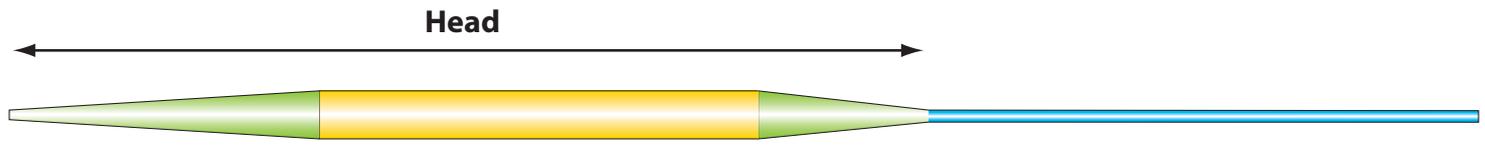


# Fly-line characteristics

**Long heads** are used when there is adequate room for a back-cast, they produce a longer loop rollout, longer distance and accurate presentation with less stripping of the line and are easier to mend

**Short heads** are used when there is limited back-space and are used with faster rod actions/shorter strokes, are better for sink-tips, windy conditions and bulky flies and distance is achieved by shooting line



**Front Taper**  
 Front diameter determines the amount of energy delivered to the leader - larger diameter = transfers more energy smaller diameter = creates more losses  
**Front taper** determines the rate at which the unrolling loop accelerates fast taper = greater acceleration

**Running Line**  
 The small diameter **running-line** is easily pulled through the rod-rings, offering some resistance to give line turnover The larger the diameter the less prone to tangling and the easier it is to strip line A larger diameter running line is less prone to hinging



Long taper to small diameter for delicate presentation - slows the unrolling loop - good for roll-casting



Short taper to large diameter for bulky flies - delivers more energy to the leader - brings head mass forward and helps to pull running-line out of rings



Medium/fast taper to small diameter for accuracy - accelerates and smooths the unrolling loop



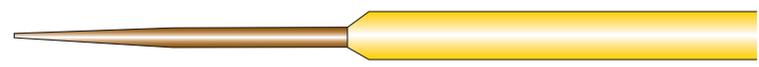
Compound tapers can be used for creating particular casting characteristics such as extended flight



Short taper to large diameter with forward body mass - delivers more energy to the leader for windy conditions

The **back taper** provides a smooth transition from the body to the running line Long back tapers assist with mending The back taper can be extended to bring the head mass further forward to help pull the running line out of the rings and to increase energy transfer from the fly-rod or to increase the head length

## Sink tips



Sink-tips are used for fishing in fast-flowing, deep water or to assist with good presentation of the fly Tips range from very fast to slow-intermediate sink rates or combinations of two different sink rates.

## Typical fly-line profiles



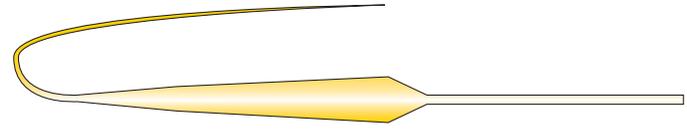
Double taper



Triangle taper



Weight forward



Skagit



Shooting-head