

Gartside Gurgler

Jack Gartside has been hailed as one of the most innovative and inventive fly tiers of the modern era. Jack first designed and tied the Gurgler pattern in 1988. Since that time it's been proclaimed by many experts as one of the single best topwater flies you could ever tie onto the end of your leader. Since tying up the first Gurgler, there have been many variations, of which this is one.

The Gurgler has established a place as one of the the most popular and effective surface commotion patterns the world over.



Materials:

Hook - Mustad S74S SS #6-1/0

Thread - White Flat Wax

Tail - White Bucktail

Eyes - 3D Stick-on

O/Body - 5mm Closed-cell foam

Legs - Estaz Chenille

Flash - Silver Holo Flash

Gills - Pink Hackle Feather

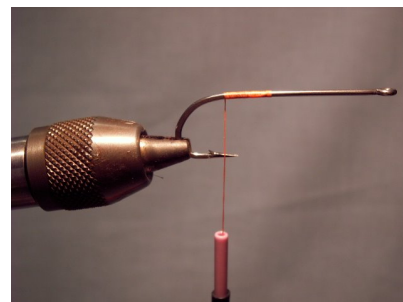
Glue - Zap-a-dap-a-goo

Tying Instructions:

Step 1 – Place the hook in the vise.

Attach thread behind the eye of the hook and wrap toward the rear of the hook till you are over the barb of the hook.

Return the thread back to the point of the hook.



Step 2 - Cut, clean and stack a sparse sprig of Bucktail and tie it down directly above the barb of the hook.

The tail should be about 1½ hook lengths.



Step 3 – Return thread back to the hook point again and tie in six strands of silver Holo-Flash on top of the Bucktail, they should extend about ½ inch beyond the tail, then return the thread back to the hook point.



Step 4 – Cut a strip of foam about two hook lengths long. Lay the strip of foam on top of the shank over the hook point. Take two tight thread turns around the foam strip at the base of the tail, pinching the foam evenly around the sides of the shank. The foam should be lying on top of the Bucktail.



Step 5 – Tie in the Estaz Chenille on top of the foam tie in point and move thread to the hook eye.



Step 6 – Wrap the Chenille along the shank using tight close wraps palming the fibres back as you wrap, tie off about 2½ hook eye widths behind the eye and trim excess.



Step 7 – Select a Hackle feather and tie in directly in front of the chenille. Make three or four close winds of the hackle, tie it off and trim the excess. Palm the Hackle fibers down.



Step 8 - Fold the foam forward over the top of the shank, pull it tight and tie it down directly in front of the hackle.



Step 9 - Lift the remaining foam and put about six wraps of thread in front of the foam, so to stand the nose up. Cut off the excess foam, leaving a face about 8mm tall, whip finish off and head cement.



Step 10 - Use Zap-a-dap- to glue on the eyes, trim the head so it has a flat face to push water.



A must have if you are fishing in any freshwater impoundment for Saratoga or Bass. It works a treat on any surface feeding fish especially when there are lots of prawns around.