

Tying the Waddington Squid

Begin by looking carefully at the example fly I have given you. Remember the details of it as we tie the fly step by step. Keep it nearby where you can refer to it. If after any step the new fly does not look like the sample fly, back up and repeat the step carefully until it does. A fly will never get better looking by building on over a mistake. I use the same instructions for all the Waddingtons so use your own colors are required.



Put the Waddington Shank in the vise. Put the top of the shank facing you. REMEMBER as you are tying that the top of the pattern in the side toward you, not the actual top of the shank. Secure the tying thread to the rear of shank and bind down the openings as shown in the picture.

The Hook is attached to the shank using a piece of Fireline. Take a 12" piece of Fireline and attach the end of it to the far side of the shank. Leave a tag as shown and wrap towards the eye. Slip through the eye, pull tight and wrap around the shank 3 turns. Secure with thread and repeat twice more. Loop the Fireline to the rear and secure as the other side. Adjust the length of the loop to 4" from the front of the shank. The hook gets looped on to the Fireline. At this point test the hook and make sure it is securely fastened to the shank.



Take about 4 strands of Pearl Flashabou and tie in to the far side of the hook. We use very little since we are going to tie it in on all 4 side of the shank. Pull to the rear and cut off about an inch past the hook. Take the remaining bits and tie in on the bottom of the shank and repeat. Take another 4 strands and repeat on the top of the Shank and the side toward you.

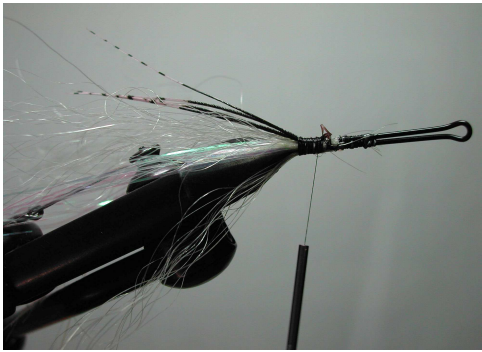
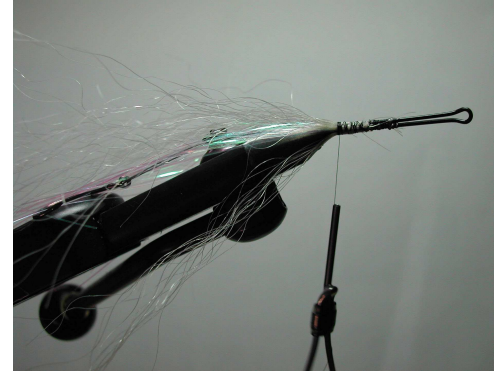
Jack Cook

Steelhead Anglers

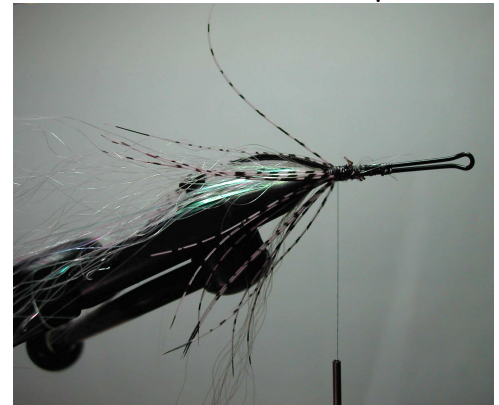
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Take a few strands of Yak hair, a little goes a long way. We do not want a bulky fly or it will not sink or stay down. Secure on the far side of the hook. Trim about 1" past the hook and repeat on the other three sides.



Next attach 3-4 strands of Lady Amherst on top of the shank. Continue to attach the same number of strands to each of the 4 sides of the shank. This color and patterns will show through the transparent white layers when the fly is in the water.



Now do the same with 3-4 strands of Rhea on each side of the shank. Remove the short pieces of Rhea and use the long ones. If the Rhea does not reach to the end of the Yak do not worry, just make it as long as possible. Note what it looks like with all four sides done.



Attach the *Glimmer Body* and wrap forward. As you apply *Glimmer Body* pull the strands back like folding a hackle as you wrap. When you are done you will have a very thin body with long and moving filaments which look like fiber optics in the water.



At this point take about 5-7 strands of Yak hair and attach to the top of the shank. If you have tied my Waddington prawn you will note that we are using roughly the same amount of Yak and Rhea but we are moving it to 75% in the rear and 25% in the front instead of 50/50. This gives us a pattern which looks a lot more like the real critter.





In the same way attach 3-4 strands of really long white Rhea. Repeat so all 4 sides have even coverage.



Now attach 1 feather of White or off white marabou. Tear off the tip and tie it in. Wrap about 3 turns. As you wrap pull all the fibers to the rear and untangle any which get caught during the wrapping before the next wrap. This simulates the diving planes on the front of the squid which are always moving when they are in the water.

Attach the dumbbell eyes on top of the shank. Remember if you are using a standard vise that the top of the fly is toward you, not on top.

This is a dynamite pattern. It is easy to cast and moves fish. The transparency makes it good even in low water as it does not seem to scare the fish like a bright colored dirty water pattern.

