

Lefty Kreh's Deceiver (Modified Travis Collins Style) By: Brian Dougherty



Materials:

Hook: Size 4/0 Live Bait Gamakatsu 184414 or Owner AKI Cutting Point
Thread: Fine clear Uni-mono
Wing: Gold Whiting white saddle hackles
Cheek Flash: Cerise Gliss-n-Glow (Modification from original)
Flash: Several strands of pearl Flashabou 6905
Over-flash: Olive Gliss-n-Glow (Modification from original)
Collar: White saltwater jumbo deer tail
Eye: 5/32" or larger Silver Hologram (Modification from original)
Adhesives: Zap-A-Gap CA+ and Zip Kicker

STEP 1:

Using the mono thread, tie a solid thread-base to the hook. A solid base will help prevent materials from rotating around the hook once the fly is finished. Gluing between each following step is optional and dependent on fly tyer's personal preference.



STEP 2:

Select four feathers (length dependent on size of desired fly). For a 4/0 hook, feathers should be 5-6" in length. All feathers should be relatively the same length and should include 2 sets of paired feathers (cupped the same direction). Prep the feathers by cutting the stem leaving 1 1/4" of webbing. Strip the last 1/4" of webbing off. The 1" webbing will provide more body to the fly and a transition to the deer hair. Tie 2 feathers to each side (cupped in).



STEP 3:

Tie-in several strands (approximately 4-12) of Flashabou directly over top of the feathers. The Flashabou should extend an inch beyond the feathers (Flash-tail style).



STEP 4:

Tie-in several stands of Gliss-N-Glow for the cheek. The easiest way to accomplish this is by cutting the full length of the material and halving itself around the thread and tying-in each portion to one side of the hook. Cut the Gliss-N-Glow unevenly approximately the length of the deer hair you expect to use.



STEP 5:

Select a small bundle of deer hair. Hair can be hand stacked if desired but a commercial stacker should not be used. Tie-in the bundle on the top of the hook. While tying-in, the hair can be wiggled to the sides to allow some side coverage. Hair should extend at least the length of the cheek.



STEP 6:

Repeat step 5 with a second bundle, but split the bundle in half allowing it to settle on each side of the underside of the hook. Secure the material well.



STEP 7:

Trim the deer hair carefully with sharp scissors. If too large an amount of deer hair is cut, the deer hair may swivel around the hook. Cut the hair in a tapered shape. Wind the thread through the tapered deer hair head.



STEP 8:

Tie-in the over-flash directly over the deer hair for the dorsal color of the fly. The over-flash should extend approximately the length of the feathers. Finish the head with a nice taper, whip-finish and cut the thread.



STEP 9:

Add a small amount of Zap-A-Gap to the head and add an eye to each side. Secure the eyes by spraying Zip-Kicker. Repeat Zap-A-Gap/Zip-Kicker to fill-in gaps if necessary.

The fly is finished and ready to be fished.



Additional Comments:

1. Travis Collins's version is tied sparse but emphasizes a wide profile by how the deer hair is tied-in. Additionally, Travis uses very sparse flash. The olive over-flash is replaced with cerise.
2. The selected hooks may rust after fishing if not rinsed in freshwater.
3. The hooks were selected for strength and weight. The hook's weight compensates for the natural buoyancy of deer hair.
4. The Owner hook may be more desirable due to its Cutting Point, which aids in penetration.
5. Although the Zap-A-Gap/Zip-Kicker smell is very pungent, it does not appear to affect the fly's effectiveness.
6. As with any pattern, material, color and size may be adjusted. Generally, the overall length of the fly will measure 5 – 7 inches.

Travis Collins's version of Lefty Kreh's Deceiver is very effective. Try it for yourself.