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SALMON FLIES

BLACK SHEEP

A Canadian pattern, the Black Sheep, from Joe Hubert, dates from about 1977 and is generally thought to be an elver imitation. The Black Sheep has become an established pattern on Icelandic rivers.



TAG: Oval silver tinsel
BODY: Black floss or wool
THROAT: Blue cock
WING: Long black over yellow bucktail
CHEEKS: Jungle cock
HEAD: Red

The Black Shrimp originated on the River Ness but is widely used all over Scotland and Ireland. It is extremely effective in late spring and summer, particularly in clear water.



TAIL: Long black hackle, wound
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
REAR BODY: Yellow floss
CENTRE HACKLE: Hot orange
FRONT BODY: Black floss
FRONT HACKLE: Black cock
EYES: Jungle cock
HEAD: Black

BLACK SHRIMP #2

This version of the Black Shrimp is a derivative of Ally's Shrimp. The colours are those used in a Willie Gunn (see page 296) which is an autumn pattern, although this fly seems to work in the spring as well.



TAIL: Long black bucktail with strands of black Twinkle
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
REAR BODY: Orange floss
CENTRE HACKLE: Short orange hen
FRONT BODY: Black floss
FRONT HACKLE: Black over bright yellow cock
HEAD: Black

BLACK SHRIMP – Low water (Atkins)

This is a low water pattern from Albert Atkins of Northern Ireland. The rear body is of fluorescent green floss, an unusual colour for a shrimp pattern.



TAG: Oval silver tinsel
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
REAR BODY: Fluorescent green floss
TAIL: Tied at centre joint. GP red breast feather dyed claret, wound
FRONT BODY: Red Lite-Brite or floss
FRONT HACKLE: Black cock
HEAD: Black

BALLYNAHINCH BADGER

Badger hair is an extremely popular material in Ireland where muted colours are recommended for spring fishing. Badger hair also has a degree of translucence about it. The Ballynahinch Badger is effectively a badger winged Blue Charm and is very much an early season fly, at its best for fresh fish in clear water.



TAG: Silver tinsel & yellow floss
TAIL: GP crest
BODY: Black floss
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
THROAT HACKLE: Kingfisher blue cock
WING: Badger hair
HEAD: Black

BALLYSHANNON

The Ballyshannon is one of the most famous of all the early Irish built wing salmon flies. The first version illustrated was given in William Blacker's book *The Art of Flymaking* in 1855. The second version, which is totally different, is that as tied by Michael Rogan of Donegal. Both are superb looking flies.

**BALLYSHANNON (Blacker)**

TAG: Puce floss
TAIL: GP crest with scarlet Ibis
BODY: Yellow brown seal's fur
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
BODY HACKLE: Yellow cock
WING: Four GP toppings with barred summer duck back-to-back; married strips of pheasant tail, white tipped turkey tail, guinea fowl, Himalayan pheasant; red Himalayan pheasant crest over all.
CHEEKS: Blue kingfisher
HEAD HACKLE: Scarlet cock
HEAD: Black ostrich herl

**BALLYSHANNON (Rogan)**

TAG: Oval silver tinsel & blue floss
TAIL: GP crest with Indian crow over
BUTT: Black ostrich herl
BODY: Orange floss
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
BODY HACKLE: Magenta cock
THROAT: Turquoise blue cock
WING: Dark turkey with white tips; married strips of bustard, golden pheasant tail, red, gold and blue dyed swan; Bronze mallard over. Sides of pintail. Golden pheasant topping over all.
CHEEKS: Jungle cock
HEAD: Black

The Balmoral is a strip-winged Dee fly devised by W. Garden around the middle of the 19th century. The Jungle Cock cheeks are tied drooping to avoid masking the action of the wings.



TAG: Silver tinsel
TAIL: GP topping with GP tippets over
BODY: Rear ½, green seal's fur. Front ½ dark blue seal's fur
RIB: Flat silver tinsel, followed by oval silver tinsel
BODY HACKLE: Black heron over blue seal's fur
THROAT HACKLE: Widgeon
WING: Two strips of cinnamon turkey, set low and divided
CHEEKS: Jungle cock, drooping
HEAD: Black

SALMON FLIES

SILVER WILKINSON

The Silver Wilkinson is one of the classic Scottish salmon flies dating to about 1845. The details have varied over the years but the combination of a silver body and magenta hackle has remained constant. The hairwing version shown below is regularly used in Canada and the Spey version comes from Scandinavia.

**SILVER WILKINSON (Kelson)**

TAG: Oval silver tinsel
TAIL: GP topping with tippet over
BUTT: Red wool
BODY: Flat silver tinsel ribbed with oval silver tinsel
THROAT: Blue cock with magenta dyed cock over
WING: GP tippet; married strands of teal, peacock wing, red, yellow & blue swan; bronze mallard. GP crest overall
CHEEKS: Jungle cock
HORNS: Blue macaw
HEAD: Black

**SILVER WILKINSON (Pryce-Tannatt)**

TAG: Oval silver tinsel and golden yellow floss
TAIL: GP topping
BUTT: Red wool
BODY: Flat silver tinsel ribbed with oval silver tinsel
THROAT: Magenta dyed cock with widgeon over
WING: GP tippet; married strands of red, blue & yellow swan; peacock wing, bustard, mottled turkey tail: bronze mallard over. GP topping overall
SIDES: Slips of unbarred wood duck
HEAD: Black

**SILVER WILKINSON (Hardy)**

TAG: Oval silver tinsel
TAIL: GP topping
BUTT: Red wool
BODY: Flat silver tinsel ribbed with oval silver tinsel
THROAT: Blue cock with magenta dyed cock over
WING: Two jungle cock back-to-back veiled with wood duck and red dyed swan. Over that a GP topping and a small GP tippet feather
CHEEKS: Jungle cock
HEAD: Black

**SILVER WILKINSON - Hairwing**

TAG: Oval silver tinsel and orange floss
TAIL: GP tippet fibres with kingfisher blue hackle fibres over
BODY: Flat silver tinsel
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
BODY HACKLE: Magenta & light blue cock
THROAT: Magenta cock with teal or mallard flank over
WING: Red squirrel with red dyed bucktail or calf tail over. GP topping with short GP tippet feather over
HEAD: Black

**SILVER WILKINSON - Spey**

TAG: Oval silver tinsel
TAIL: GP tippet fibres
BODY: Flat silver tinsel
RIB: Oval silver tinsel
BODY HACKLE: Magenta & light blue cock
THROAT: Magenta cock
WING: Bronze mallard
CHEEKS: Jungle cock
HEAD: Red

MUNRO KILLER

The Munro Killer is a strong contender for the title 'Best Scottish Salmon Fly'. The Munro Killer is normally regarded as a summer and autumn pattern but it has also had success as early as March on the river Thurso. The Gold Munro is a variant from Alan Donaldson which is popular on the river Carron. The Berthdee Munro is a noticeably darker fly with a black throat hackle. It looks very much like a cross between a Tosh and a Munro Killer and is a sound choice when a darker fly is needed.



MUNRO KILLER

TAG: Oval gold tinsel
TAIL: Orange hackle fibres
BODY: Black floss
RIB: Oval gold tinsel
THROAT: Orange cock with blue guinea fowl over
WING: Squirrel tail dyed yellow
HEAD: Black



DARK MUNRO KILLER

TAG: Oval gold tinsel
TAIL: GP topping
BODY: Black floss
RIB: Oval gold tinsel
THROAT: Orange cock with blue guinea fowl over
WING: One part yellow under one part orange under two parts black squirrel
HEAD: Black



GOLD MUNRO KILLER

TAG: Oval gold tinsel
TAIL: Orange hackle fibres
BODY: Flat gold tinsel
RIB: Oval gold tinsel
THROAT: Orange cock with blue guinea fowl over
WING: Squirrel tail dyed yellow
HEAD: Black



BERTHDEE MUNRO

TAG: Oval gold tinsel & yellow floss
TAIL: Orange hackle fibres
BODY: Black floss
THROAT: Black cock
WING: Squirrel tail dyed yellow
HEAD: Black



HAIRY MUNRO KILLER

TAG: Oval gold tinsel
TAIL: Orange dyed hair
BODY: Black floss
RIB: Oval gold tinsel
FRONT HACKLE (1): Squirrel tail dyed yellow
FRONT HACKLE (2): Orange hair followed by squirrel tail dyed kingfisher blue
HEAD: Black