

HOW TO SELECT THE RIGHT LINE FOR SWITCH RODS

in three easy steps



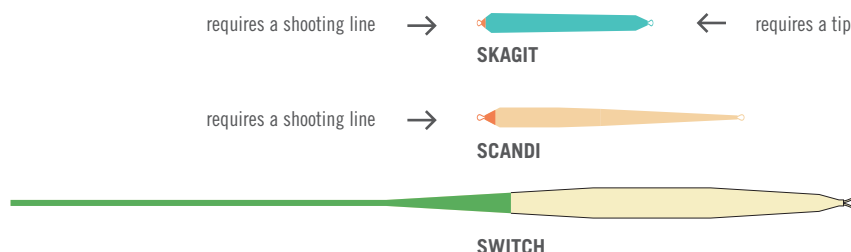
1 Choose the line type:

There are three families of Spey lines for Switch rods: “Skagit”, “Scandinavian” and “Switch”

Skagit: Shooting head - best for big flies and sinking tips – easy to cast.

Scandinavian: Shooting head - ideal for smaller flies and better presentation – easy to cast

Switch: Integrated lines with attached running line.



- Choose a Skagit line for anglers wanting to cast big flies and/or sink tips
- Choose a Scandi line for customers who want to fish a floating line, or with smaller flies
- Choose a Switch line for customers that don't want the hassle of connecting heads to shooting lines

2 Choose the right line weight.

“Spey” gets complicated because some lines are measured in “grains” not “line size”. Knowing the grain range per line size helps you match a suitable grain weight line to a customer’s rod. Here’s a grain weight to line size conversion guideline. **Novice casters should err towards the upper end of the grain range for Skagit heads and towards the lower end for Scandi heads.**

Line Size	Grains	Grams	Line Size	Grains	Grams
#4	275-325gr	18-21g	#7	450-525gr	29-34g
#5	300-375gr	20-24g	#8	500-575gr	32-37g
#6	375-450gr	24-29g	#9	575-650gr	37-42g

Switch Lines have the same line designation as rods, so choose a #5 for a #5, a #7 for a #7 and so on.

One frequently missed conversion is that a rod requires less line weight to load it when overhead casting, so if using a Switch rod for predominantly overhead casting, go with the lowest end of the above guideline.

3 Choose the right head length.

“Switch” rods require a shorter head length to cast than regular two-handed “Spey” rods. RIO has made it easy to choose the right line by using the word “Short” in the product name. Choose a **Skagit Max Short** for big flies or a **Scandi Short VersiTip** (depending on point 1 above) for example.

As far as the dedicated “Switch” lines go, the **Switch** line has a long head of around 55ft, which is ideal for anglers that want the ability to mend at long range. Choose this if **mending ability** is one of the primary considerations.

The **Switch Chucker** is short and very easy to cast. It is the best choice for anglers wanting an integrated line that will throw indicator rigs or sink tips, and a particularly excellent choice for novice Switch rod users.



RESOURCES

RIO provides many detailed resources to help explain the complex nature of Spey casting and Spey lines. For anyone who wants a little more detail, try these three to start:



SCAN THIS CODE with your smartphone to see a detailed list that matches hundreds of Spey rods to the correct line size.

OR VISIT

<http://www.rioproducts.com/RIO-Spey-Line-Recs.pdf>



SCAN THIS CODE with your smartphone to view a short film that illustrates the differences in RIO Spey lines, and recommends when to use one over another.

OR VISIT

<https://vimeo.com/70431251>



SCAN THIS CODE with your smartphone to watch a short film that illustrates the different types of shooting line to recommend.

OR VISIT

<https://vimeo.com/70445572>