

Fly of the Month

Smitty's Neon Knight

The Neon Knight is fished in the same manner as any baitfish imitation. Let it sink a bit and vary the retrieve from short to long strips depending on your target. You will find it lands softly and sinks slowly, as the synthetics do not absorb water. It is a favorite fly in the Everglades for skinny water snook and reds as well as an excellent fly for tarpon. Tarpon can't resist the greenish glow it produces in deeper-water situations.

Materials:

Hook: Gamakatsu SC15 size 2/0

Thread: Clear mono, 3/0

Flash: Flashabou, white glow-in-dark

Body & Wing: EP Fiber, white glow-in-the-dark

Throat: Flashabou, pink glow-in-dark

Topping: Krystal Flash, white glow accent

Eyes: 1/4" 3-D asymmetric mirage eyes

Step 3: Wrap thread forward to hook eye for a wing base. Cut a medium-size bunch of EP Fiber and tie them facing forward, with the back end aligned with the throat wrapping back to throat. Secure by wrapping toward the eye. All fibers for the wing should be forward of the eye.

Step 4: Pull all the fibers back together and move the thread to the eye. Once all fibers are pulled back, jump the thread on top of the EP Fiber and wrap a tight, neat head.

Step 5: Add a small bunch of Krystal Flash as topping for the wing. Then trim excess material at an angle, starting at the back and moving toward the hook point. This step is important, as the tapered fibers keep the longer material in back from fouling around the hook.

Step 6: Secure head and add mirage eyes. You can also add a bit of thinned clear acrylic cement to the entire head to maintain shape.



Tying Sequence:

Step 1: Attach thread midpoint on the hook, and wrap a base to apply a small bunch of EP Fiber for tail and then add a small bunch of Flashabou directly on top of the EP Fiber.

Step 2: Turn hook over and tie in a throat of pink Flashabou. Trim just short of hook point.