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Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Rookie

Re: Rookie

Author: : jaybo41

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URL:

As far as the Cabelas setup goes, I think it's a good choice for a good amount of gear at a reasonable price. I've got one of those setups for steelhead and the rod performs well, I've been happy with it. You should look around though because you might find that you can get just as much for a little bit more and also better equipment.

I've found two schools of thought when buying a first fly fishing setup...one is to get something less expensive and something that you'd eventually replace or use as a backup. The other is to bite the bullet up front and buy something you'd grow into. Do whichever is within your price range, but look around and cast some rods FIRST.

If you can, before you go to cabelas, hit a local fly shop and see if you can cast a few rods. For one thing, you'll pick up a few pointers as to how to cast, and secondly, you'll get to have a feel for some different rods. Pick a rod based on the one that feels best in your hands when casting and is also within your price range.

Medium-Medium fast is my guess as to what will serve you best right now, but again, it's all dependant on what feels best to you.

As an example to illustrate my points....a buddy of mine got into steelhead fishing and bought a cheap noodle rod because he wanted something cheap. The rod casts horribly, has horrible action and is basically taking up space in his house. I call it the Sequoia because it's large and has NO action at all. After one use, he's never used it again, it's that bad. Don't make that mistake.

Also, you'll need some floats, so make sure you pick up some of those too according to the size of the stream and flies you're tossing.

As for tippet and leader, I prefer flourocarbon. It's costly yes, but it's very good in low and clear conditions, so I figure why buy mono and flouro. I will say though, that I always have a few mono leaders to either use in a pinch or when conditions don't require me to use flouro. I still use flouro tippet and really like the Orvis brand based on price and quality. Climax, Rio, and Cortland are also good. Frog's Hair is great, but also more costly. I'm sure others will have other recommendations but flouro works good for me.