

# Fly of the Month: The Dowski Minnow

By Bob Korose

I traveled to Grand Rapids Michigan for the 2025 FFI annual meeting and while there, I hired a guide, Christian Gradowski, to take me fishing on the Grand River. My nephew and I had a wonderful day catching small mouth



bass on 7 wt. fly rods using a fly that the guide had created.

It has great action and flash in the water and the bass really responded (see the 18 ½ inch smally I landed). He showed me how and with what materials to tie the fly. He said he has not used it for any other species than



bass. I am quite sure that it will work great for many of our local favorites too. A size 4 should work great under dock lights at night for specks.

## Materials:

**Hook:** Gamakatsu B10 Sizes 6-1/0

**Thread:** 140 or 210 Denier White

**Eyes:** Bead Chain (4 beads) Stainless or painted black or red

**Tail:** White Bucktail or Congo Hair Glow white

**Body:** Estaz or Pearl Chenille size medium/ color pearl

**Legs:** Rubber (colors white and olive )

**Collar:** Senyo Chromatic Brush, 3" size, color Live Bait

A close-up of a fly hook with a white thread base and a tail of white fibers. The hook is mounted on a green stand.	A close-up of the fly hook with two legs (one white, one olive) added to the sides. The hook is mounted on a green stand.	A close-up of the fly hook with a white chenille body wrapped around the thread base. The hook is mounted on a green stand.
1. Put on a thread base from front to back then tie on a tail that is two times the hook length.	2. Add 2 legs (one of each color) on each side going back	3. Tie on the chenille and wrap it ½ way to the hook eye. Move the thread forward slightly and tie on the 4 eyes (2 on each side).
A close-up of the fly hook with two clumps of white tail material added to the top and bottom. The hook is mounted on a green stand.	A close-up of the fly hook with a white brush wrapped around the body. The hook is mounted on a green stand.	A close-up of the finished fly with a white body, olive legs, and a white tail. The hook is mounted on a green stand.
4. Behind the eyes tie on 2 clumps of tail material (each ½ the diameter of the tail) one on the top and the other on the bot-tom, both going back toward the tail.	5. Tie on the brush and wrap three times going forward, then wrap through the eyes and finish with 2-3 more forward wraps. Then tie off. <b>As you wrap, stroke the fibers rearward making sure there are no trapped fibers.</b> Tie off.	6. Comb out the fibers, tie a nice head and whip finish. Head cement or UV it and your fly is ready for action.