

# MUTANT GURGLER FLY

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## **Pattern Origin, History and Species Targeted:**

The Gurgler has established a place as one of the most popular and effective surface commotion patterns in the around. Jack Gartside tied it over 20 years ago and popularized in 2001. I have find it most effective on Spotted Sea Trout here in NE Florida and Snook in South Florida. Redfish also have not been able to refuse the lure of this fly. Although naturally it's most popular with any species known to relish topwater lures.

This is a modified version of the original Gurgler fly. I call it the "Mutant Gurgler". Mutant because the foam is tied only half way down the hook shank from the hook eye. This helps the hook point hang down into the water column better for more consistent hook ups. When tied properly it should sit at approx. 30 degrees from the waters surface. I've designed it with these colors that Trout have been attracted to. When fishing this fly its best at dawn to early morning and dusk period with flat calm conditions that Trout and Snook lurk. It's also one of the easiest casting flies with the least amount of air resistance compared to other top water flies. I often use it with my 6, 7 and 8 wt. fly rods.



**Material List:**

Hook: Gamakatsu SP11-3L3H-Size #1  
Red Danville's 210 Denier Flat Waxed Nylon  
Bucktail-Chartreuse  
Bucktail-Fuschi(hot pink)  
Crystal Flash-Chartreuse  
Estaz Grande, Glissen Gloss #24-Chartreuse  
Rainy's Evazote 3/16" Sheet Foam-Chartreuse  
Flashabou-Red  
16 Lb. Mason Hard Type mono weedguard.  
Super Glue-gel

### **Tying Recipe:**

Place hook on vice. Begin thread wraps  $\frac{1}{4}$ " back from hook eye and completely cover the hook shank back to the top of the hook bend. Tie on a small mono loop foul guard on top of the hook bend. Place and tie on a small amount (no larger than a half of match stick) of Chartreuse bucktail approx. 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Then place about 4-6 strands of crystal flash over the chartreuse bucktail and then tie on a small amount of hot pink bucktail over the krystal flash and chartreuse bucktail. You can also add a small short piece( $\frac{1}{2}$ " or so) of hot pink deerhair (usually taken from the base butt section of the bucktail) on the front-top part of the bucktail splayed upward with the thread tension. Bring the thread forward to were you started near the hook eye and rest. Cut a strip of sheet foam 3"to 4" long and  $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide. Lay one end down on top of the shank near the hook eye. Thread wrap the foam strip toward the hook bend. The thread wraps over the foam should be firm but not to tight. You want to end up with approx.  $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick compressed foam and thread on the shank up to the hook bend. Tie on a piece of estaz grande at the hook bead over the wrapped foam. Palmer the estaz around the hook shank up to the hook eye and tie off. Fold over the tag end of the foam strip on top of the estaz covered shank and tightly wrap tie it a few times so the foam end splays upward. Bring the thread bobbin in front of the foam face and trim to approx.  $\frac{3}{8}$ ' high. Tie on a small amount of red flashabou at the throat and trim to approx.  $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Then tie on your 2 strand fork like weed guard. Final step is to superglue the foam head in a 90 degree position against the foam back.



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