



Tube: approx 1-1/2 inch (3/32" or 1/8")  
Thread: 210 Denier, White  
Body: Flat Diamond Braid, Pearl  
Wing: Barred Rabbit Strip, Olive  
Collar: Deer Hair, Red - spun & flaired  
Flash: 4-6 strands of Flash-a-bou, Pearl; along sides  
Hackle: JailHouse Marabou, Olive  
Weight: Cone (or barbell eyes)

**Notes:** The original Franken Sculpin was created by Keith Graham. The finished fly was 4 to 5 inches long and featured a stinger hook design that could be changed out when it was dull. The original tying pattern instruction created by Keith has been eaten by the Web, but we've recreated it here on 2GuysFlyFishing.

Although I carry and fish the original version, I also wanted something smaller for the waters I fish most often. This tube version seem to fit the bill. It's fairly straight forward, so we're going with instructional text without photos this time.

## Tying Instructions:

- 1) Cut your tube about 1-1/2 inches long. (I will often add a short junction tube before tying as I find it helps keep the tube from rotating during tying.) I'm using a large (1/8") diameter tube as it will accept a larger, heavier, cone. If you use the small diameter tube, feel free to use barbell eyes instead of the cone. (The original Franken Sculpin featured barbells.)
- 2) Attach your thread at the front of the tube and tie in the Diamond Braid about 1/2 inch back. Bind the braid down the tube, leaving just enough bare tube at the rear to attach a junction tube later. Bring your thread forward.
- 3) Wrap the braid forward to the tie in spot. Tie off, trim the excess, and coat with clear nail polish (or something) to protect the braid from shredding.
- 4) Tie in the rabbit strip on the "top" of the tube. The strip should be slightly longer than the tube, but not long enough to interfere with the hook that will be back there while fishing.  
(You define the top of the tube when you tie in the rabbit strip. This is important if you're planning on using barbell eyes as barbells will rotate the tube so they are on the bottom while fishing. The barbell eyes should be on the opposite side of the tube from the strip.)
- 5) Cut a small bundle of deer hair. Clean out any fuzz, stack the tips, and cut the butts so that they are just a bit longer than you want the collar. (Now it gets tricky.) With your off hand, position the hair for spinning, place a two or three thread wraps around the hair to hold it in place, then pinch the tube to keep it from spinning on the mandrel while spinning and flairing the deer hair with your tying hand. (Wasn't *that* was fun!) Trim the butt ends as short as possible.  
(Tip: If you're having problems with the deer hair, substitute a couple of large red guinea feathers wrapped as a collar. The goal here is add some color for the gills, and create a bulky, stiff base to support the marabou in the water.)
- 6) Tie strands of Flash-a-bou along each side. Trim to the length of the wing.
- 7) Tie a marabou feather by the tip and wrap a collar. Tie off, trim the excess stem, and whip finish a small head.
- 8) Add a spot of gel super glue to the head and slip a cone over the tube, tight against the marabou collar. Trim any excess tube and melt the front end of the tube to round the end and hold the cone in place.  
(If you're using barbell eyes, switch to black thread at some point after the body. Tie the eyes on the opposite side of the tube from the wing; this will allow the wing to ride up and the eyes down.)