

Fly of the Month:

Pink Bunny

Tube: 1/16" Clear Plastic
(or similar)

Body: Pink Cross-Cut Bunny Strip

Tail: Pink Zonker Cut Bunny Strip

Flash: Pink or Perl Flashabou or Mirror flash

Head: 1/8" dumbbell eyes

Thread: Pink

~ Fall will soon be here. That means fall Salmon will be gracing us with their presence. A good fly for this time of year and for the months to come is the Pink Bunny. This variation includes a set of dumbbell eyes at the front and is tied on a tube.

I was shown this fly by an Alaskan fishing guide. He was sitting in Tom Bolender's shop tying up a dozen or so of these flies. I asked him what they were for and he said, "Coho, Coho, Coho".

I like this fly because it has a big profile in the water. I can use it for Coho and Steelhead in colored water and feel confident that a fish will see it. You can also tie this pattern on a spinner blank and use a "stinger" or trailing hook instead of a tube, which is how the guide was tying them. I would however recommend using a tube, it is easier to tie.

The Pink Bunny is rather simple to tie. First start off with a good thread base and then tie in your flash. The picture shows mirror flash but I also use pearl flashabou. Then you tie in a zonker cut bunny strip. Then you tie in a cross-cut style bunny strip and wrap it up the tube. It is very important that you use a cross-cut style bunny strip here. A zonker strip will not lay down correctly

and it will make your fly look hideous. I then tie in the dumbbell eyes on the opposite side of where I tied in the tail, and cover my thread wraps with hair from the bunny strips. Finish off the tube end and your set.

A note on the construction-

When you build this fly pay careful attention to how long your tail is in relation to the tube length. You do not want your tail too long. What happens is that you will get a lot of "short strikes" when fishing. This can be very frustrating (although not as frustrating as getting no strikes).



Fly & Photo by Ryan Haseman