

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Nymphing weight ?

Re: Nymphing weight ?

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URL:

This question is a lot like "How much tippet should I use?" or "What size fly should I use?"

It depends on the situation. I will put the shot anywhere from 4" to 15" from the fly depending on what I want to achieve. In calmer pools or slower runs, I might put my shot pretty far away from the fly as I want some slack between the fly and shot. I believe that weight put too close to the fly can make the fly behave unnaturally in many situations because any tick or hang up instantly stops the drift of the fly. Sometimes I even stagger the split shot so that they are spread out over several feet of the leader. (This works great for getting a right-angle orientation in deeper runs and pools.)

On the other hand, while high-sticking in faster water, I might put a lot of weight only 4-6" from a fly that also has weight in the form of a beadhead or lead wire.

I have had many instances where simply adjusting the distance between the weight and fly has produced strikes. I've never understood how some people refuse to adjust their weight, indicator, leaders, etc., and would rather fish the same rig in all conditions. It just doesn't work as well as if a minute or two is taken to re-evaluate and make adjustments for every different spot you fish.

Kev