



International Federation of **FLY FISHERS**

Conserving, Restoring, Educating Through Fly Fishing

FLY OF THE MONTH

Cheeky Mouse

May 2014

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Creator: Nick Jones

Guest Tier: Nick Jones

Have you ever wanted to tie a mouse, but did not want to spin deer hair? Deer hair may float like a cork, but it does not resemble the hair of a mouse. Recently, I came across a mouse pattern that is so elegant and simple that I had to learn how to tie it. This month's fly comes from the East Idaho Fly Tying Expo in Idaho Falls, April 26, 2014 where I sat down with Nick Jones the creator of the Cheeky Mouse.

Materials

Thread – Gray 3/0

Hook – Size 2-4 TMC 5262 or other 4x long nymph hook.

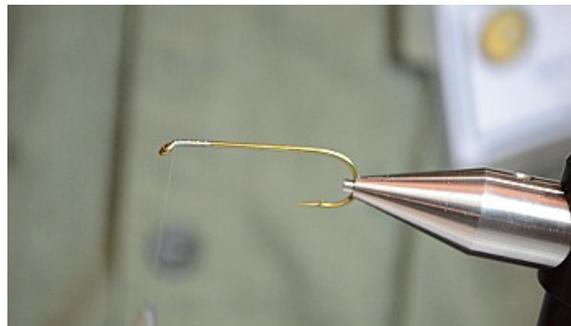
Cheeks – Gray 2 mm Cross-Link Sheet Foam

Body – Pine Squirrel zonker strips

Back – Gray ¼ inch Evazote Sheet Foam.

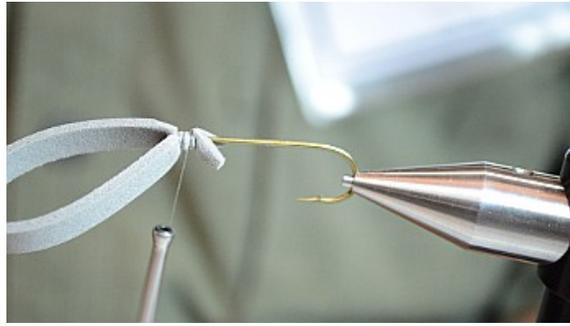
Tail – Gray Ultra-Chenille

Tying Steps



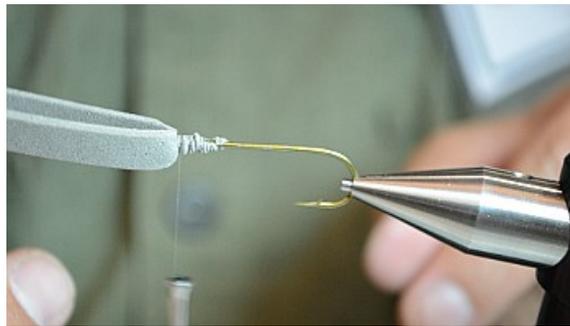
Step 1

Start with a jam knot right behind the eye of the hook. Make a thread base down approximately one quarter the hook shank and return the thread to the eye.



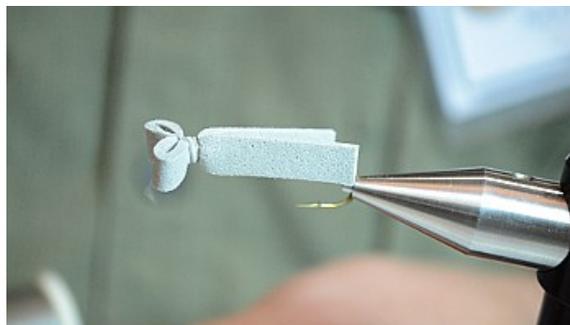
Step 2

Cut a piece of 2mm gray foam into a strip that is approximately the width of $\frac{2}{3}$ the gap of the hook. Fold the strip in half placing the ends on each side of the hook so that they line up with the end of the thread base. Make several wraps over the foam securing it firmly to the hook. Pull the tag ends of the foam up and trim the ends that remain at a diagonal.



Step 3

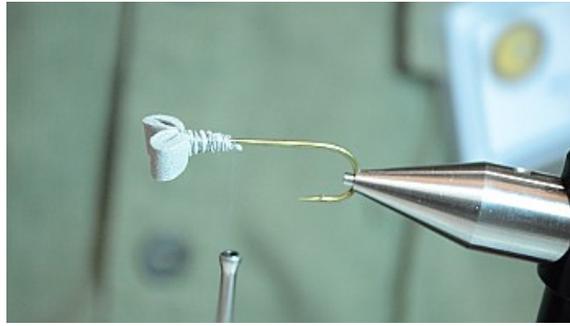
Wrap thread around the ends to form a nice taper and finish with the thread back behind the eye of the hook.



Step 4

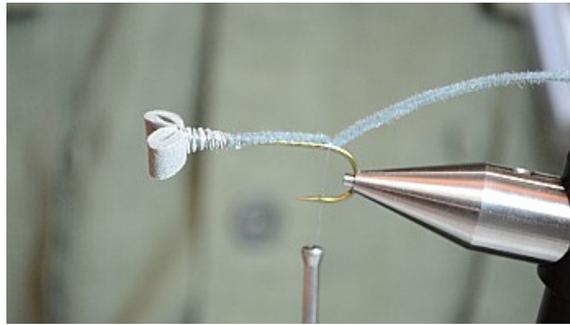
Now cut the loop that is sticking out the front of the fly. Fold each piece of foam back down the side of the hook leaving enough extra to form small loops. These two loops are the cheeks that

give this mouse its name. Make several wraps over the foam securing it firmly to the hook.



Step 5

Trim the ends that remain at a diagonal in the same fashion as before. Wrap thread around the ends to form a nice taper and finish with the thread at the end of the foam.



Step 6

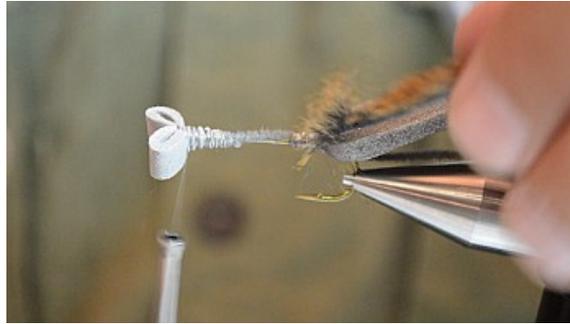
Cut a piece of gray ultra chenille that is approximately three times the length of the hook. Tie this down the length of the shaft to the barb and leave the excess hanging off the back. This will form the tail of the mouse.



Step 7

Prepare a piece of 1/4 inch gray Evazote foam by first cutting it into a strip that is slightly wider than the hook gap. Trim the end to a point and tie in the foam by the point. This foam is less dense and compresses easily.

Optional: Nick also bevels the edge of the foam using a large pair of scissors and then burnishes it with a lighter thus giving it a rounded surface.



Step 8
Tie in a piece of zonked pine squirrel.



Step 9
Palmer the pine squirrel strip with touching wraps up the entire length of the hook shank. Moisten your fingers and stroke the hair back with every turn to avoid trapping hair. When you reach the cheeks, tie off the pine squirrel strip and cut off the the remainder.



Step 10
Moisten your fingers and part the hair at the top of the fly so that when you fold over the foam it does not trap down any extra hair. Pull the foam over the back of the fly and pull it tight. Tie down the foam behind the cheeks.



Step 11

Cut the foam off equal to the front of the cheeks. This will create a cup that will make a lot of noise when pulled through the water. Pull back the cheeks and whip finish right behind the eye of the hook.



Step 12

The last step is to take a lighter and touch the flame briefly to the end of the chenille tail. This will seal the tail and give it a taper.

Please note: The demonstration you are viewing makes no claim, implied or otherwise, that the presenter or demonstrator of the fly pattern was the original creator of the fly.

This is the guest tyer's version of this fly and it may differ from the creator's or other versions and variations.

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You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at
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