



Whalley Strip Leech

- Hook:** Standard Streamer Hook #4 or #2
Thread: 6/0 to match body
Weight: Lead wire
Tail & Wing : Zonker Strip (white, yellow, olive or black)
Body: Chenille (white, yellow, olive or black)
Hackle: Neck Hackle (white, yellow, olive or black)
Eyes: (Optional) 3D Epoxy to match fly

Tying Instructions

1. Wrap lead wire on the hook shank to cover 3/4 of the shank. Attach thread to the hook and secure the lead wire.
2. Prepare and tie in the chenille and the hackle feather by the tip at the bend of the hook.
3. Separate the hair from the zonker strip and tie it in at the hook bend on the top of the hook shank so that there is a tail of rabbit hair extending 1/2" beyond the hook bend. Do not trim the zonker strip, just fold it out of the way to complete the next steps.
4. Move the thread forward to just behind the hook eye. Wrap the chenille forward. Tie off and trim the chenille.
5. Wrap the hackle forward in evenly spaced wraps to the point just behind the eye of the hook. Make a couple of extra wraps up front to form a collar.
6. Pull the zonker strip up the back of the fly and tie in at the front of the hook. .
7. Trim the zonker strip, form a neat head and tie off the fly. If you wish, you can apply eyes and a light coat of epoxy to the head of the fly.



Lead wire helps this bouyant fly sink a bit. it still has a great suspending action when worked with aggressive strips and pauses

The body of this fly is similar to a woolly bugger. The chenille and hackle create both bulk and movement.

Be careful not to trap too much fur from the zonker strip. It will make the fly look neater and give it a better action.

This fly works great in many different colors. For minnow imitations white and yellow are hard to beat. When you will be working the fly deeper and slower olive and black are also top colors.

A full collar on this fly gives it more bulk and action. This also helps the fly track well.

Careful preparation of the zonker strip to avoid trapping hair makes for a better wing on this fly. The combination of hackle and rabbit fur give thsi fly a unique action.

Eyes are a welcome addition to any streamer pattern. With this fly they can be added or omitted. Without the eyes it is easier to throw this fly into nasty areas that hold big fish.



Fly tied by Stephen May
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