

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Choosing a quality mid level reel

Re: Choosing a quality mid level reel

Author: : JeffK

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URL:

I'm generally in the better gear camp for all the reasons stated - cheaper in the long run, less chance of failure, and better reels run smoother.

That said I also have a soft spot for old fiberglass rods and old blue collar reels. Maintain them and they will do OK, but the modern ones are better IMHO.

As for Medalists, they were the most popular reel in the USA for 50 years so they were doing something right and people caught a lot of huge fish with them. The number one flaw is that they are held together by screws that can loosen over time. I recommend putting Loctite on the screws of any Medalists. Some of the other parts, like the spring loaded detent on the spool can wear out over decades. However, there are plenty of Medalists out there chep so spare parts are rarely an issue.