

The Professor

[By Bill Luscombe](#)

"Cutthroat trout like yellow, especially sea-run cutthroats. I've learned this the hard way, through experience. While many fly tiers like creating their own patterns, or finding new patterns to try that have become the latest fad, in the case of sea-run cutts I fall back on a couple of old reliable patterns that more often than not outperform newer fly patterns: one pattern is the Mickey Finn, which is in our fly archives already, and the other is the Professor. If you go chasing cutthroats make sure you have half a dozen of these flies in you box. To say they work well is an understatement."



MATERIALS

Hook: Mustad 9672 #6-12

Thread: Black

Tail: Red quill

Rib: Medium flat gold tinsel

Body: Dubbed yellow seal or llama fur, or synthetic material

Wing: Barred mallard flank

Hackle: Furnace or brown as a beard

TYING STEPS

1. Wrap on tying thread at the eye of the hook. Wind down to the butt.
2. Tie in a piece of shank-length dyed red quill to form the tail. Clip the butts.
3. Tie in the gold tinsel at the butt of the hook and let hang for now.
4. Dub on the body material and wrap up to the eye of the hook.
5. Wrap the gold tinsel forward to form a rib. Tie off and clip excess.
6. Tie in a small clump of furnace hackle as a beard, long enough to just reach the hook point. Trim excess.
7. Tie in a small bunch of mallard flank at the head so that it lies over the back as a wing. It should be long enough to just reach the end of the tail.
8. Whip finish the head and cement.