

Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : Tying my own steelhead leader.

Re: Tying my own steelhead leader.

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URL:

If you're already decided, that's one thing. Personally, I'd recommend having some mono in there at some point in the leader. I do use fluoro tippets for steelhead, which makes sense for a number of reasons.

Main reason for the mono sections is stretch. Mono has FAR more stretch than fluoro. Stretch is good when fighting big fish, just like having a soft rod tip is good. Acts as a shock absorber and protects tippet, as even with 2x/3x type tippets, you're using tippet strengths that are borderline for fish that are that big and powerful. I've even considered putting rubber bands into leaders!

I'd say use mono for the butt section. Make the switch to fluoro somewhere in the taper. MC's formula above would be a good one, it's similar to mine, cept I usually skip the swivel. Chameleon is a good, stretchy mono. You don't need much of a taper when nymphing. In fact, you don't WANT much of one below the indi when indi fishing, or in the water period when high sticking. Various diameters in the water = drag.