

Guide Spacing

Note:
Make sure the guide spacing you use appears reasonable.

Guide Spacing

Wire Guide - Stripping Guide sizes Single Foot w/ Insert - Stripping Guide sizes

GUIDE SPACING

Guide spacing contributes to the casting performance and fighting ability of a fly rod. A good way to obtain guide spacing is to use the measurements determined by the manufacturer of your rod blank. This spacing can be measured directly from a completed fly rod. In addition, most manufacturers are willing to provide this information.

All measurements should be made from the ring of the tip top unless otherwise noted. These measurements represent the distance from the ring of the tip top to the center of the wire snake guide or the ring of single foot and stripping guides. The measurements should be marked on the rod blank with a china marker so they can be easily removed.

The following chart gives possible guide spacing and guide sizes for a variety of popular fly rods. This chart should help you determine the number and sizes of guides needed for your fly rod. Sizes are given for tip rings, stripping guides, wire guides and single foot fly guides with inserts.

Chart Legend

- The guide sizes for 7 weight rods are in parentheses when they differ from other rods in the category.
- Stripping guide sizes are in **bold**.
- All measurements are made from the ring of the tip top to the center of the ring in inches.
- S=Standard L=Large
- ★ If you have decided to use single foot fly rod guides on an ultralight rod #2 - #4 you may wish to wrap on additional guide at the tip instead of using a size 7 tip top.

Color Index

Guide Spacing

Wire Guide - Stripping Guide sizes
Single Foot Fly Guide w/ Insert - Stripping Guide sizes

Rod Length	Line Weight	# of Pieces	Tip ring size	Number of Guides										
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	2, 3, 4	2		4	9	15	21 1/2	28 1/2	36 1/2	45 1/2	55 1/2			
			S	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	10			
			★	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6	7	8	10			
7 1/2	2, 3, 4	2		4	9	15	21 3/4	29 1/4	37 3/4	47 1/4	58 3/4			
			S	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	10			
			★	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6	7	8	10			
8	3, 4, 5	2		4 3/16	9 3/16	15 3/16	22 3/16	30 3/16	38 11/16	47 11/16	57 1/2	66 1/2		
			S	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	4	12		
			7	6	6	6	6	7	7	8	10	12		
8 1/2	3, 4, 5, 6, (7)	2		4 7/8	10 7/8	17 7/8	25 7/8	33 7/8	41 1/2	51 3/4	60 1/4	70 1/2		
			S (L)	1 (2)	1 (2)	1 (2)	2 (3)	2 (3)	2 (3)	3 (4)	4 (12)	12 (16)	12 (16)	
			7 (8)	6 (7)	6 (7)	6 (7)	7 (8)	7 (8)	7 (8)	8 (10)	10 (12)	12 (16)	12 (16)	
8 1/2	8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13-15	2		4 1/2	9 5/8	15 5/8	21 1/2	27 5/8	34 3/4	42 1/2	50 3/8	59 1/8	69 1/4	
			L	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	16	20	
			8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	12	16	20	
9	3, 4, 5, 6	2		4	9	15	22	29 1/2	37 1/2	46 3/8	56 3/8	67 1/4	78	
			S	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	12	
			7	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	8	10	12	
9	3, 4, 5, 6	4		3 5/8	8	13 1/4	19 5/8	27 1/4	35 11/16	44 11/16	54 3/8	65 3/8	76	
			S	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	12	
			7	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	8	10	12	
9	(7), 8, 9	2		4 1/2	9 1/2	15 1/2	22	29	36 1/2	44 1/2	54	65	76 1/2	
			L	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	16 (12)	20 (16)	20 (16)	
			8	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	10 (8)	10 (8)	10 (8)	12 (10)	16 (12)	20 (16)	
9	(7), 8, 9	3		3 13/16	8 3/4	14 13/16	21 1/8	28 3/4	36 1/8	43 7/8	53 3/8	63 3/8	74 13/16	
			L	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	16 (12)	20 (16)	20 (16)	
			8	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	10 (8)	10 (8)	10 (8)	12 (10)	16 (12)	20 (16)	
9	(7), 8, 9	4		3 7/8	7 15/16	13 3/8	19 1/4	27 1/4	35 11/16	44 5/8	54 1/8	65 1/8	75 7/8	
			L	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	16 (12)	20 (16)	20 (16)	
			8	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	10 (8)	10 (8)	10 (8)	12 (10)	16 (12)	20 (16)	
9	10, 11, 12, 13-15	2		4 7/8	9 3/8	15 3/8	21 11/16	28 13/16	36 3/8	44 11/16	53 1/2	64 1/4	76 3/8	
			L	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	16	20	
			8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	12	16	20	
9	10, 11, 12, 13-15	3		3 11/16	8 5/8	14 11/16	20 13/16	28 5/8	36	43 13/16	53 3/8	63 3/8	74 13/16	
			L	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	16	20	
			8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	12	16	20	
9	10, 11, 12, 13-15	4		4 3/4	10 1/4	16 1/2	24 1/4	32 3/4	40 3/4	49 1/2	58 7/8	68 1/4	77 3/4	
			L	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	16	20	
			8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	12	16	20	
9 1/2	4, 5, 6	2		4	9	15	22	29 1/4	37	45	53 1/4	62 3/8	72 3/4	84
			S	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	10	12
			7	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	8	10	12
9 1/2	(7), 8, 9	2		4	9	15	22	29 1/4	37	45	53 1/4	62 1/8	72 3/8	83 1/4
			L	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	16 (12)	20 (16)	
			8	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	10 (8)	10 (8)	10 (8)	12 (10)	16 (12)	20 (16)
10	5, 6	2		4	9	15	22	30	39	48	57 1/2	68 3/8	79 3/8	90
			S	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	4	10	12
			7	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	8	10	12
10	(7), 8, 9	2		4	9	15	22	30	39	48	57 1/2	67 3/8	78 3/8	89 3/4
			L	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	16 (12)	20 (16)	
			8	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	8 (7)	10 (8)	10 (8)	10 (8)	12 (10)	16 (12)	20 (16)