



Lou's Articulated Streamer

Submitted by Lou Haynes

Lou's Articulated Streamer's
Components and Special Supplies List

Components:

Mustad double peak hooks (#33903) or appropriate 3XL, straight-shank substitute – sizes 1 and 6.

Medium and small pearl barbell eyes for size 1 and 6 hooks, respectively.

2 millimeter o.d. plastic or Tygon tubing. (Can be purchased as a patient feeding tube in pharmacies specializing in medical supplies or in the craft section of Hobby Lobby.)

Assorted, colored plastic beads (can be purchased at Michaels or Hobby Lobby).

Pine squirrel zonkers for size 6 hook (choice of color).

Rabbit zonkers for size 1 hook (choice of color).

3/0 threads – color to coordinate with zonker color.

Permanent marker – color similar to zonker color.

Special Tying Supplies:

Gudebrod GX2 thread (for connecting tail to body).

Small sewing needle

Small needle threader (or good eyes)

Looped gum cleaner (found in the Oral Care section of the local pharmacy) or appropriate substitute. The gum cleaner is used to pull the GX2 thread through the tubing tied to the back of the hook.

Instructions for Tying “Lou’s Articulated Streamer”

1. Debarb the hook and sharpen the point, if needed.
2. Dress the hook, and then tie on a barbell $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ the length of the hook shank behind the hook eye (in the shank depression if using a Mustad double peak hook).
3. Tie a piece of 2 mm o.d. tubing onto the back half of the hook with the tube extending out even with the back of the hook bend.
4. Turn the hook upside down, adjust the alignment of the tube and barbell along the hook shank, if needed, then thoroughly glue in place and allow to dry. (Be careful not to get any glue in the tube ends!)
5. Cut about an 18” piece of GX2 thread, double over and thread through a needle.
6. Cut a piece of zonker strip about $1/4$ ” longer than the total length of the hook. This is the tail strip.
7. From the hair side of the tail strip, push the threaded needle about halfway through the strip with the needle centered along the length of the strip and about $3/32$ ” from the end of the strip. Be sure to select the end of the strip where the hair trails away from the needle, i.e., the hair on the tail should flow rearward on the completed pattern.
8. Very Important: Move the thread loop to the hairless side of the tail strip just behind the needle, i.e., on the long side of the strip relative to the needle hole. Pull the needle through the strip and slowly tighten the thread while keeping the loop in position. When the loop is properly positioned the thread will tighten around the sides of the strip just behind the needle hole, not in front of the strip, i.e., the loop should form a lasso around the tail strip.

9. Using a permanent marker, color the thread looped around the tail strip and about 1/2" above the strip to blend in with the color of the zonker material.
10. Slip a plastic bead of your color choice onto the thread attached to the tail strip. This completes construction of the tail piece.
11. Push a looped gum cleaner through the rear end of the tube attached to the hook; insert the tail thread into the loop, then pull the thread through the tube.
12. Wrap the tail thread around the shank of the hook just in front of the tube a couple of times. Then, pulling on the tail or thread as needed, leave 1/8" to 3/16" of the tail thread exposed between the bead and the backend of the tube; this gap needs to be sufficient to allow the tail to move freely behind the end of the tube.
13. Wrap the remaining tail thread around the hook shank to securely attach the tail. There should be sufficient thread to wrap up to and tie off with a couple of half hitches behind the hook eye. Secure the half hitches with some head cement.
14. Tie on a long zonker strip, angling rearward and with the hair flowing rearward, on top of the hook just in front of the hook bend. Palmer the zonker strip forward starting with 1 wrap around the tube behind the hook bend then move forward along the shank until reaching the barbell. Crisscross the zonker strip over and around the barbell to thoroughly cover it, then continue palmering forward to the hook eye and tie off.
15. Cut off the excess zonker, wrap an appropriate head, tie off and apply head cement to secure the knot.
16. Finally, trim the tail length so that it equals the body length. This can be done by pulling the tail around toward the hook eye and cutting to length.

Fishing Tip:

I have found that if you gently wiggle the rod tip while slowly stripping this pattern it swims like a big tadpole. I believe this is why fish love it!

Species Caught: bluegill, brown trout, crappie, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, and steelhead