

Guide Wraps and Trim Bands Scott Youschak Part 1

I recently was asked to do a basic rod building seminar for Mudhole's open house. Of everything I attempted to convey I think most found the way I do guide wraps and trim bands to be the most informative and I decided to try and put something together on here for those interested in getting started in rod building. (Another Grand posted an informative post a while back detailing a lot more of the assembly process found in the following 2 links)

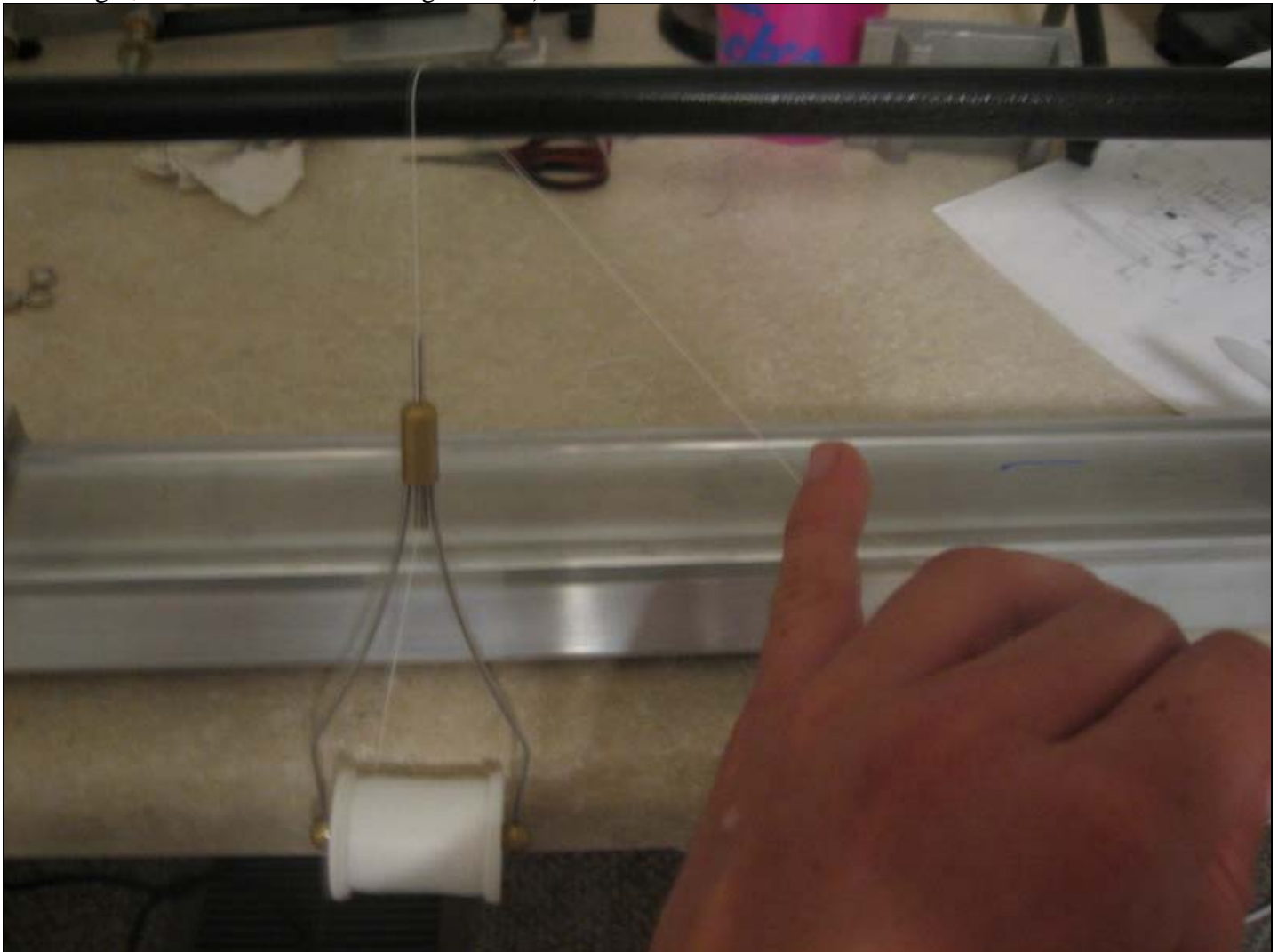
<http://outdoorsbest.zeroforum....19386>

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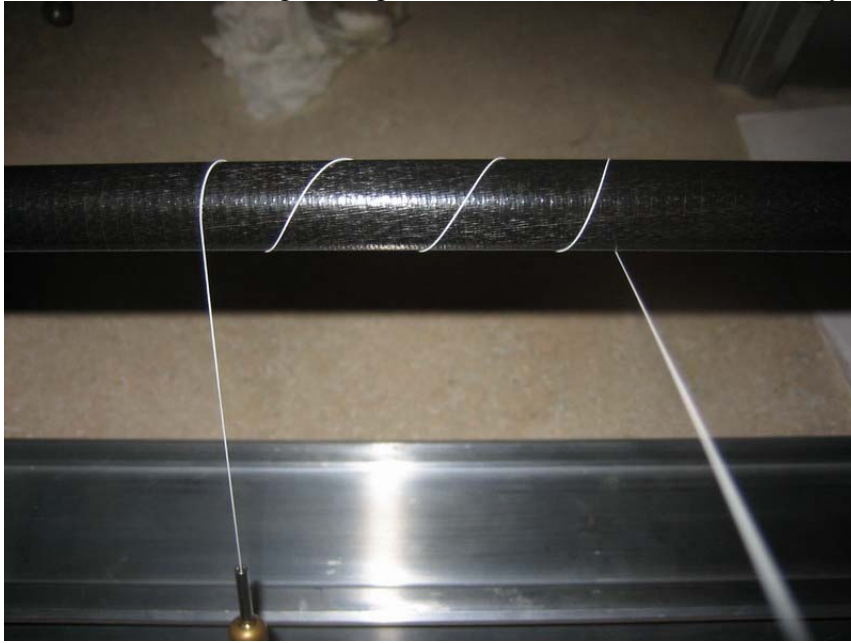
This will hopefully walk you through the next step of how to start and finish wraps (pt. 1) and how to add trim bands without having to create several small wraps that often unravel before or during epoxy application (pt.2).

I prefer to use thread bobbins rather than thread carriages (see pic) however this process could be used using either method.

First I wrap thread over the blank at the location where you want to start your wrap (in the pic I am wrapping left to right, but this could be done right to left).



Continue wrapping the tag end four times around the blank (spacing is not a concern but I usually have about a 1" gap between the threads) and hold the tag end tight (I sometimes hold this end in my mouth to keep it tight)

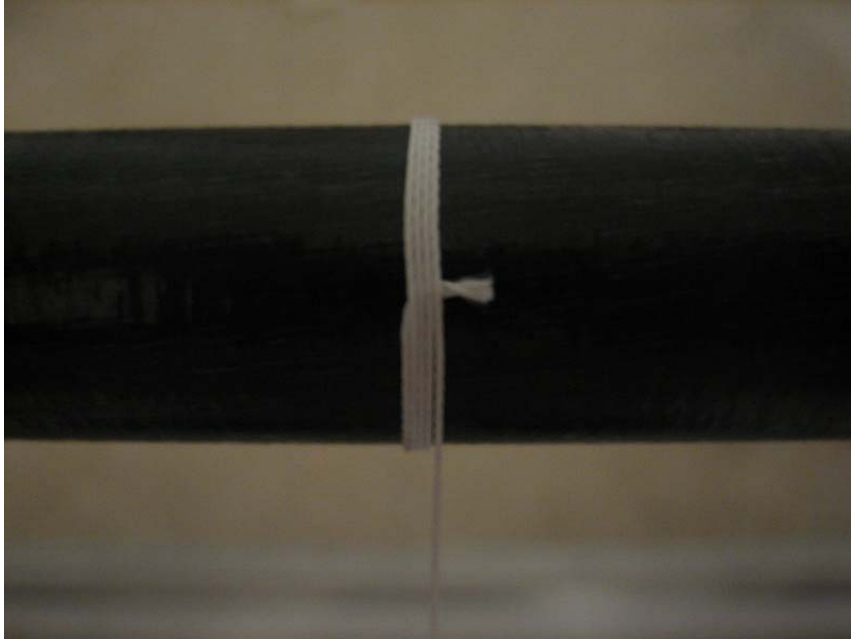


Begin turning the blank so that the thread coming off the bobbin overlaps the thread already wrapped on the blank while maintaining moderate tension on the thread (the amount of tension the bobbin provides is all I use and too much tension (especially on ultra light and fly rods may lead to breakage). If you have some gaps don't worry about it because you can compress the wrap later.



Continue until your original four wraps have been unwound and four new wraps are wrapped over the original, (hopefully all right next to one another with no gaps). Then, pull the tag end so that the thread underneath is straight with the blank (points straight to the tip of the rod, rather than at a downward angle).

Now cut the tag end and leave about 1/8" remaining (you'll continue to wrap over this 1/8" and it will not be seen, It will also better secure this end of the wrap) Reserve the scrap piece of thread



Continue wrapping until you are almost (1/4") away from the point where you want to end your wrap. Now using the piece of thread you saved from the start of the wrap cut a length of about 5" make a loop and insert under the wrap so that the loop end is facing the direction you are wrapping.



Continue wrapping to the point where you want to end your wrap and secure the end of the wrap with your index finger, cut the thread you are wrapping approximately 4 inches from your finger and insert it into the top of the loop. and then hold this tag end tight so that your wrap does not unravel and then you can remove your index finger from the wrap itself

Now here is where a lot of people just pull the tag end through and then try and cut it as close to the wrap as possible but if you pull it up close to the wrap



Actually pull it even closer than in the previous pic, it is just harder to see what is going on in this one



And cut it so that about 1/8" tag is remaining



NOW pull it through. The end of the thread should not come up through the thread where you originally placed the pull loop and you don't have to worry about cutting the tag end close to the wrap



Tomorrow I'll attempt to show how to add trim bands on either end and in the middle without having to start and stop the wrap for every color used.