

The Humungus (Dave Downie)

By Derek Young

I understood it to have been invented by Dave Downie for fishing Loch Leven in Scotland, but Dave states that he and his team mate (Ally Wells) were inspired by pattern's given them by Jock Hodge & Dusty Miller, David Chalmers "Loch Leven Shimmy" and Sid Night's Dog & Frog Nobbler's.



The heavy chain bead eye's, soft hen hackle and marabou tail, in conjunction with a mixture of short sharp twitches and figure of 8 retrieves imparts life into this pattern, which in the gold variant has caught me many Brown trout and tends to attract the "Larger" fish.

Dressing		Hackle	Soft chinese hen hackle (Chinchilla if you can obtain it, a whitey poor grizzle)
Hook	Kamasan B175 size 8		
Thread	Black 6 or 8 ought UNI thread	Rib	Fine/medium silver wire
Under Tail	8 to 10 strands of flat silver tinsel	Eyes	4mm silver chain bead eye's
Over Tail	Black marabou (tied long 2 to 3 inches)	NOTE	For the gold variant use, gold tinsel, gold tinsel, gold fritz body, gold wire rib and gold chain bead eye's. (Other colour variants use respective colours)
Body	Small Silver cactus chenille /fritz		



Step 1

Set hook in vice (ping it) and catch on tying thread...



Step 2

...and remove waste



Step 3

Cut off a set of 2, from the silver chain bead with a pair of pliers / tin snips



Step 4

Lay the pair of "eyes" on top of hook shank...



Step 5

...and take a couple of loose turns of tying thread over them. As you tighten up thread they will twist through 90 degrees...



Step 6

...then secure eyes on top of hook shank with figure of 8 wraps (ie over hook shank, right to left, then under bead, over hook shank, left to right, and keep repeating until secure).

Tip : Add a touch of super glue to the wrappings between the eyes and leave to dry. (I normally do a batch of 20 to 40 at this stage for future use).



Step 7

Secure 8 to 10 strands of holographic silver tinsel, (Ripple flash / Flashabou etc) behind chain bead eyes...



Step 8

...and bind down on top of hook shank, down to bend at a point above and half way between hook barb and hook point.



Step 9

Trim off waste tinsel to leave under tail of 2 to 3 inches.



Step 10

Wet you finger and thumb and prepare a nice bunch of black marabou by pulling it at 90 degrees to stalk.



Step 11

Tear off the marabou...



Step 12

...and tie it in as an over tail to the tinsel (by using “pinch and loop” technique).



Step 13

Continue binding down the marabou (on top of hook shank) up to eyes...



Step 14

...and trim off waste stubbs



Step 15

Catch in 3 inches of fine silver wire ,to side and underneath hook shank...



Step 16

...then bind wire down on hook shank to tail



Step 17

Select fine silver cactus chenille/ fritz...



Step 18

...remove a small amount of fritz fibres to expose core...



Step 19

...and tie in the core, moving tying thread up to behind eyes



Step 20

Using a nice soft chinese hen cape (Chinchilla if you can obtain it), a whitey, poor grizzle...



Step 21

...prepare a hackle fibre (by removing the basal fluff)...



Step 22

...and tie in behind eyes facing forward

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Step 23

Remove waste stalk, bind down and return tying thread to behind the eyes



Step 24

Wind chenille forward, up hook shank, to eyes...



Step 25

...secure and remove excess chenille



Step 26

Using hackle pliers (if required) take 2 turns of hackle behind eyes, then wind 3 OPEN turns towards tail



Step 27

Holding hackle upright, wind the silver wire (in opposite direction to hackle) up the hook shank, in open turns, to trap the palmered hackle stalk. Wiggle the wire as you go to avoid trapping too many hackle fibres up to eyes and secure

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Step 18

Agitate, wiggle wire till it snaps, whip finish and trim the waste hackle at the tail



The Finished Fly



The Other Side