

Fly of the Month: The Gravity Minnow

By Yusuf al-Ansari

The Gravity Minnow got its name from, yes, the fact gravity (is there such a thing underwater) pulls the fly down to its target. What is the target? Any foraging fish that eats minnows. Seriously the lead eyes gets the fly down into the path of fish and the broader profile gives a true minnow shape. Use this fly in slightly deeper water where the plop on the surface gets their attention and drop gives them a chance to grab it. Be ready with that stripping hand quick!



Materials:

1/0 Gamakatsu SL12s hook
Craft fur
210 denier thread

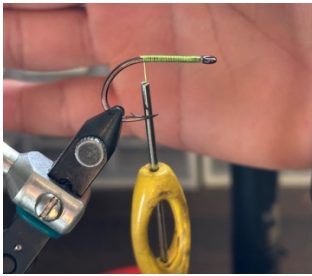


Tools:







Flush cutters or wire cutters (old scissors will work too)
Sharp scissors for trimming




EP 3" craft fur brush
EP 1.5" minnow head brush
Medium lead dumbbell eyes

UV resin and UV light
Bobbin
Whip finisher tool

Steps:

1		Create a thread base stopping just passed the hook point
2		Tie in about a 3" section of craft fur using 3-4 securing wraps right where the hook begins to bend the end of the hook. Once secured we'll cut off our excess and cover any stray fibers with thread
3		Tie in the 3" EP craft fur brush and secure it in front of where we tied in the craft fur

4		Once secured, wrap the 3" inch craft fur brush 3-4 times around the shank of the hook ensuring to pull back the fibers after each wrap. Wrap back on the fibers and use flush cutters or old scissors to clip off the remaining brush. Using a brush tool (here I'm using an EP finger brush) brush the fibers forward from the tail section then brush them back over themselves
5		Now that the tail section is complete, we will attach the medium dumbbell eyes to the shank of the hook just in front of the hook point making sure to leave room to tie in our minnow head brush.
6		Next, we will work on the head section of the fly by securing the 1.5" EP minnow head brush behind the eyes. We will wrap this brush 3 times behind the eyes again ensuring to pull the fibers back with each wrap
7		Advance the thread to the eye of the hook and wrap the brush once over the dumbbell on the side that's facing away from you pulling the fibers back and then wrap the brush over the side of the eye that's closest to you.
8		Now that we have wrapped the brush over the eyes we will wrap the brush 3 times around the shank in front of the eyes. Secure the brush with a few wraps and pull all the fibers back and trim off the excess brush.
9		At this point I like to whip finish the fly and secure the wraps with UV resin. You could fish this as is but we are going to trim the head to get a more uniformed shape

10		Now we will use our brush and brush the head section completely out freeing up any fibers that may have been trapped. This step is essential for getting a clean trim
11		Next, we will trim the fibers to create a more uniform head. Angle your scissors at 45 degrees and make your first cut. It helps to use the eye of the hook as a guide for your scissors.
12		Invert your fly using your vice's rotary function and trim the belly of the fly the same way we trimmed the top.