

CHUBBY MUFFIN VARIANT



Recipe

Hook.....	Bass Stinger, size 4 - 1/0
Thread.....	6/0 color to match body
Eyes.....	Real Eyes dumbbell eyes
Flash.....	Gold holographic Flashabou
Dubbing.....	SLF Prism, Hares Ear
Collar.....	Long Schlappen, color of choice
Fins.....	Hen Saddle or Partridge feathers, color of choice
Tail.....	Magnum Rabbit Zonker strip, color of choice
Head.....	Neer hair, color of choice, spun in a dubbing loop and wrapped
Markers.....	Yellow and dark brown, optional

1. Place the hook in the vise and tie-in the thread behind the hook eye. Wrap the thread back to the middle of the hook shank then wrap it forward again to a point about 1/4th of the hook shank behind the hook eye.
2. Attach the dumbbell eyes on top of the hook shank about 1/4th of the hook shank behind the hook eye (where you left the thread) using several tight x-wraps. Apply super glue to the thread wraps to secure them. Wrap the thread back to the hook bend and let it hang.
3. Select 1-15 pieces of flash and tie them in by one end at the hook bend on top of the Hook shank. The length of the flash should be out behind the hook bend. Bind down the butts with several tight thread wraps. Return the thread to the hook bend. **Do not trim the flash at this time.**
4. Dub the thread and wrap a bulky ball at the hook bend, then tie it off. Remove any Excess dubbing. *This ball will help flare the collar out and keep it from flattening.*
5. Select a schlappen feather and tie it in **by the tip** at the front of the dubbing ball with the concave side against the hook shank. The length of the feather should be extending back over the hook bend. Grasp the feather and make 5-6 touching turns tight against the front of the dubbing ball to form a collar, then tie it off and remove

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any remaining feather. *(Be sure to stroke the fibers back with each wrap to avoid tying down the previous fibers).*

6. Now select 2 hen saddle or partridge feathers to use as fins. Remove the fluff from the base of the feathers, then tie one on each side of the fly in front of the collar. **Tie the feathers in so that they flare out from the side of the fly.** Place a half hitch at the feather tie-in point.
7. Cut a 3-3 ½" piece of zonker strip. Measure the strip so that one end will reach slightly past the hook eye, then move back down the strip and place a dot on the skin side of the strip where the strip will be behind the flash tie-in point. Remove the hook from the vise. Push the hook point through the skin side of the zonker strip where you placed the dot. Pull the strip down tight against the flash tie-in point and swivel it so that the long end of the strip goes out past the hook bend as a tail and the short side goes to the hook eye. Place the hook back in the vise with the **hook point up**. Stretch the front of the strip forward over the collar and between the fins and tie it off in front of the fin tie-in point behind the dumbbell eyes. Cover the butt with tight thread wraps and remove any excess. The thread should now be slightly behind the dumbbell eyes.
8. Trim the flash even with the end of tail.
9. Cut a long clump of Neer Hair into 1" lengths (5-6 1" lengths should be enough) then form a 6" dubbing loop and insert the butt ends of the hair lengths into the loop. Spread out the hair evenly in the loop and arrange it so that the hair fibers are long on one side of the loop only *(this will aid in spinning the loop and creating a long and shaggy hair dubbing brush.)*.
10. Spin the loop to create a shaggy dubbing brush, make 2 turns of the brush behind the dumbbell eyes, then figure-eight the brush around the eyes. Brush the hair back with each turn to create a full head. Finish with several wraps in front of the dumbbell eyes and tie off the brush. Remove any excess dubbing brush.
11. Form a small thread head, do a whip finish, and cut the thread. Brush the hair around the dumbbell eyes to straighten the hair fibers, then trim the hair at a relatively flat angle on the underside of the head. Brush the remaining fibers back toward the hook bend. Trim the hair where necessary to uncover the eyes and form a thick muddler-like head. Be careful to avoid cutting into the fins. Trim along the eyes to expose them and smooth out the overall shape of the head.
12. At your option, use a yellow permanent marker pen to color the top and sides of the head, then use a dark brown marker to color the top of the head and between the eyes.