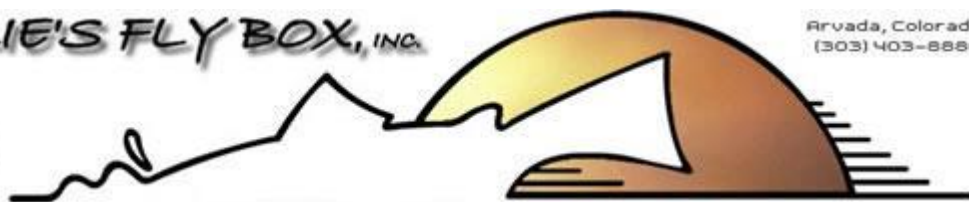


CHARLIE'S FLY BOX, INC.



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Pat's Rubber Legs aka The Pickle



Fly Patterns brought to you by Charlie's FlyBox

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Charlie Craven and Charlie's FlyBox, Inc.

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step: 1

Pattern Description

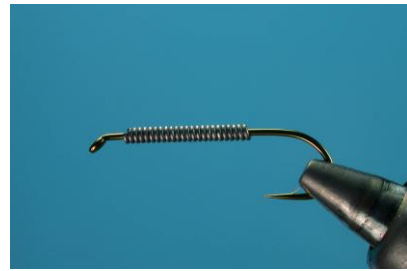
This crazy fly has become all the rage over the past couple of summers. The Pat's Rubber Legs is a simple stonefly nymph pattern that has really caught on with local anglers and guides alike. I've always thought of this fly as a Girdle Bug myself, but apparently there are a few subtle differences and that, I suppose, is enough. Fish this fly under an indicator as a nymph or behind a streamer when fishing from a boat. The Super Floss legs flex and pulse in the current adding life to the fly, and the chenille color can be varied to match any shade of stonefly. Black, brown and variegated golden are all popular colors. I have had a pile of folks come in the shop looking for materials for this fly (and of course, we have 'em) and then I see them back again in a couple days with questions on how to tie it. This fly is really very simple, but it is a little tricky to get everything to come out in the right place. Placement of the legs is crucial to getting the proportions right, although I can hazard a guess that even if the legs are not perfectly even and spaced, the fly will still do the job. Tie 'em up and put them in the water.

Materials Needed:

Hook: Daiichi 2220 #6-12>>>>>
Weight: Lead Wire>>>>>
Thread: 8/0 Black (yes, 8/0 because it is small and lashes the legs in place without a lot of bulk)>>>>> Tail, Legs and Antennae: Super Floss, Spanflex or Flexi Floss: these are all the same material sold under different brand names. Spandex elastic legs like this are much more durable than the usual rubber legs).>>>>> Body: Medium Chenille, solid colors or variegated.

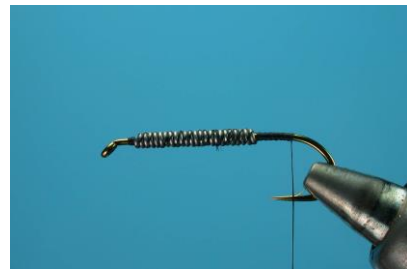
step: 2

Start with about twenty wraps of .025 lead on a size 6 hook. Start the lead just in front of the hook point on the shank and wrap forward. Break off the ends.



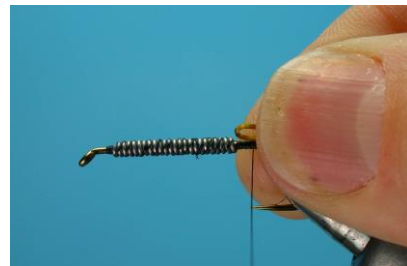
step: 3

Start the thread just in front of the lead wrap and form a smooth thread base back to the bend.



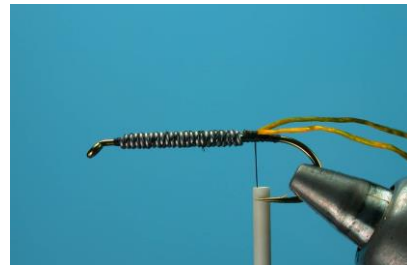
step: 4

Cut a three inch section of Super Floss and fold it in its middle. Lay the resulting loop in at the bend of the hook and trap it with a pinch wrap of thread.



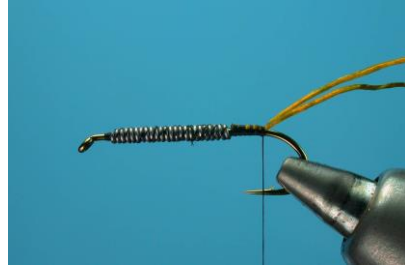
step: 5

Pull up on the long ends of the Super Floss and wrap the thread back over them to the bend. Take care to keep the floss on the top of the hook with each strand off its respective side of the hook.



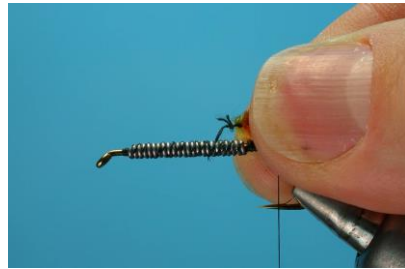
step: 6

The tail ought to look like this>>> Don't worry about the length just yet, we will trim everything down at the end.



step: 7

Cut an 8 inch length of chenille from the card and strip the fibers from one end, exposing the two strand core as shown here. We are going to tie the chenille in by the exposed cord to eliminate bulk and the inherent body bump that would come with it.



step: 8

So, tie the chenille in just in front of the tails by the core and move the thread forward to about the eighty percent point.



step: 9

Lay a two inch strand of Super Floss across the shank at the eighty percent point and tie it in with a couple tight x-wraps. Just use a couple and don't fret too much if the legs aren't perfect.



step: 10

Move the thread forward just a tiny bit, about the same distance forward as a wrap of chenille would take, and tie in another strand of Superfloss as you did with the first one.



step: 11

Move the thread forward one more chenille wrap sized notch and tie in the third strand of Super Floss.



step: 12

Move the thread all the way up to the hook eye forming a base and back again to the index point (one eye length back). Make the first turn of chenille under the Super Floss tails at the bend of the hook.



step: 13

Continue wrapping the chenille forward from the bend up to the back of the first set of legs.



step: 14

Make the next turn of chenille between the first and second legs. You want just ONE turn of chenille between them, not any more.



step: 15

Make the next turn of chenille between the second and third sets of legs. Again, JUST ONE!



step: 16

Make the next turn of chenille in front of the third set of legs. You want these wraps to be snugged up to the Super Floss legs as you make them so they sort of hold the legs in position. You can see that once you tie one of these, you'll have a much better idea of the spacing that you'll need for the legs.



step: 17

Tie the chenille off at the index point and clip the excess. Build a smooth thread base over the stub ends.



step: 18

Fold another piece of Super Floss over like you did for the tail and tie it in at the front of the chenille body behind the eye.



step: 19

Smooth the tie down on the antennae and pull them back out of the way while you whip finish behind the eye. Clip the thread.



step: 20

Trim the legs, tails and antennae so they are about three quarters of a shank length long. That's it. You are the proud owner of what Colorado fishing guides are calling "The Pickle".

