

Fly of the Month: Clouser Half & Half

By Gary Pheabus

FFNWF acknowledges *The Fat Fingered Fly Tyer* for material in this fly recipe.

Bob Clouser's Deep Minnow and Lefty Kreh's Deceiver have long proven two of the most effective streamer patterns on the planet. Each has accounted for countless species across the globe and both have developed loyal followings as a result. It should come as no surprise then that Bob Clouser's eventual combination of the two is held in similar high regard.

Dubbed the Half & Half, Clouser's hybrid was developed with the intent of targeting the large bass that inhabited his home waters. Capable of preying on fall fish up to 12" in length, these larger fish were simply not interested in the 3-4" long, thin profile of the original Deep Minnow in certain instances. In contrast, the Half & Half, with its long hackle tail and broader baitfish profile, served to mimic the larger prey these fish sought while still maintaining the classic Deep Minnow's jig-like action.

The source material can be viewed at <https://fatfingeredflytyer.com/clousers-half-half-step-by-step/>

Materials:

Hook: Gamakatsu B10S (#2-6/0)

Thread: 140 Denier (White)

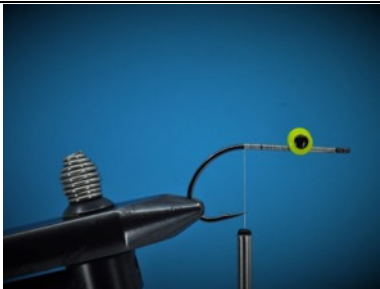
Body: Bucktail (Chartreuse over White)

Eyes: Dumbbell eyes (Medium or Large)

Tail: Streamer Hackle (White)

Flash: Flashabou (Silver)

Finish: UV Resin

		
1. Start by wrapping a thread base along the front 1/3 of shank. Then tie in dumbbell eyes with cross wraps. Extend the thread base to the hook bend.	2. Secure 4-6 Streamer Hackle Feathers of roughly equal length at bend of hook. Trim butt ends & wrap thread forward to rear of eyes.	3. Spread a bundle of White Bucktail (~2x shank length) across the top of the shank. Trim excess bucktail ahead of tie in point & wrap thread forward as shown.
		
4. Tie in a second bunch of bucktail (~3x shank length) along shank in front of dumbbell eyes. Pull bucktail back along shank & secure at rear of dumbbell eyes. Trim butt ends.	5. Rotate the fly in your vise & tie in 10-20 strands of flash in front of eyes. The rear-facing portion should extend ~1/2" beyond the tail. Pull forward-facing flash to the rear and secure with thread. This flash should extend just beyond the bend.	6. Trim a bunch of Chartreuse bucktail (~3x shank length) & secure with thread at front of eyes. Trim butt ends & build up thread head extending to hook eye. Whip finish & seal thread head to complete.