

Bob's All Season Scud

Tied by Bob Haase



Hook: Mustad C49S or Equiv. #10 - #16

Thread: To match dubbing or Fl Pink

Body: Scud Dub or Ice Dub or Mixture

Tail: Woodduck Flank or Krystal Flash

Eyes: Mono Eyes Dark

Weight: 6 wraps of lead wire

In most streams the scud is usually the most abundant of the aquatic insects. They are found everywhere and present throughout the season which is why they are an important part of the trout's diet. They

also work great as an ice fly for ice fishing because they also represent fresh water shrimp. That is why I call this the "All Season Scud". I like using mono eyes because if you look at a scud the black eyes stick out. I tie these in all scud colors and also in brighter colors using a mixture of ice dubbing. I usually use a size 14 or 16 in the summer and a size 12 or 14 for ice fishing.



Step 1 - Start the thread and wrap it back to the bend. Tie in a piece krystal flash or woodduck flank feather for the tail and advance thread to the eye of the hook.



Step 2 - Tie in a small mono eye as shown. I make my own by melting brown monofilament line in 20 to 30 pound test.



Step 3 - Make about 6 wraps of .025 or .030 lead wire and then wrap over the lead wire with your thread building up behind the lead to make a smooth transition from the tail to the eyes as shown.



Step 4 - Dub the entire body up to the eyes. You can put pink dubbing just behind the eyes like you might for a pink squirrel or dub the body as shown.



Step 6 - Using a velcro brush (velcro hook on a popsicle stick), pull down from both sides for form legs.
Note: Do not scrape the top... just the sides.



Step 7 - Using a flat blades pliers, squeeze the lead body to slightly flatten it as shown.



Step 8 - Take your scissor and trim the legs about even with the point of the hook. You can also trim the tail at this time to about 1/4 inch long.



Step 9 - Place a few drops of head cement on the top of the scud and using a flat popsicle stick and/or your fingers, smooth out the back so the dubbing fibers are laid down smooth. Notice the difference on the back (top) of the scud comparing picture #8 and #9. When you apply the UV set polymer it will help give a smooth rather than a rough back with the dubbing fibers sticking up.

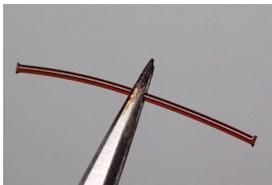


Step 10 - Apply a UV set polymer or similar material over the top of the fly to form the scud back. By doing this it makes a very durable fly without the need of using a strip of plastic bag or scud back material. I like using Loon Knot Sense for the UV material as it is thick and can do the job with one coat.



Step 11 - Use a needle or bodkin to spread the UV set material half way down the sides of the body to about the location of where the legs start. (About the middle of the body....not the fly) Then hit the UV material with a UV light to cure the polymer. I like using a thin coat of the non tacky UV set polymer over the top of this to make a harder finish.

I use this fly for trout and bluegills in the warmer months and for bluegills through the ice in the winter. You can also make the fly the same way, but substitute a tungsten bead instead of the mono eyes for more weight when needed. This is a very durable and versatile fly that can be used all year around. Tie it in a variety of colors using ice dubbing or scud dubbing, or a mixture of both. Notice the bright pink between the eyes. That is why I like using a bright colored thread as it helps set off the eyes.



Making Mono Eyes - Use a piece of dark colored monofilament fishing line cut a piece about 5/8" long. (Longer for larger eyes and shorter for smaller eyes) I use 30 pound Stren Easy Cast mono which I don't think is still available or Cortland Musky Mono in 20 pound.



Hold the mono in a tweezers as shown about and then hold a lighter to the mono to melt it. When you get the hang of it, you will notice that the mono will burn up to the tweezers and then blow it out. Repeat for the other side to form the eyes as shown below. A self closing tweezers with a sharp tapered point works best. You can vary the width between the eyes by moving the mono up or down the tweezers. I also use an alcohol burner when I make the eyes in quantity.

