

Rowies Venison Fly

Here you have a very good fly that is heaps of fun to tie.

Even though it was a fly developed by my good friend Johnny Rowe back in the early 90's for Saratoga in Borumba Dam, it is still one of the best Saratoga flies where ever you are lucky enough to find them.

My favourite colours are rust, black and natural, tied with a chartreuse head and a white tail.



This fly works best fished rather slowly in and around the timber and is well suited to fishing deep, shallow or on the surface. The secret of this flies success is to trim the deer hair head so the fly tilts head down in between retrieves. I've used this fly to catch Bass, Yellowbelly and Silvers. I've even tied it huge and tricked a number of Barramundi. Try it in your waters and I'm sure you'll be surprised at the way it fishes.

Materials

Hook - Gammakatsu B10 S # 2 or 4

Thread - Flat Waxed Nylon

Tail - Zonker

Body - Rayon Chenille

Head - Deer Hair (must be belly hair)

Eyes - Extra large bead chain

Step 1

Lay a bed of thread along the shank of the hook from mid point to the rear tie-in area. Tie in the Zonker as a tail so that the leather on the zonker doesn't extend past the bend of the hook more than the gape of the hook – this is most important so as the fly doesn't continually tail wrap.



Step 2

Tie in Chenille and wrap forward to mid-way point forming the body. It's important to leave the front part of the shank bare of thread so we can spin deer hair around it.



Step 3

Pull Zonker over Chenille body and tie off, making sure not to cover too much of the bare shank.

Step 4

Cut a stack of Deer Hair about 5mm in diameter and tie onto the top of the last tie-in point with the tips facing to the rear and extending no further back than the bend of the hook. Wrap thread around the stack twice and pull down allowing the hair to flare but not spin around the shank. Add another 3 wraps around the same point and pull the hair to the rear and advance the thread forward and wrap thread around the shank in front of the hair very tightly.



Step 5

Advance thread forward 2mm. Cut a second 5mm stack of Deer Hair and trim off the tips to a piece about the length of the shank. Lay on the shank and wrap thread twice and pull tight to flare and spin the hair evenly around the shank. Wrap 3 more times in the same place and then pull hair to the rear and wrap tightly in front.



Step 6

Take a hair packer and pack the hair tightly and secure with another couple of wraps of thread.



Step 7 - Repeat step 5 & 6 till the whole shank is full. Probably another 1 or 2 stacks.

Step 8

Tie Bead Chain in just behind the eye of the hook with a series of figure 8's and Unders & Overs and whip finish ready for the last step.



Step 9

Using the Bead Chain Eyes as a reference point trim deer hair back to form a nice neat head. Leaving the first stack that had the deer hair tips facing backward. You don't want these tips cut as they give the fly more action.



There you have it - Rowe's Venison Fly.

