



## Properly Balanced Single & Two-Hand Rods

Choosing the proper the fly reel to counter balance a fly rod is nearly as important as having the correct casting motions.

Balance the rod by having the reel slightly heavy. The tip of the rod should be slightly up from parallel to the floor when holding the rod in a resting horizontal position.

Both single and two-handed rods require proper balancing to eliminate wrist and forearm fatigue. Counterbalancing your single-handed or two-handed fly rod with an appropriately weighted reel will allow you to fish longer, with less fatigue and help the fly line cast properly.

The following information is to help you determine the proper fulcrum point on your rod handle and how to add counterbalance weight to a reel that's too light.

### Correct Fulcrum Points on Single and Two-Handed Fly Rods

Typical fulcrum points measured from the top end of the handle:

- Spey Rods: between 3" and 6"
- Switch Rods: between 3" and 6"
- Single Hand: between 1" and 3"

\*these points may vary on different length cork handles

**A Reel is Excessively Heavy** when the rod tip comes to a resting pointing around the 10 to 12 o'clock position.

**An excessively heavy reel** impedes casting ease and creates unnecessary forearm and wrist fatigue by the fisherman continually **having to force the rod down** into a comfortable fishing/balanced resting position.

**A Reel is Excessively Light** when the rod tips' final resting point is down into the water.

**An excessively light reel** impedes casting ease and creates unnecessary forearm and wrist fatigue by continually **having to force the rod tip up** into a comfortable fishing/balanced resting position.

### How to determine the amount of Counter-Balance Weight needed on a Reel that is too light.

1. Fill a small bag with bolts, nuts, rocks or anything to add weight. Use a string to hang the bag on the reel.
2. Find the measured fulcrum point. Add or subtract the weight in the bag until to rod rests at the proper angle.
3. When the fulcrum point angle is achieved, weigh the bag.
- 4: The weight of the bag should equal the weight of the backing and running line.

If the weight of your backing and running line aren't heavy enough, use Lead Core Line behind the backing. Use a lead core line with a breaking strength equal to or above your backing if you are tying the backing to the lead core. It may be necessary to remove some backing previously installed on a reel to make room for the lead core.



***A Well-Balanced Rod & Reel is a start to a long & enjoyable day on the water.***

