

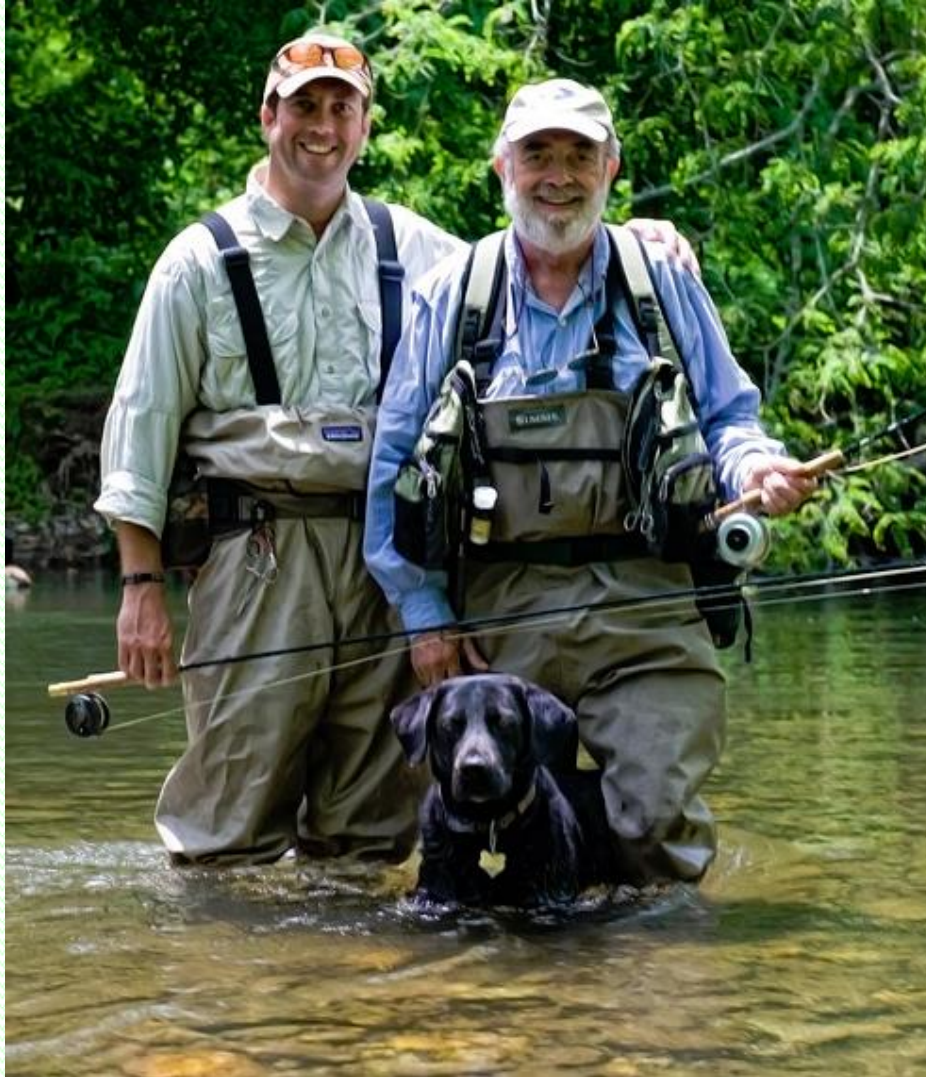


# Introduction to Fly Fishing Gear

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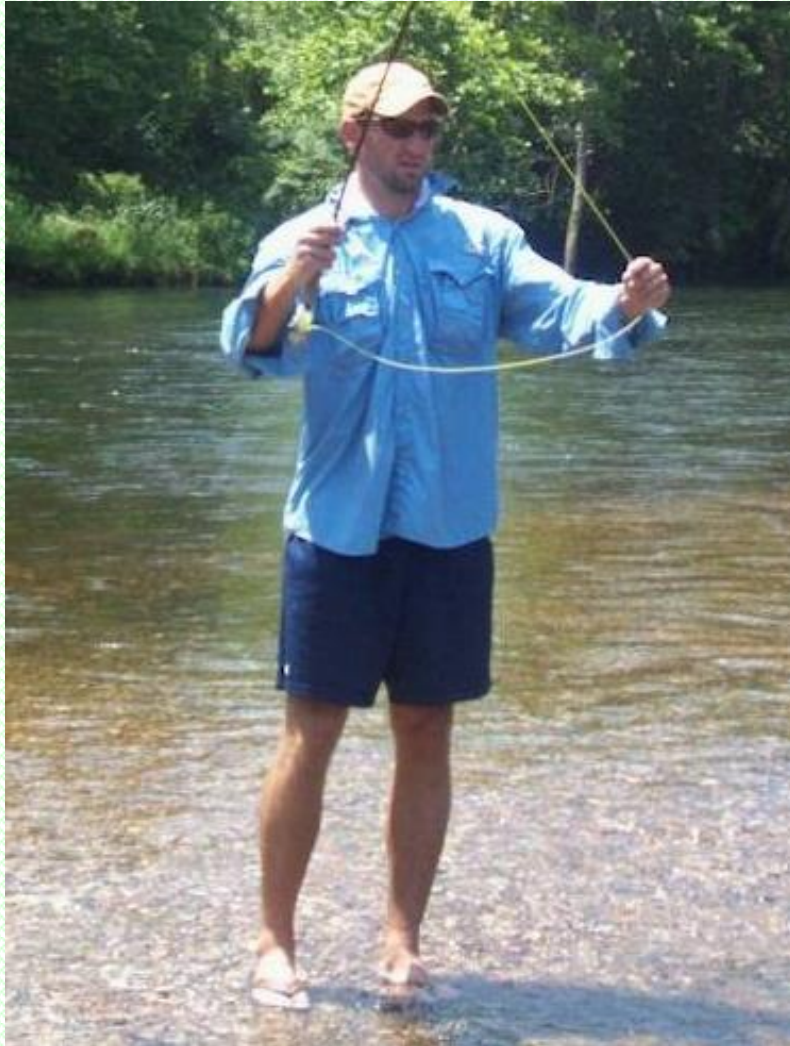
# Marketing image of fly fisherman today



What they want to sell you:

- Rod & reel
- Waders, boots
- Logo hat
- Sunblocking camo fishing shirt
- Retractable Zinger
- Ceramic nippers
- Stainless forceps
- Six boxes of flies
- 2X,3X,4X,5X,6X,7X tippet
- Boga grip
- Waterproof camera
- Fishing app for Cellphone
- Waterproof knot guide
- \$100 sunglasses
- Collapsible wading staff
- Black lab
- Guided fishing trip
- Monogrammed flask
- Cigars
- Fishing boat, canoe, motor, etc

At the other extreme....



You can also play golf with a 7-iron, putter, shorts, and sneakers.

# To be safe and comfortable, there is a happy middle ground

Spring and Fall



Summer



Winter



# Warm water fly fishing gear – most basic

Essential items	Nice to have
flies	cell phone (waterproof)
3X, 4X tippet	closed toe wading shoes
nippers	food & water
polarized sunglasses	sunblock & bug spray
hat	small fanny/sling pack
fishing license	C&R landing net
	neoprene wading socks
	wading staff
	Long sleeve shirt, lightweight nylon pants



# Cold water fly gear (wading not boating)

Trout live in cold water, regardless of air temp

Essential items	Nice to have
previous list, plus:	previous list, plus:
<b>breathable waders</b>	wading jacket
<b>wading shoes</b>	
<b>warmer/extra socks</b>	
<b>long underwear</b>	



# The basics: Polarized sunglasses

- Greatly reduce glare and let you see fish and the bottom
- Let's you avoid rocks, holes, snags when wading



Don't have to cost a lot; test in the store by rotating one lens against another

# The basics: Waders

Modern breathable waders are made of Gore-Tex or similar

- Lightweight and waterproof without making you sweat
- Do not retain heat well
- Pin holes (thorns) are easily repaired
- Stocking foot requires wading boots, best all around choice
- Boot foot warmer in very cold water



**Boot foot**

**Stocking foot**



# The basics: Wading shoes

- Provide great grip while wading
- Protects your feet from sharp objects
- Required with stocking foot waders
- Felt and rubber sole options
- Both types can take **metal studs** for improved grip



For wet wading, order your shoe size.

For use with stocking foot waders, order one size larger.

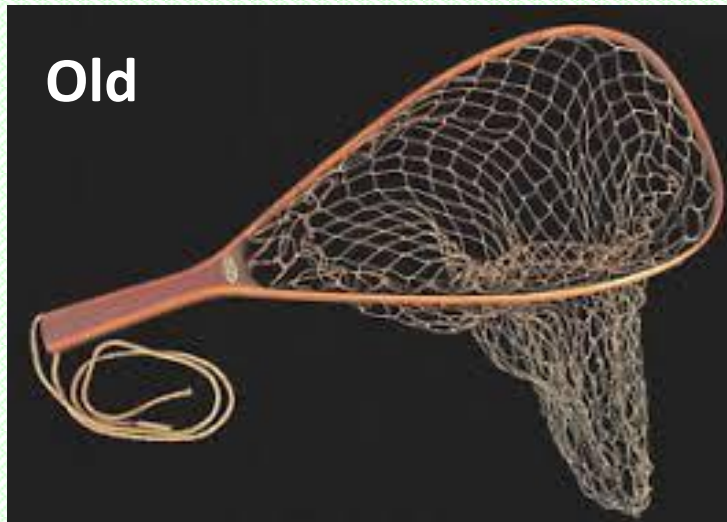
# The basics: Vest, sling bag, fanny pack



Vest	Sling bag	Fanny pack
Highest capacity	Holds just enough	Range of sizes
Can get bulky and heavy	Very comfortable	Rides low, not best for wading
Great for trout fishing with multiple fly boxes	Great for summer wet wading	Good for bank and boat

# The basics: Landing nets

- *Not* essential when wading, but very helpful in boats, canoes, kayaks, docks, piers, etc.
- Easier to control fish to remove hook
- Old style = deep with knotted bag.
- New style = shallow with coated twine or flat rubber mesh
- New style much less harmful to fish if you plan to C&R



# Other essential gear - considerations

<b>Item</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Flies	Carry only what you need today
Fly box	One box with foam insert can hold a variety of flies (Name and phone number inside)
Tippet	4X, 5X will cover 90% of your fishing situations
Nippers	Nail clippers, cheap nippers work fine, but should be replaced when they get dull
Hat	Drab or dark colored! Not white, orange, etc.

Spend a lot or a little?



# Spend a lot or a little?

**My opinion:** When it comes to waders, wading shoes, and fly rods, **you get what you pay for.**

Most high-end brands have lifetime warranties and excellent customer service.

Buy quality	Buy inexpensive house brands or substitutes
Fly rod & line	Nippers, shirt/pants, hats, vests, packs
Waders & boots	Fly boxes, wading staff, landing net
Tippet	
Sunglasses	
Flies/hooks	

# Final thought – focus on fun

- A well-balanced rod and fly line is the most important gear
- All the rest is just to make you comfortable and safe
- You DON'T need all that gear to enjoy the sport



FF Academy  
End here



# Cold weather fly gear (wading in winter)

Essential items	Nice to have
previous list, plus:	previous list, plus:
breathable waders	inflatable PFD
wading shoes	spare gloves
<b>warmer/extra socks</b>	chemical heat packs
<b>long underwear</b>	chap stick
<b>fleece wader liners</b>	
<b>cell phone (waterproof)</b>	
<b>wool fingerless gloves</b>	
<b>Warm hat</b>	
<b>Fleece neck gaiter</b>	
<b>Warm outer jacket</b>	

