

Creating under wraps.

Heavier rods for salt water and boat use require some heavier guide holding and protection. Under wraps can be both functional and attractive where weight is not a factor in wrapping guides.

A common use of thread sizes in this application is to use A size thread for under wraps and D size thread for guide wraps. This is not cast in stone.

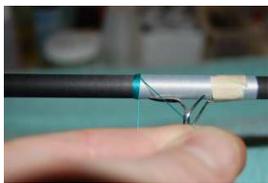
Once you've decided where to locate the guides on your rod, mark the length of the guide on the blank. Extend the start and the finish of the under wrap past these points so that you can ensure the start of the main wrap leaves some of the under wrap exposed for trim. Note the approximate distance on the under wraps compared to the guide length.



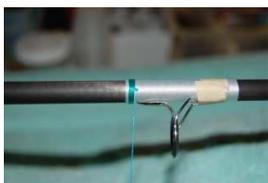
Some builders apply a coat of finish to the under wrap before wrapping the guides, some just use color preserver, some don't do either. If you've used A thread for the under wrap and plan on using A thread for the guide wrap, you'll have problems with the over wrap thread lining up in the grooves of the under wrap and may create some gaps. D thread for the over wraps will cause less of an issue. The easiest way to proceed is to apply a coat of finish to the under wrap before wrapping the guide.

I used A size white NCP for the under wrap and D size thread for the over wrap in this example with no finish over the under wrap.

Start the wrap as you would any other guide wrap. I like to start off of the over wrap as shown. Wrapping left to right in this example.



Use the tag end pull tip to move the start of the wrap to the right just enough to expose the under wrap.



Finish the wrap and tie off as shown in the previous lessons.



Remove the tape and repeat on the other side.



Measuring tools can be beneficial in ensuring you get the guide and wraps centered on the under wrap. The visual contrast of the under wrap will magnify any difference in length between the wraps on either foot so take a minute to ensure you have the guide in the right place on the over wrap and the resulting guide wraps will be of equal length.



Use calipers or a simple sewing ruler.