

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : New to the Sport

Re: New to the Sport

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URL:

I would also put the orvis clearwater outfit on the short list, but also consider that the main casting difference between the 8' 5wt traditional and the 9' 5wt clearwater may be the foot difference in length. The clearwater has a lifetime warranty too. A 9' is easier to cast/mend than an 8', but that extra foot may get in the way on smaller streams.

If you could borrow someones equipment, that would be best.

Cabelas does sell some not so good rods IMO, their genesis has a crummy reel seat that broke on me and both it and their three forks line have worse blanks IMO compared to the traditional. My wife learned on a 9' 5wt three forks and was/is happy with it....i just think the traditional is worth the extra 25-30 bucks. (Hard to argue with a purchase of a 8' 5wt three forks/pflueger medalist combo for \$75 though!)

Even though they market the genesis combo specifically for someone like you, I would specifically not recommend getting that combo. The reel seat and the reel are JUNK. All plastic including the drag on the reel. This is what I started on and regret it. Both were broken within 6 months. Cabelas replaced it, but I promptly sold it and bought another outfit.

I've also fished/built several 5 piece cabelas stowaways and think the traditional has better blanks. I also think that the prestige plus reel is better than the CSR (smoother drag and more reliable - have had two friends who had CSRs bind up on them after minimal use.)

I would agree that an 8' 5wt would be best for eastern trout but I would prefer to use a 9' 6 wt for smallmouth.

If you already know how to cast, consider spending a little more money, but if you're going blind, go cheap.