

Bamboo Rod Care and Assembly

I hand-crafted this bamboo (split-cane) fly/fishing rod from a single culm of Tonkin bamboo. Care for your rod and it will last a lifetime! A bamboo fishing rod is different than a fiberglass or graphite rod. Bamboo rods have different needs when it comes to fishing, care, and assembly/disassembly.

Please follow these guidelines:

- 1) Always transport the rod in the provided rod tube. This will keep the rod tip from repeated flexing and heavy vibration. You should keep your rod in the tube while hiking to your fishing spot to prevent damage.
- 2) Don't keep your bamboo rod in a hot car. It will warp the bamboo and melt the clear coat.
- 3) I suggest that you don't put your bamboo rod in rod roof rack. The vibration and friction will wear the clear coat and allow water to get into the bamboo. If you insist on using a rod roof rack, get a soft full length SOFT rod sock. Excessive damage to the finish will void the warrantee.
- 4) Doors: Whether car, screen, trunk, etc. doors break a lot of rods.
- 5) Do not use the rod to retrieve a hook from a rock or tree. Instead, pull line out of the reel and pull only the line to release/break it off.
- 6) Bamboo fly rods react differently than graphite. Don't overpower your cast. Use a bit slower casting motion. You'll find the sweet spot after a few casts.
- 7) Don't flex the tip with your hand. Flexing only a portion of the tip (while holding it) will put stress on the bamboo's power fibers (at that point on the tip) and can cause eventual failure (breakage).
- 8) When landing a fish, try not to lift the rod up past 60 degrees (2 O'clock). Too much bend in a bamboo rod can create a "set" (a permanent bend) in the tip. Use a shorter leader when possible.
- 9) Don't lift a fish out of the water with the rod. Always use a net to remove a fish from the water.
- 10) Don't submerge your bamboo rod for a photo. There is a clear coat on the rod that will protect it from UV light and river dunks but submerging too often or for too long can allow water to get under the guide wraps and cause the bamboo to rot.

11) When you're finished fishing, it's important to wipe the rod down with a soft cloth to remove any water and dirt before storing. Water left on the guides, while stored, can eventually get underneath the guide wraps and cause the bamboo to rot. Don't put the wet drying cloth in the tube with your rod.

12) Store your rod in a safe place, in the included rod sock and rod tube. When storing the rod, keep it in a place with lower humidity and moderate temperature (60° to 80°). Place/remove the rod from the tube gently to protect the rod and guides. Never drop it into the rod tube with a thud.

Remember this when assembling and disassembling: "put together, hands together; take apart, hands apart"

Bamboo rod ferrules are tight and don't go together/come apart easily. When you assemble the rod, grab the two rod pieces close to the ferrules ("put together, hands together"). Put just the tip of the male ferrule into the female ferrule (1), line up the guides, then push the ferrules together (2). NEVER try to twist the ferrule/rod when the rod is assembled. It will damage the rod.



To take the rod apart, hold each piece of the rod about a foot away from the ferrule ("take apart, hands apart") and pull straight out with both hands (3). Again, **DO NOT** twist/flex while you are pulling. When the ferrule comes apart, you'll hear a "pop."

