

Redneck Rabbit

The Redneck Rabbit combines the best attributes of two popular streamers, the Zonker and the Clouser Minnow. It rides upside-down like the Clouser due to its bead chain eyes and the weight tied in on the shank, reducing snags, and its rabbit strip wing moves like that of a Zonker. Best of all, it's easier to tie than either pattern. Swing this pattern in front of an aggressive brown and hold on tight.

How to Fish

Like most streamers, the default methods of fishing the Redneck Rabbit are to use the down-and-across swing or cast and retrieve it with jerky, uneven strips and twitches of the rod tip. Because it rides upside-down and because of the movement the rabbit strip provides, it can also be fished under an indicator like a jig. In moderate currents, the wing and hackle will move and dance even if you impart no additional action.

Tying Challenges

The Redneck Rabbit is a straightforward tie. Really the only difficult steps is securing the rabbit strip. After tying in the body and hackle, remove your hook from the vise and use the hook point to poke a hole in the rabbit strip. Slide the strip up to the body, put the hook back in your vise, pull the strip tight, and secure it at the eye. As long as you pull the strip tight before securing it at the eye, you need not tie it in at the back of the body.

Redneck Rabbit Pattern

Hook: Clouser Minnow hook, #2-8

Thread: clear mono tying thread or 6/0 to match rabbit strip

Eyes: bead chain or dumbbell eyes

Weight: two strips of lead or tin wire tied in on top the hook shank. These strips ensure the fly rides upside down and create a deeper, Zonker-style body.

Body: sparkle chenille, any color

Hackle: red

Wing: 1/8" or 1/4" rabbit strip, any color

