

The Dog Nobbler

By Derek Young (By kind permission of Sid Knight)

The Dog Nobbler was devised by the late Trevor Housby over 33 years ago and is still a popular and successful fly (so successful it was patented by Sid Knight).

Trevor used to fish the clear side streams of Hampshire, trying to catch the older, wiser, big trout that were difficult to catch having been fished for many times (Dog fish as he called them).

He devised a fly with weight at the head (originally a lead shot as shown in the step by step) to get the fly to dive to where the trout were lying, with a long mobile tail, giving the fly life and movement and it was unbelievably successful.

Having caught the trout, he "NOBBLED" it with his priest, hence the name DOG NOBBLER.

Trevor fished the fly on a sinking line with long, slow jerky pulls to make the tail work or with a jerky fig 8 retrieve.



Dressing

Hook: Standard wet size 8 to 12.

Head: Originally lead shot (as in the tying sequence) but otherwise a black tungsten bead, (4mm on 8, 3.5mm on 10 and 3mm on size 12).

Onto bead are painted eyes, 1st white, then yellow, and finally black (with time in-between each application for the paint to dry).

Sid sells ready made beads already on the hook @£7-00 for 10. See his website (www.dognobbler.com) or ring him on 01746765407.

Tail: Marabou with a few strands of pearly material mixed in. (I've used 2 strands of Veniards Micro flash, pearl each side).

Body: Either chenille or a flat pearly reflective material.

Hackle: Palmered hackle wound down the body.

Rib: Fine silver wire.

Colour: It is tied to imitate small fish and can be tied in any single colour or mixed colours. eg All black, all white, all olive etc, or black tail with orange body, olive tail with yellow body etc (numerous possibilities).



Step 1

Set hook in vice (ping it), catch on tying thread and wind in touching turns half way down hook shank...



Step 2

...remove waste thread and return back up to eye in OPEN turns, whip finish and remove tying thread.



Step 3

Squeeze lead shot onto hook shank, then turn hook upside down, adding a touch of super-glue to seep into crack.



Step 4

When super-glue is dry, paint the lead shot in gloss black Humbrol paint and allow to dry. Turn hook correct way up and coat again with black gloss humbrol paint and again allow to dry.



Step 5

Turn hook on its side and place a dab of **white** paint in the centre (1st one side and when dry, duplicate on the other side).

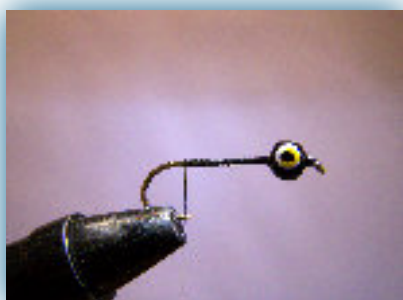
When dry put a smaller dab of **yellow** in the centre of the white...



Step 6

...and finally a smaller dab of black in the centre to complete the eye and allow to dry. When dry coat with 2 to 3 layers of Sally Hanson hard as nails varnish.

Tip : Sid Knight sells ready prepared dog nobbler heads at £7-00 for 10. (see his website www.dognobbler.com or phone him on Tel : 01746765407).



Step 7

Set the hook with prepared head, back in the vice (ping it) and re-attach the tying thread, running tying thread down towards bend, to a position above and between the hook barb and hook point.



Step 8

Prepare tail by "tearing off" a bunch of LONG marabou fibres of the relevant colour...



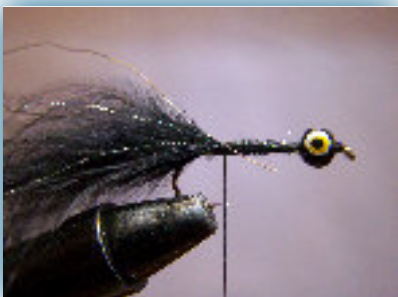
Step 9

...wet your finger and thumb and "roll" the marabou.



Step 10

Tie in the marabou tail with a few strands of pearly material mixed in (tinsel, flashabou, crystal flash etc).



Step 11

Catch in the fine silver wire...



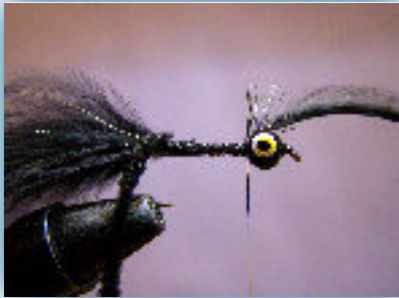
Step 12

...prepare the relevant colour chenille by removing some of the fibres to leave a tag...



Step 13

...then tie the chenille in by the tag.



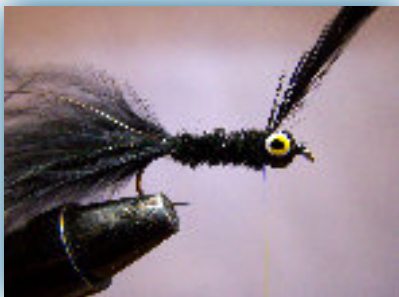
Step 14

Return tying thread up hook shank to bead, binding down the wire and tie in the body hackle by the stalk, facing forward.



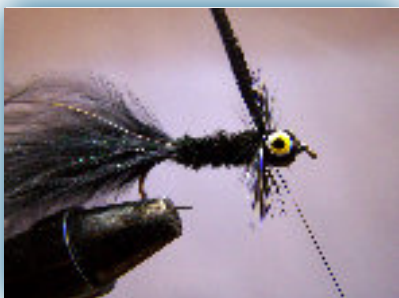
Step 15

Wind the chenille in touching turns, up hook shank to bead.



Step 16

Secure chenille, remove waste and leave the tying thread behind the bead.



Step 17

Wind the hackle 2 or 3 times behind the bead...



Step 18

...then in OPEN turns down the hook shank (in opposite direction to chenille) over the body. Hold hackle upright and secure with 2 turns of wire rib...



Step 19

...then wind the wire (by wiggling from side to side) in open turns up to eye.

Tip : "wiggling" the wire as you wind, helps to stop trapping too many hackle fibres under rib.



Step 20

Secure the wire, whip finish and wiggle, agitate the wire till it snaps and remove excess palmered body hackle at the tail.



Step 21

Complete another whip finish and remove tying thread.



The finished fly.



The other side.