail.
Use your thumb nail to flatten the bundle.



Tie in the same amount of red buck tail on top of the yellow.



Tie in another bundle of yellow bucktail on top of the red.

TYER'S NOTE: I like this fly sparse, sometimes as sparse as six to ten hairs to each colour bundle.

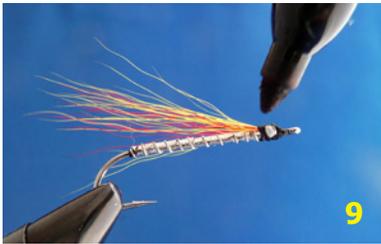


Build the head large enough to put the eye on.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS (cont'd)



Paint the white of the eye. Let it dry.



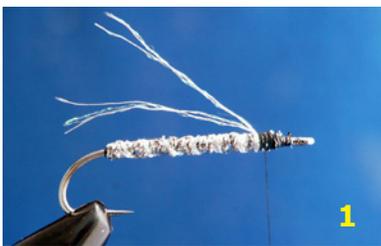
Apply the black dot of the eye with a Sharpie pen.

The Finished Fly



Mickey Finn

AN ALTERNATIVE VERSION



TYER'S NOTE: I tied a second version of the Mickey Finn using a silver mylar braided body with sparse crystal flash under the wing.

