

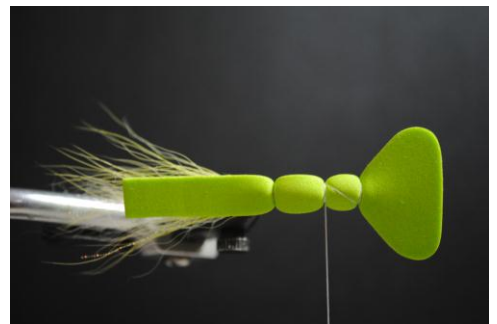


Wing and Foam Body Cutters
For the Art of Fly Tying

River Road Creations, Inc.
3989 Stevi River Road
Stevensville, MT 59870
Phone/Fax: (406) 777-1046
E-mail: tony@riverroadcreations.com
Website: www.riverroadcreations.com

Tying Kent Edmonds' Stealth Bomber

1. The Stealth Bomber Set includes three different size cutters. They are designed to fit the following hooks: Size 10 Mustad 94840 (smallest), Size 6 Gamakatsu B10S, and the Size 2 Gamakatsu B10S (largest).
2. Cut the foam bodies following the general instructions included with your cutter set. The pattern includes a flared "head" section and a long, narrow strip. **Before removing the body from the foam the strip section must be lengthened (roughly half-again as long) using a pair of sharp scissors.** After lengthening the strip, remove the body from the foam sheet. You can vary the thickness of the foam, using thicker foam on larger flies if you desire a different look, but standard 2mm craft foam works well for all sizes.
3. Start the thread at the eye, and lay down a thread base to the rear of the hook shank. Stop before the bend begins. Tie in a small bunch of white bucktail about twice the length of the hook shank, then a few strands of Lite Brite, and then top with a small bunch of contrasting bucktail. Do not let the bucktail flare too much.
4. Align the foam on the hook shank so that the point at which the foam begins to flare to form the head section is just behind the eye of the hook. Tie the foam down at the rear of the hook. Dub a sparse amount of Lite Brite on the thread and dub about 60% of the hook shank. This is the "center tie-down position."
5. Tie down the foam where the dubbing stops, then dub again almost to the eye. Tie down the foam immediately behind the eye.
6. Make a diagonal wrap toward the rear on the top of the foam to take the thread back to the center tie-down position.



7. Fold the narrow strip at the rear forward and tie down at the center tie-down position, leaving the strip long enough to form a loop as shown. Trim any excess portion of the strip as needed. Tie in an underwing of Flashabou about $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. (Tip: Cut the Flashabou twice that length, tie in at the middle, fold it back over the thread, and tie down again to secure it).



8. Fold the flared head section of the foam back and tie down at the same thread position.



9. Tie in two three-inch strands of medium round rubber legs on each side. Trim the length of the legs as needed, but do not trim them too short - longer is better than shorter. Stripe the legs by twisting them, then stretching to about twice their length and running a black permanent marker lightly down the side. Color the leg tips with a red permanent marker.



Some comments from Kent on the Stealth Bomber:

One of my favorite flies for bass and bream is Turck's Tarantula. The Tarantula was designed as a trout fly and won the Jackson Hole One-Fly contest a few years back, but I like it for bass and bream. The Stealth Bomber is a foam diver/slider designed to duplicate the diving motion and the resulting bubble trail made when the Tarantula is given a hard strip (drives `em crazy!).

The Stealth has become my "go-to" topwater for all the black bass species and big bream. It casts easily without the twisting of lipped flies but dives enticingly on the strip. The rear tab of foam and the air space below it captures air, which bubbles on the dive. The turbulence it creates, along with the dynamics of the wing, causes the fly to wiggle side-to-side. Because it sits a little lower in the water than the traditional bass popper, the hook-up ratio is quite good.

I tie some in bright color combinations and add of flash wings and rubber legs. The "stealth" name hardly applies to its appearance, but its action can still be quite stealthy. With soft little strips, it will wiggle and maybe "bloop" slightly. Strip with a just a little bit more vigor and it will dive and bubble, but still stay in the target zone (the strip here should be very quick, but very short). Give it a longer, harder strip and it will dive hard and create a major commotion.

Jack Dennis fished it all day at Callaway while filming an episode of "FlyFish TV" and said, "I've caught so many fish on it, I can't bear to take it off."