YOUR FIRST FLY LINE

For trout and most freshwater fishing, buy a weight-forward floating line with the same weight number as your rod. On a 5-weight rod, the box reads WF5F: weight forward, 5-weight, floating.



Most makers print taper, then weight, then density. No industry rule sets the order, so check each part. Diagram: Fly Findr

AT THE COUNTER CHECK IN THIS ORDER

☐ **Your rod's number**	It is printed on the rod. Buy that line weight.
☐ **WF**	Weight forward, not ST, and not DT unless you want a double taper.
☐ **F**	Floating, not I, S, S/F or F/S.
☐ **The grains**	5-weight: 140 gr in the first 30 ft, 134 to 146 allowed. A line that weighs the next size's target casts like that size.
☐ **Backing**	A trout line runs about 80 to 100 ft; backing fills the reel under it.

OTHER CODES YOU'LL SEE

WF5F	Weight forward, 5-weight, floating. The first line for a 5-weight rod.
DT2F	Double taper, 2-weight, floating. Good at roll casts and soft landings close in.
WF5S/F	A sinking tip on a floating line. Later, for streamers in current.
WF8I	Intermediate: sinks slowly, about 1 to 3 inches per second.
ST	Shooting taper, a short head. Don't read it as sink tip.
gr	Grain weight, usually of the head or the first 30 ft.

GRAINS, FIRST 30 FT

WEIGHT	TARGET	STILL COUNTS
4	120 gr	114 to 126 gr
5	140 gr	134 to 146 gr
6	160 gr	152 to 168 gr

Combo? Check that the rod, reel and line all carry the same weight number.