

PERFORMANCE FISHING EQUIPMENT

Maintaining and Cleaning Your Douglas Fishing Rods

Proper maintenance is crucial to ensure the longevity and performance of your Douglas fishing rods. This guide offers valuable insights on how to effectively clean and maintain your fishing rods, preserving their quality for years to come.

Before you begin the cleaning process, it's essential to conduct a thorough inspection for any damage. Loose guides or chips in the rod material that could pose safety concerns. Repairs can be carried out by an experienced tackle shop, especially for saltwater rods due to their increased susceptibility to corrosion. Douglas rods may even qualify for warranty repairs. Please note: Failure to clean and maintain your rod may void your <u>warranty</u>.

Here are some guidelines to keep in mind:

Saltwater rods require frequent cleaning due to the corrosive nature of saltwater. To begin, remove the fishing line from the guides and wash your rods with mild soap and fresh water after every outing. Ensure that all salt, sand, and debris are thoroughly rinsed off.

Freshwater rods, while requiring less maintenance than their saltwater counterparts, should still be kept free of sand, dirt, and debris.

Examine the guides for any build-up, as this can damage your fishing line and lead to potential fish losses. Use a Q-tip or soft brush with Simple Green or WD-40 for cleaning. For stubborn build-up, a small wire brush can be used, as saltwater exposure accelerates rust and corrosion.

Storing Your Fishing Rods

- Cork and foam handles are susceptible to mold and decay when exposed to moisture. Store your rods in a dry
 place with low humidity.
- Elevate your rods off the ground, keeping them at least a foot above the floor to prevent moisture absorption.
- Avoid storing your rods in direct sunlight to prevent fading and composite breakdown. This will help maintain their quality and longevity.

By cleaning and maintaining your fishing equipment properly, you will be able to use and enjoy your equipment for many years.