

# Sean Beck

## January 16, 2019

I made these recipes for the tying demo.

Squirmy worm

Mop fly

Feather game changer

The jig hooks used on the first two can be found at <https://truttagoods.com> along with the tungsten beads. The hooks have a wider gap than other jig hooks and I think it helps my hook-up rate. The beads also have narrower holes so there's a little extra weight in each one.

You can get chartreuse or blue mops at the Dollar Store. Orange is at Home Depot. Cream is hard to come by but it's around. I carry mostly chartreuse and cream. Gray is another popular choice but I haven't actually used it.

The squirmy material is called Caster's Squirmito (<https://shop.flyfishsd.com/products/squirmitos-squiggly-worm-material>). After some digging through my materials I realized that the purple color in my box (not the violet) is actually the Spirit River squirmy material (<https://shop.flyfishsd.com/products/spirit-river-squirmy-wormies>). I like the purple color (variant=1169497836) but I don't like the material. It sticks together and doesn't move as well as the squirmito.

Finally, the hen saddles I like for the FGC are all in the doc. If you manage to actually get your hands on a magnum saddle from Schultz before they all get bought up, then consider yourself lucky. I have a few of them, and while they are nice saddles I don't think they are worth the cost. The Whiting Coq de Leon hen saddles cost \$13 instead of \$25 and you get feathers as big as or larger than the biggest feathers on the magnums. The Whiting 4Bs are an ok alternative if you don't want the speckling from the CDL, but the big feathers aren't as big. Trade-offs. Of course if you tie your FGC properly then they should be nice and durable and the \$25 invested in the saddle won't feel like a big deal since you should get 4-6 of this size of FGC out of one saddle with feathers to spare for smaller sizes.

Happy tying.



**Hook:** #12 Trutta Goods Upside-Downie (or similar competition-style jig hook)

**Bead:** 3.5mm gold slotted tungsten bead (3mm for lighter presentation)

**Thread:** UTC 140 or Veevus Power Thread 140 in color to match body

**Body:** Caster's Squirmito (myriad of colors, but favorites are bloodworm and pink)

#### **Instructions:**

1. Place the bead on the hook, small hole first.
2. Start your thread behind the bead and use touching wraps to build a thread base back to just into the hook bend.
3. Pull a length of Squirmito from the pack and cut it in half. One length of Squirmito can be used to make two flies.
4. Ensuring your thread is flat, use exactly two wraps to secure the Squirmito to the top of the hook just before the midpoint of the Squirmito.
5. Work your thread back to just behind the bead then use a half hitch to secure it.
6. Place your bobbin in the bobbin cradle and wrap the Squirmito to the bead using the rotary feature of your vise. You should ideally only use four wraps while stretching the material out.
7. Use exactly two wraps of thread around the Squirmito to lock it in place followed by two wraps in front of it just behind the bead.
8. Finish the fly with a 4 turn whip finish.

#### **Notes:**

- I have sometimes found that a lighter squirmy would be useful, so you can also tie these as a #14 with a 2.5mm bead.
- Colors I keep in my box are black, purple/violet, neon green, neon orange, pink, and blood worm.
- The body material is very sensitive to heat. Never leave your box of squirmies in a hot car or you'll come back to a box of melted flies!
- No matter how durably you think you've tied the fly, the wiggly bits will inevitably be chewed off. Always ensure you have a good supply of these available if you plan on fishing them extensively throughout the day.
- There are a few alternatives to Caster's Squirmito, such as the stuff from Nature's Spirit, but I have found the Squirmito to be superior in both durability and wiggleness.
- You **MUST** use 140 denier thread. Anything lighter will cut through the Squirmito.



**Hook:** #12 Trutta Goods Upside-downie (or similar competition-style jig hook)

**Bead:** 3.5mm black slotted tungsten bead

**Thread:** UTC 140 / Veevus 140 Power Thread in color to match body

**Body:** Mop chenille in chartreuse or cream color

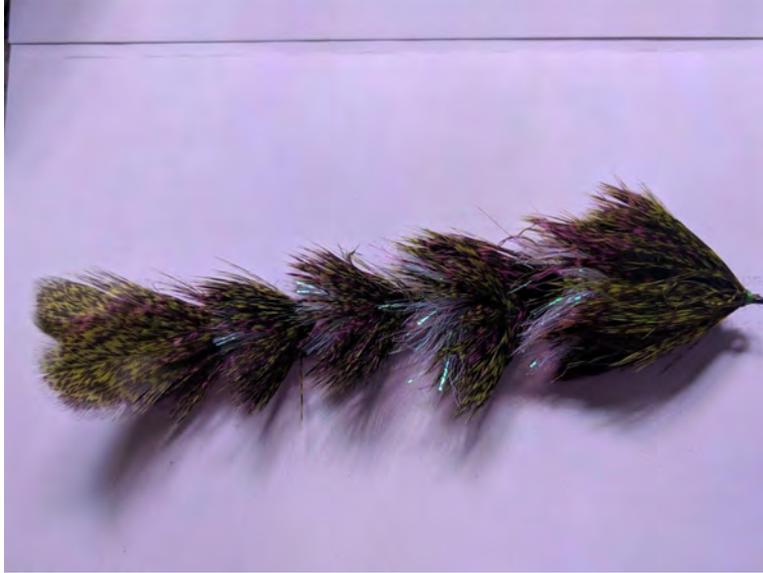
**Adhesive:** Loctite Ultra Gel

**Instructions:**

1. Place the bead on the hook small hole first.
2. Starting your thread immediately behind the bead, use touching wraps to take your thread to the hook bend, then back to the bead.
3. Coat the top of the thread base with super glue.
4. Place your mop body on top of the hook just behind the bead then secure it with a few thread wraps.
5. Optionally make a dubbing loop for a collar using black ice dub.
6. Use a 4 turn whip finish to complete the fly then cut your thread free.

**Notes:**

- If you really want a bomb, tie these with 0.020" lead wire wraps covered completely with thread or use a #10 hook with a 3.8mm bead.
- These are commonly sold with dubbing collars, but after a lot of experimentation I have found that neither the color of the collar nor even having a collar matters. There has been no difference in catch rates between using a dubbing collar and omitting the collar.
- If you want a collar for aesthetics, I recommend using black ice dub in a dubbing loop.
- There are a myriad of colors available for you to try. I have the most confidence in chartreuse mops followed by cream.
- Some anglers fish these unweighted on the surface with some success.



**Front hook:** Ahrex TP610 #1

**Rear hook:** Gamakatsu B10S #4

**Shanks:** Flymen Fish Spines, 10mm x2 15mm x1

**Layout:** 10mm - 10mm - rear hook - 15mm - front hook

**Hook-to-shank:** 19 strand Beadalon, 0.015"

**Thread:** Veevus Power Thread 140

**Underbody:** Pearl palmer chenille, size small

**Body + Tail:** Hen saddle feathers

**Adhesive:** Loon UV Flow resin

**Optional:** 4mm glass rattle on front hook with ~10 0.025" lead wire wraps around front hook bend to help keel. Coat lead wire wraps with Loon Knot Sense to hold them in place.

**Notes:**

- Favorite hen saddles are Whiting Coq de Leon, Whiting 4B, and Schultz Outfitters Magnum Hen saddles. Whiting Red Labels are too small for this size of game changer, though they are passable for smaller (10mm - 15mm - hook) layouts.
- There are numerous shank and hook configurations to play with. I like (10mm - 10mm - hook - 15mm - hook), (10mm - 15mm - 20mm - 25mm - hook), and (10mm - 10mm - 10mm - hook - 15mm - 15mm - hook). Try adding a cone head for a jiggling motion or using a bent shank hook at the front.
- Similarly there are lots of different materials you can use for the head. I normally just use feathers, but alternatives are deer hair for a slider type head, a dubbing brush, or Senyo's laser hair. Experiment to find out which you like!
- Alternative body materials are craft fur and bucktail. You can also make brushes out of fibers like polar flash. The original game changer material was Chocklett's body wrap. Casting that stuff is like casting a wet sock, even on a 9wt rod. You could also use a rooster saddle or schlappen rather than a hen saddle.