

Ft. Worth Fly Fishers
July 2017 Fly of the Month
Sculpin



A sculpin is a type of fish that belongs to the superfamily Cottoidea in the order Scorpaeniformes. Sculpins are elongated, tapered fish, usually with wide, heavy heads. It is exceedingly common in the waters we fish and readily taken by most of the target fish that we pursue. Here's a deeply weighted version with some neat tying techniques.

Materials:

Hook : 3X or 4X Size 2 or 1/0 Streamer hook (Mustad L87-3665A)

Weight: 0.20 Lead or Non-Toxic

Tail and Pectoral Fins: A pair of Pheasant, hen or Grouse body feathers

Body: Your favorite brand of synthetic or natural medium stiff fibers (I used EP fibers for this example.)

Eyes: 3D or equivalent

1). Wrap the lead or non-toxic wire to cover 2/3 of the hook shank (leaving a little room behind the eye and double wrap about 1/4 at the front.



2).Cover the wire wraps with thread to make a more durable body and then wrap back to the bend of the hook.

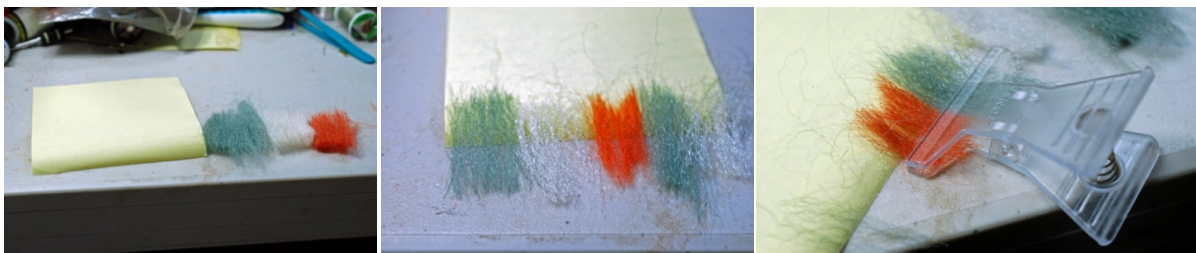
Ft. Worth Fly Fishers
July 2017 Fly of the Month
Sculpin



3). Attach a pair of body feathers, mated so that they form a single tail. Should be proportional to the overall size of the fly.



4). For the body and the head, use a dubbing loop. To add fiber to the dubbing loop, I cut one inch lengths of EP fibers of various colors. I then used a sticky notes page, adhesive side up to lay out the fibers. I then used a materials clip (mines from Orvis, Marc Pettijean makes a great set, or use a stationery "bulldog" clip) to grab the fibers and place them into the dubbing loop. I find some dubbing wax on the dubbing loop helps keep everything from going out of control. Spin the fibers in the dubbing loop to capture them completely. Wrap the dubbing loop, starting at the tail attachment point and wrap the body up to the doubled section of lead wrap (the head will be forward of this point). Use fibers in the dubbing loop that are approximately one inch in length, alternating colors.



Ft. Worth Fly Fishers
July 2017 Fly of the Month
Sculpin



Brush out the dubbing loop using a brass brush



5.) Trim the dubbing loop body to form a tapered (back to front) shape. Leave the fibers at the back a little long so they drape over the tail and leave a more sculptured body.



6.) Attach two additional body feathers (proportional), one on each side of the body at the point that the body dubbing loop stopped.



Ft. Worth Fly Fishers
July 2017 Fly of the Month

Sculpin

7). Create a new dubbing loop for the head. You may want these fibers to be a little longer than the body fibers. Whip finish at the back of the eye. Be careful not to add so much head that you crowd the eye (like I did).



8). Brush out the fibers for the dubbed head and then clip to a head shape.



9). Attach eyes of your choice to complete the head. I used a bead of super glue and just pressed them into the head



***Ft. Worth Fly Fishers
July 2017 Fly of the Month***

Sculpin

This will sink rapidly and be where the real sculpins live. Fish with a quick stripping motion after the fly has sunk near the bottom.

Barry Webster

Tying Director