

# “Little Black Dress” 1 Weight Fly Rod Certificate of Origin



Built by Donald La Mar  
for the Louisville Chapter of Trout Unlimited's  
2020 Fund Raising Auction



## Components

### Rod Blank

Get Bent Fly Shop IM8 carbon fiber, 8', 4 piece, single tip, matte black fly rod blank, marketed as suitable for 1 weight fly line. Get Bent Fly Shop does not publish CCS or similar quantitative data for its blanks.

### Reel Seat

Proof Fly Fishing's light weight Pocket style polished aluminum reel seat with dual locking nuts.

### Grip

A thin, 6 1/2", western style grip was made from flor grade, natural cork.

### Guides

The stripping guide is an 8 mm, chrome finish, low frame . The snake guides are Snake Brand, Inc.'s Universal in bright chrome, eCoat finish. The tip-top is Snake Brand size 3.5, with matching finish, standard size loop, and #3.5 size tube. The guide locations are as indicated by static load tests.

### Wraps

The wraps were made with YLI 100 weight, black 3/0 silk.

### Finishes, Adhesives, Glues and Other Materials

ProKote ProPaste epoxy adhesive was used to affix reel seat and grip to the blank, Flex Coat tip top glue to affix the tip top, and TiteBond III to glue up the cork grip rings. Multiple applications of ThreadMaster Lite Formula epoxy finish were applied to all wraps.

### **Reel Selection, Balance Point, and Line Weight**

Before purchasing a reel, insist on a return / exchange privilege so as to permit the reel to be mounted and your preferred balance point confirmed, which point will probably be about 1" to 2" aft of the forward edge of the grip.

The fly rod blank is marketed as a 1 weight. A 2 weight line might be preferred by some casters for short casts.

### **Warranty**

The builder does not represent the fly rod described herein to be suitable for any purpose nor that the rod blank or its affixed components are free from defects in material or workmanship.

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### Carbon Fiber Fly Rod Care and Feeding Recommendations

The #1 mortal enemies of all fishing rods, and especially fly rods, are building and vehicle doors, vehicle trunk lids, truck tailgates, and ceiling fans. If it can be closed, slammed or rotates watch out!

Heat is the #2 rod enemy. The rod glues, adhesives, and finishes will weaken and ultimately fail with sufficient heat. The general rule is if you would be uncomfortable where you intend to store a rod, even temporarily, your rod will be even more uncomfortable. Fly rods should be stored, thoroughly dry, in a rod sack and tube, or a tube with dividers, in a cool, dry place.

Surprisingly, water is the #3 rod enemy. While the metal components of the rod are resistant to rust and corrosion, water contains all manner of microbes that can attach themselves to and destroy a wet rod stored in a sack and tube. Never store a fly rod without first thoroughly drying the rod. Immediately after fishing in salt water the rod should be well washed using soap and fresh water and thoroughly dried.

Never stand a fly rod in a corner of anything, ever. It's a disaster waiting to happen.

When assembling rod sections, never attempt to align the guides by twisting assembled sections after the ferrules have been pushed home. Instead, first slightly misalign the guides (10 to 15 degrees), keeping your hands as close to the ferrules as possible without grasping a guide, then push and turn the sections together to align the guides. To disassemble the rod, keep your hands as far from the ferrules as possible without grasping a guide and pull the sections straight apart without twisting.

Exercise extreme caution when carrying an assembled rod. If you must carry an assembled rod, the best practice is to carry the rod held by the grip with the tip top pointing up and behind you.

While it is difficult to break a rod fighting a fish (assuming proper fish fighting technique is used), graphite, boron, and fiberglass rods can be surprisingly fragile and easily damaged if permitted to vibrate against or

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to strike a hard object, such as a boat gunwale, vehicle top, rocks or tree limbs. Damage from such events might not be immediately apparent but will ultimately result in catastrophic rod failure.

Never attempt to free an impaled or stuck fly using the rod. Flies and tippets are relatively inexpensive. Cut the leader or even the fly line if necessary.

Never use a fly rod to boat a fish or to lift a fish to hand - fly rods are simply not designed for that purpose.

When fighting a fish, keep the rod at or below 40 - 45 degrees to the water so as to permit the stiffer butt section to tire the fish while the tip section absorbs shocks and protects the tippet. Any loading (bending) of the rod beyond 90 degrees is abusive and will ultimately result in catastrophic failure.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness, and this is especially true for rod ferrules, which will perform their function well for an extended time if simply kept clean. No lubricants are necessary or recommended. The interior of the female ferrule can be cleaned with a Q-tip and water.

The grip and rod can be cleaned using a non-abrasive soap, such as Dawn or diluted Simple Green, and a soft cloth. The use of chemicals or abrasive cleaners will damage both the grip and rod finishes. A non-automotive, non-abrasive wax, such as Johnson's J Wax, will restore luster to the rod finish. No wax should be applied to the male ferrule or the cork grip.