

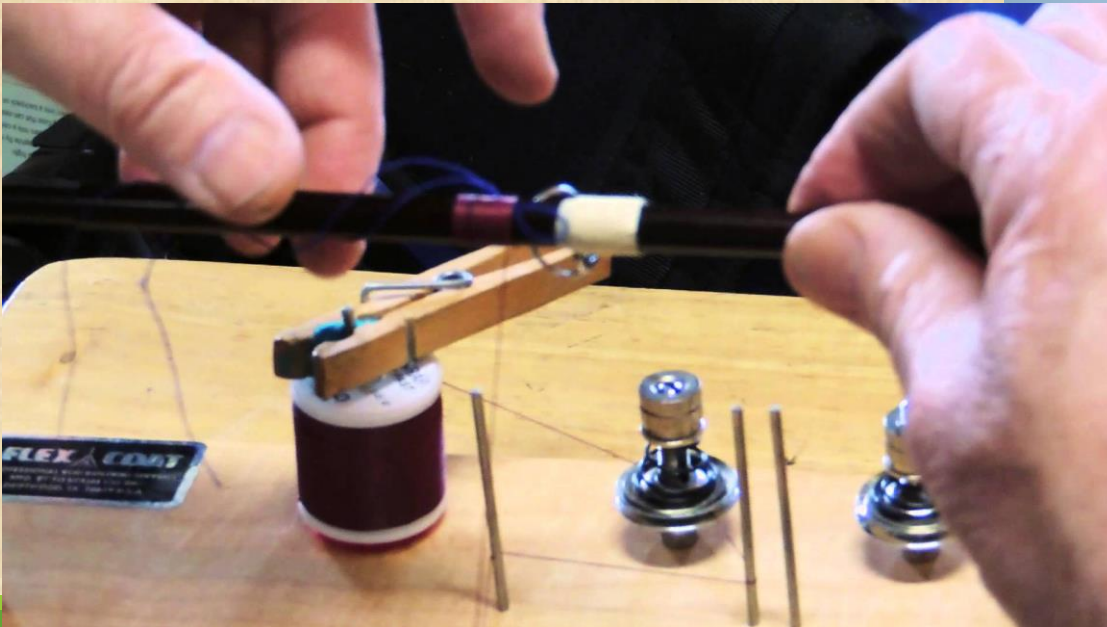
Fly Rod Components and Roundtable Discussion – Carbon Fiber (Graphite) Rods

August 2018

Custom Rod Builders Guild – North Central Regional

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Mendota Heights, Minnesota

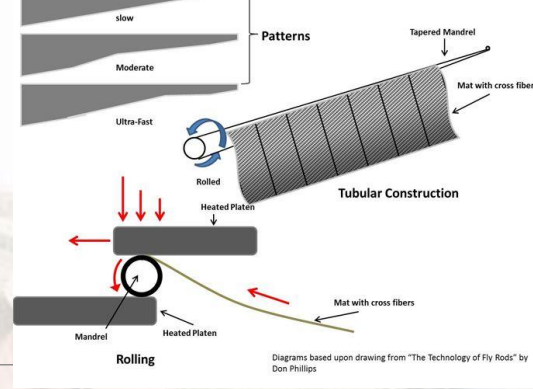


Agenda Overview

- Fly Fishing Rod Blanks
- Fly Rod Blank Manufacturers
- Rod Handles
- Reel Seats
- Rod Guides 101
- Highlights and Threads
- Rod Finishes
- Fly Rod Building Roundtable – Group Q&A



Fly Rod Blanks



Types of Rod Blanks

1. All Waters Fly Rods

- Line Weights 4 – 11

2. Freshwater Fly Rods

- Line Weights 0 – 10

3. Saltwater Fly Rods

- Line Weights 6 – 15

4. Two Handed Fly Rods

- Switch
- Spey

4. Specialty Rods

- European (Czech, French, Spanish) Nymphing Rods
- Line Weights 2 – 5
- Bass Rods
- Line Weights 7 – 9
- Musky Rods
- Line Weights 10 – 11
- Tankara – Haven't seen any available blanks

*Discussion of Line Weights

*To Spine or Align For Straightness?

Advantages and Disadvantages

Fly Rod Length & Action

- **Rod Length**

- **Shorter than 9 feet:**

Better choice when fishing on small streams or other tight spaces. Can be a handicap on long casts or when mending line. Shorter rods feel lighter and are less tiring to use

- **9 Feet**

The most popular rod length for fly rods. Handles various fishing conditions well without the extra weight and casting effort that comes with longer rods.

- **Greater than 9 feet**

Make longer casts easier than shorter rods. | Greater advantage for mending and other line-handling techniques (e.g., European nymphing techniques). Extra weight is more tiring than shorter rods. Leverage for stillwater fishing and float-tube applications

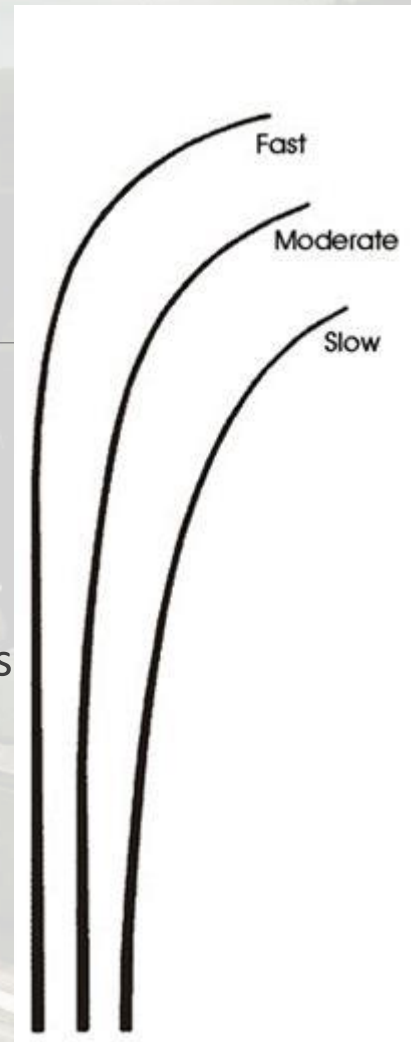
- **Fly Rod Action**

- **Fast action:** rod bends primarily near its tip

- **Medium or moderate action:** rod tends to bend more toward the middle

- **Slow action:** rod bends well into the bottom, or butt

- **Note:** *It is assumed that rods of similar length and weight are being compared when the same force is applied. Even very-fast-action rods will bend deep into the rod if enough force is applied.*



Fly Rod Blank Manufacturers



Major Fly Rod Blanks Manufacturers

1. St. Croix
2. Rod Geeks
3. Sage
4. Orvis
5. North Fork Composites - Loomis
6. Temple Fork Outfitters
7. Batson
8. Pac Bay
9. Lamiglas
10. R.L. Winston
11. American Tackle Company
12. Mud Hole MHX
13. Others - China & South Korea



Advantages and Disadvantages



What Elements of Fly Rod Construction Are Important to Fly Fishers at all levels

Beginner to Intermediate

Rod Action

- Beginner – Moderate
- Intermediate – Fast
 - Specialty Rods
 - Switch / Spey
 - Light line weights
 - Tankara
- Important Concerns
 - Beginner – Cost
 - Not as picky on materials or blank manufacturers
 - Testing the waters – generally not our customer
 - Intermediate – Quality
 - Rod construction
 - Durability
 - Want a mid-level quality rod blank from a good manufacturer



Advanced Fly Angler

Rod Action

- Fast to Extremely Fast
- Specialty Rods
 - Switch / Spey
 - Glass
 - Euro Nymphing Rods
 - Unusual Line Weights – 0 to 1, 12 – 16 Saltwater
- Important Concerns
 - Advanced – Quality and Performance
 - Weight and Action
 - Quality lightweight materials and advanced hardware
 - Performance tops durability
 - Rod blank manufacturer preference



Rod Handles

Types of Rod Grips and Handles

1. Designs of Grips/Handles

- Reversed Half Wells / Western
- Cigar
- Full Wells / Modified Full Wells

2. Handle Materials

- Cork
- Quality of Cork A Grade to Flor/AAA/AAAA/Super Grade
- Winn Grips
- Carbon Fiber
- Cork and Wood
- Wood



Reel Seats

Types of Reel Seats and Fighting Butts

1. Construction

- Metals
- Spacers
- Freshwater / Saltwater
- Fighting Butts

2. Design Features

- Recessed Hood
- Locking Ring(s)
- Other Options

Advantages and Disadvantages



Rod Guides 101

Types of Guides

1. Construction
 - Metals
 - Plating
2. Stripping Guides & Tip Tops
 - Traditional
 - REC Recoil
 - Tip Tops
3. Guides
 - Traditional Snake Guides
 - Single Foot Guides
 - REC Recoil

Advantages and Disadvantages



GUIDE W/ INSERT

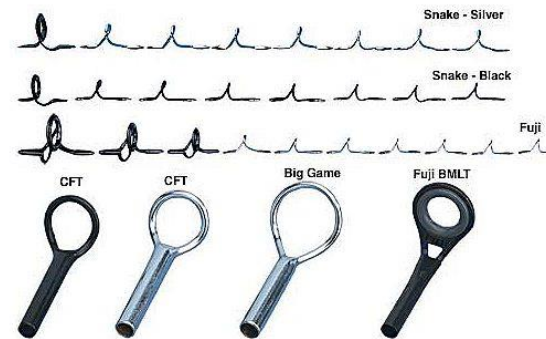


FLY FISHING GUIDES

SNAKE GUIDE



SINGLE FOOT



Highlights and Threads

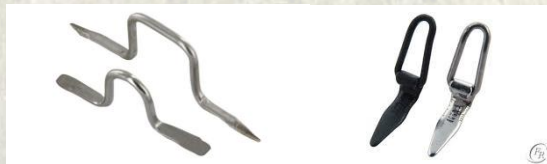
Other Highlights

1. Winding Checks
2. Hook Keepers
 - Placement
3. Inlays



Threads

1. Nylon Thread
2. Madeira Polyneon Thread
3. Metallic Thread and Braid



Advantages and Disadvantages

Rod Finishes

Various Manufacturers

1. Flex Coat
2. U-40
3. Diamond II
4. ProKote
5. Roddancer
6. Aftcote
7. Threadmaster



Fly Rod Building Roundtable

War Stories and New Ideas

Innovative Solutions

Group Questions and Answers





That's all Folks!

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Thanks for Coming!

