

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Got to use my first hand-tied leader

Re: Got to use my first hand-tied leader

Author: : Six-Gun

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URL:

Thanks, guys. While it is time consuming (and I really do see myself buying the blood knot tool if I continue down this path), it is also very rewarding to make and fish your own leader. Does the cost/time ratio balance out? Probably not. Was it just cool to keep a fish on with the confidence that you tied knots well to enough to land him? You bet.

lv2nymph - I did all manner of pull testing when I first tied a blood knot in some scrap fluro line to make sure that tiny knot I had never tied before would hold. I wasn't terribly confident in my tying skill at that point, nor that tiny knot. However, the more I looked at the knot, the more I realized its the same one that a pro shop put in my braid/mono connection point on my deep sea baitcaster. If it can hold a bluefin tuna tugging on it, it can hold a trout on appropriately weighted line. As for the rod, I had actually been putting the 3wt. St. Croix 7' rod through it's paces for a good while. This is the first time in a bit that I got the 2wt. back out, but boy is it a joy to carry all day.

boychick - you mention tippet rings. Ironically enough, I actually have some, but I forget that fact until I have already tied the tippet to my leader with a surgeon's knot. So, net time I have to tie on a tippet, I'll make it a point to use the tippet ring.

Oh, and here's a little clip of the leader in action on a nymphing rig to catch a brown:

<http://youtu.be/9ECCc0lI8dk>