

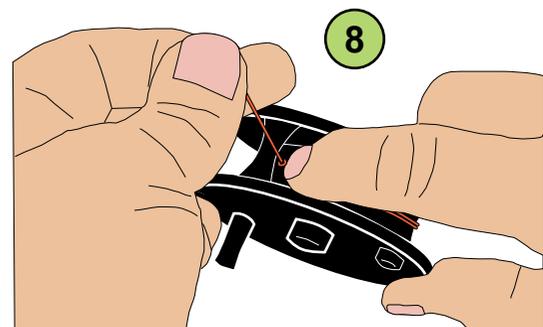
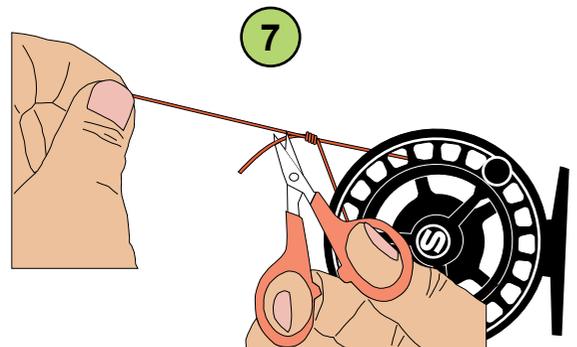
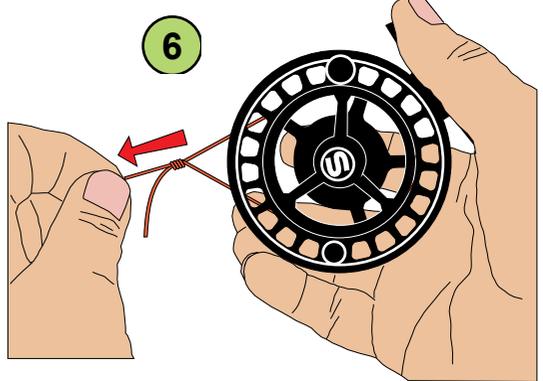
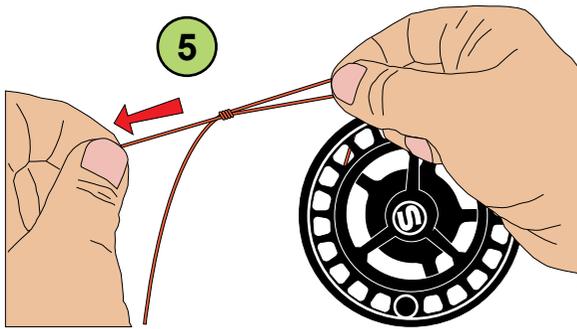
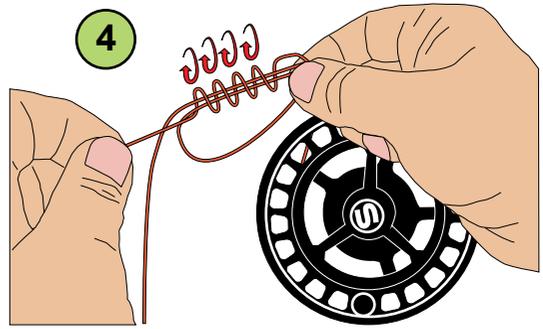
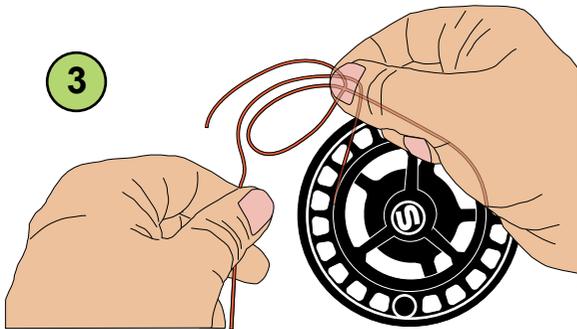
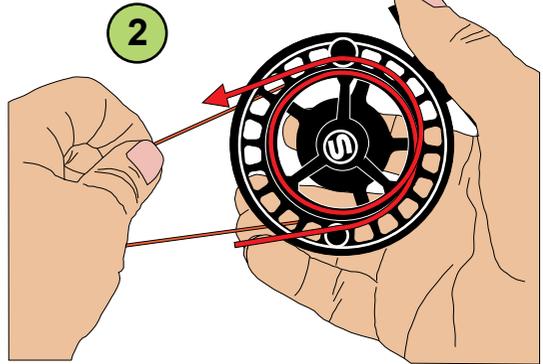
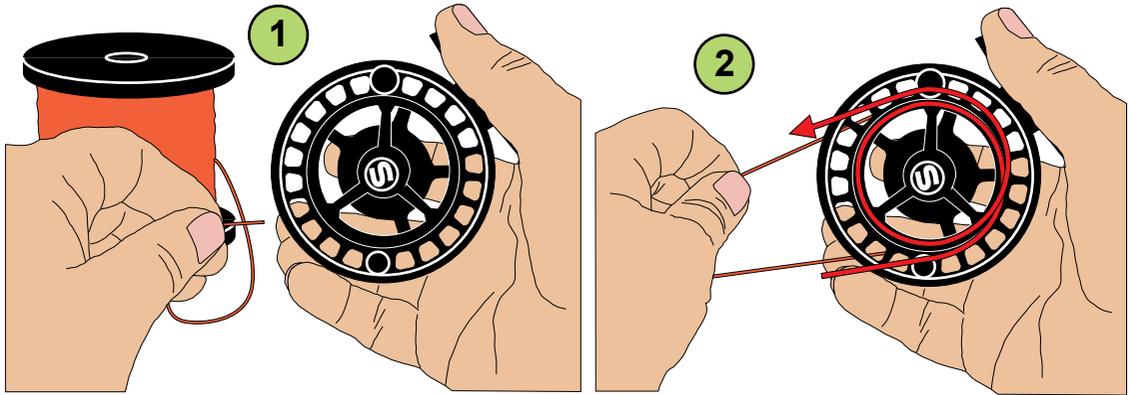
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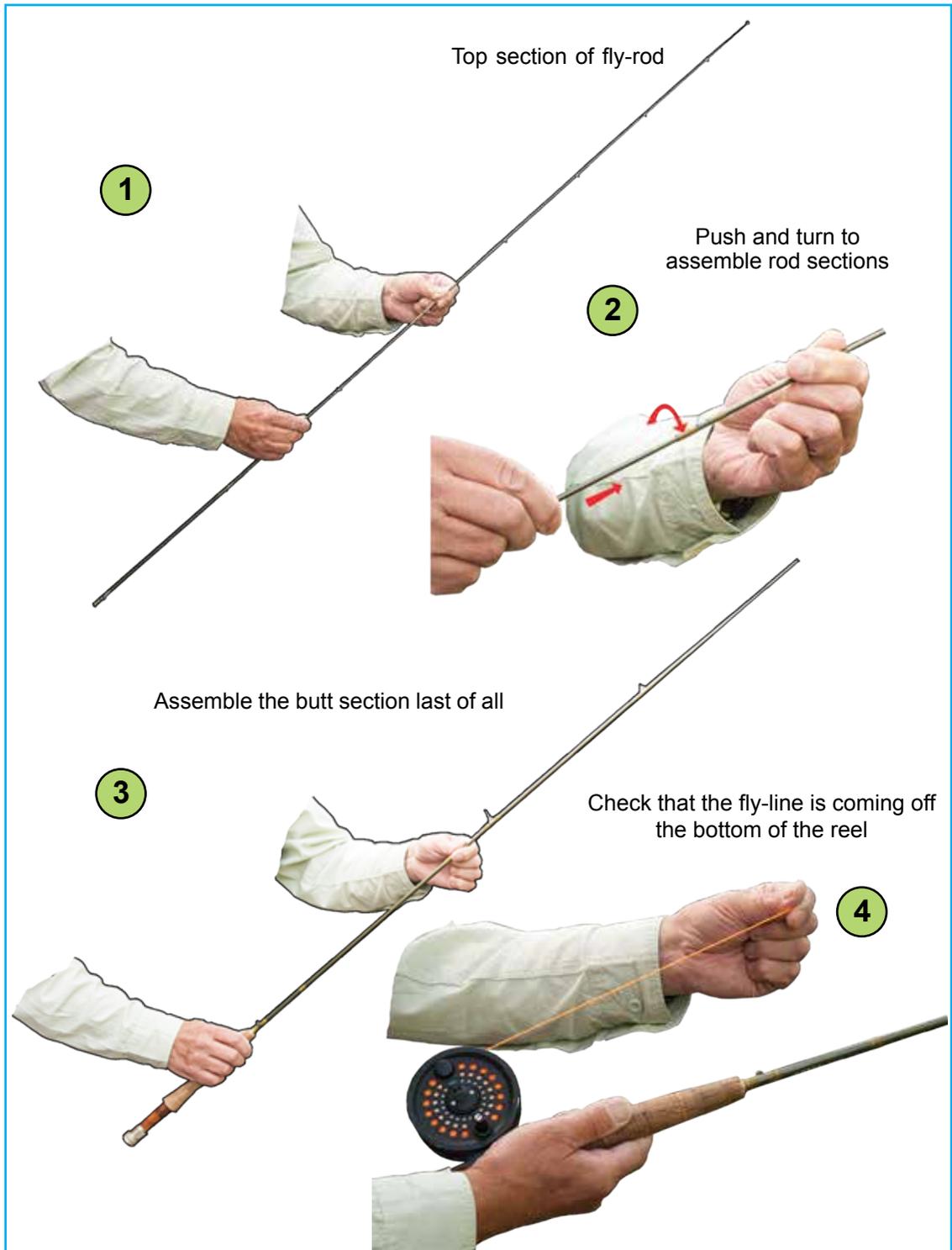
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The Grinner Knot (connects backing to reel)



Assembling a fly-rod and line



DRY FLY FISHING

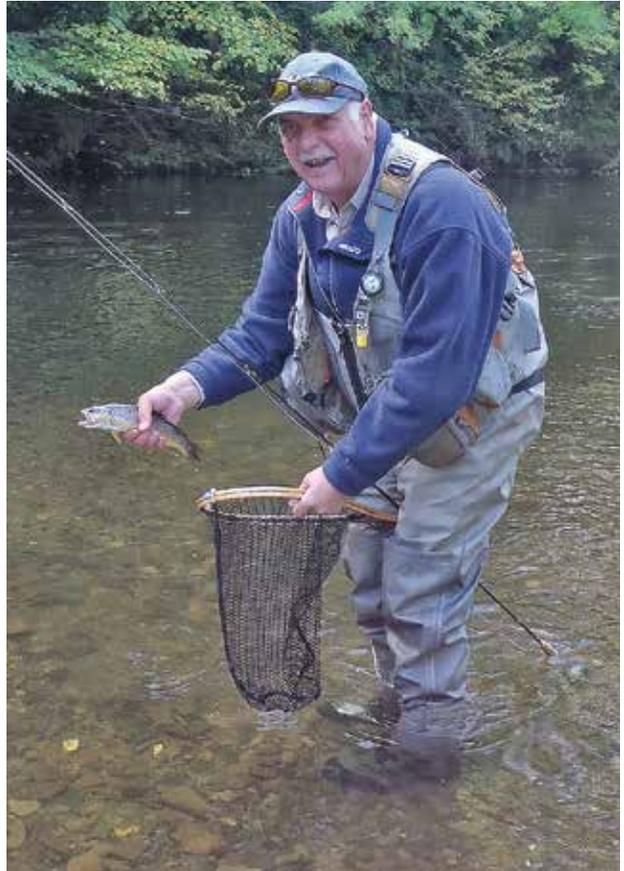
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For many flyfishers, the ultimate experience is to successfully take a fish, in the river, with a dry fly imitation that they have made themselves. Often the fish are rising to a hatch of flies and can be seen taking them off the surface of the water from the same spot. Larger fish often push small fish off the prime feeding positions, which are close to an area of refuge and safety.

It is a good strategy to sit and observe the river before starting to fish, noting where the fish are rising before wading into the water. The fish can be targeted so that the closest ones can be caught first without spooking the others further upstream. The angler should always be aware of where other fish are showing.

To catch a fish with a dry fly, it is essential that the fly is presented gently, a foot or so upstream of the fish, so that the fly floats over the fish with a drag-free drift. To prevent the fly-line from pulling the fly and causing it to skate across the surface of the water it is necessary to put slack into the fly-line during the cast.

The choice of fly is important because ideally it should match the natural insect on which the fish are feeding, although this may not be immediately obvious if several different types of fly are hatching simultaneously. Often a generic pattern can be used to solve this problem. The fish may be scrutinising the shape of the fly on the water – as well as the colour. If the fish refuses to take after a few casts with a particular fly, it may be worthwhile trying another pattern or another hook size. Often the fish can be feeding on extremely small insects or taking them sub-surface.



Basic Tackle Requirements

- #5 9ft fly-rod
- #5 9ft floating, double-taper, fly-line (weight forward is also acceptable)
- #5 9ft fly-reel
- 12ft 5x (4lb breaking strength), nylon tapered leader for dry fly fishing
- Spool of 5x tippet
- Multi-compartment fly-box with spring lids (or similar)
- Forceps
- Line snips
- Landing net
- Fly floatant
- Polaroid glasses
- Waders
- Wading jacket
- Fishing hat or baseball cap

Leader lengths for nymphing

