

A Perfect Cast is a Beautiful Thing to Behold

**A Cast That Puts the Fly in a Reasonable Spot,
Doesn't Scare Any Fish, Drifts Through Feeding Lane,
Doesn't Snag Anything is Fine.**

***A Cast That Misses the Target, Tangles into a Wind Knot,
Scares All the Fish **Never Happened.*****



Forward Cast Error

Back Cast Error



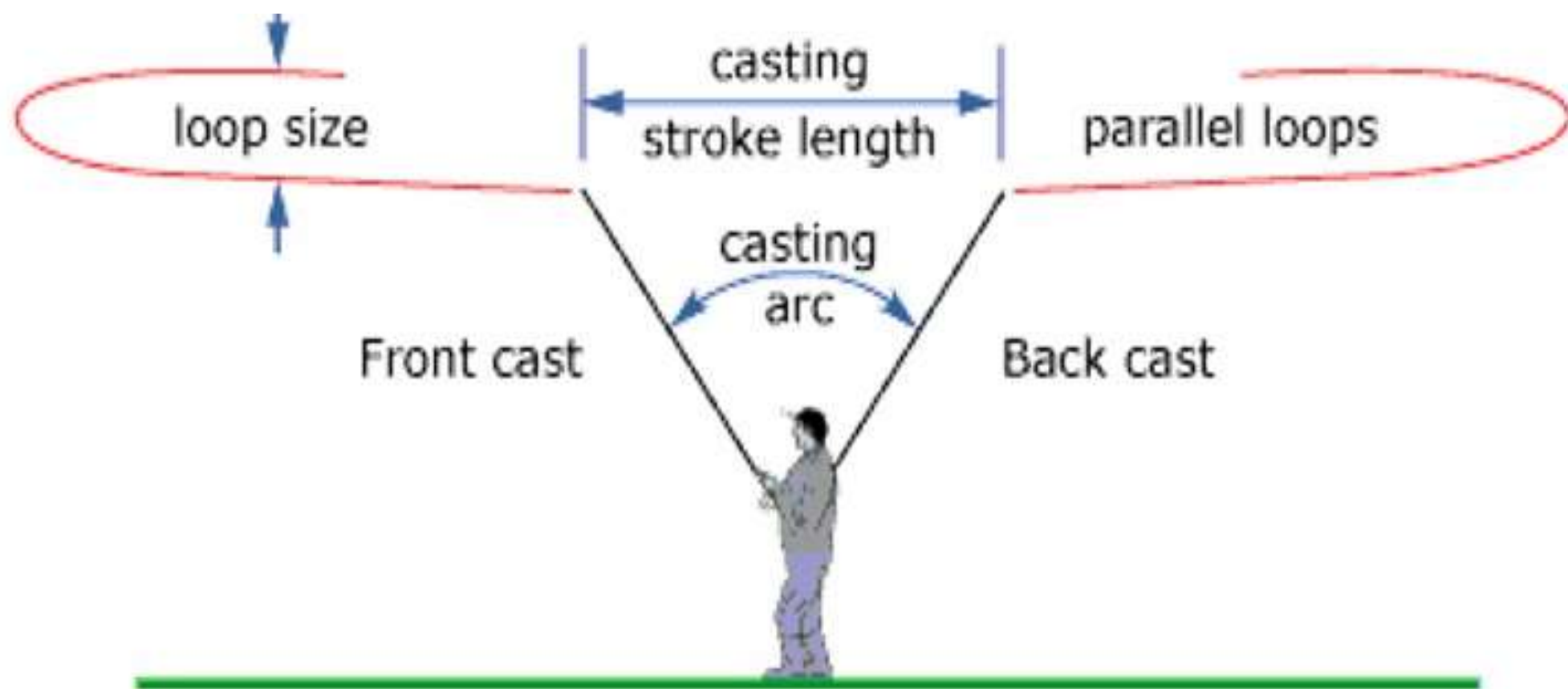
Seriously

A bad cast can be a learning experience.
Think about errors you might have made.
Recall the basics you learned here and make
corrections in your next cast.

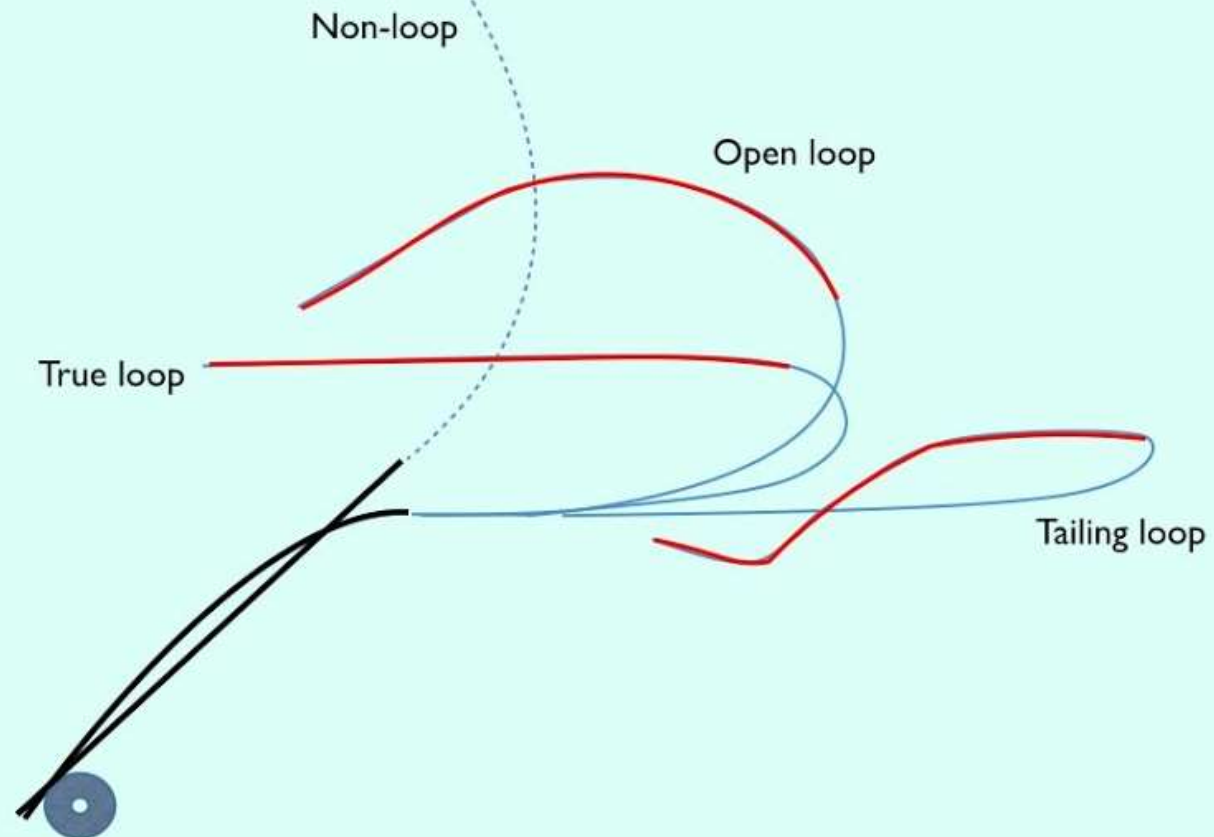
Terminology

- **Stroke**
 - Back and forth movement of rod in a single plane
 - Preferred over arc; arc implies a circle
 - Short Cast, Short Stroke / Long Cast, Long Stroke
- **Stops**
 - Rod has to come to complete stop
 - Should be called the “Stop and Pause”
- **Rod loading**
 - Fly line has to be cast so that it bends, or loads, the rod
- **Loop**
 - Shape of the line when casting
 - Back loop and forward loop look the same
 - Narrow loop; ideal for casting, learning
 - Wide loop; useful for heavy flies
 - Tailing loop; line crosses over, tangles or wind knots
 - Never desirable





LOOP TYPES: PROFILE OF UPPER LEG



False Casting

Back Cast, Forward Cast, Back Cast, Forward Cast
Back Cast, Forward Cast, Back Cast, Forward Cast

Time and Purpose for False Casting

Drying a wet dry-fly

Changing line direction

Gaining distance, shooting line, double-hauling

It's a bad idea to false cast any more than absolutely necessary.

False casting wastes time.

False casting spooks fish.

False casting amplifies casting problems.



Principles for casting:

- 1. Eliminate SLACK LINE to begin.**
- 2. Proper ACCELERATION of the fly rod.**
- 3. Efficient loop formation requires the caster to move the rod in a STRAIGHT LINE PATH to the target.**
- 4. The size of the CASTING STROKE is generally determined by the length of the line to be cast.**
- 5. There must be a PAUSE that may vary in duration at the end of each back cast and forward cast stop.**

NOPE!



Yep!



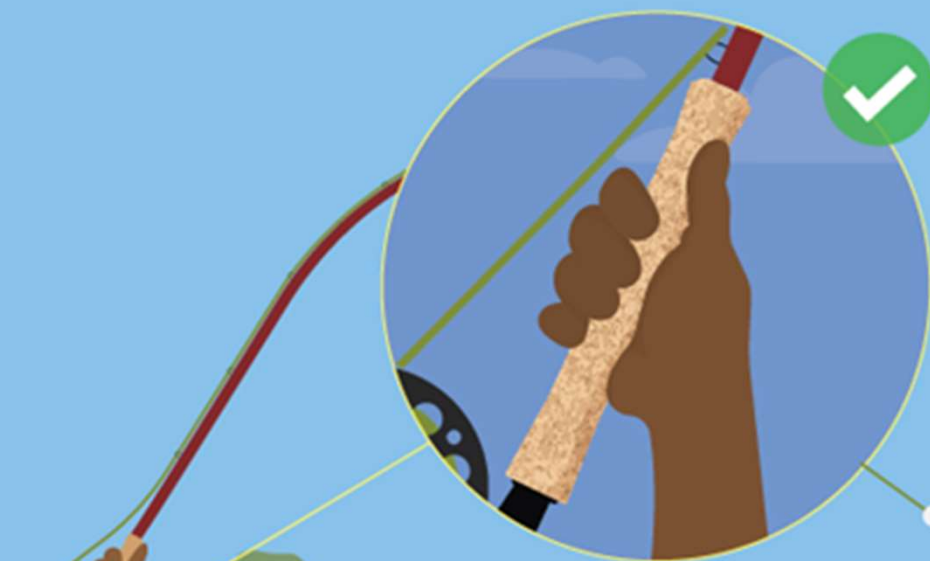
Maybe

If you have a grip problem



The Wrist Action



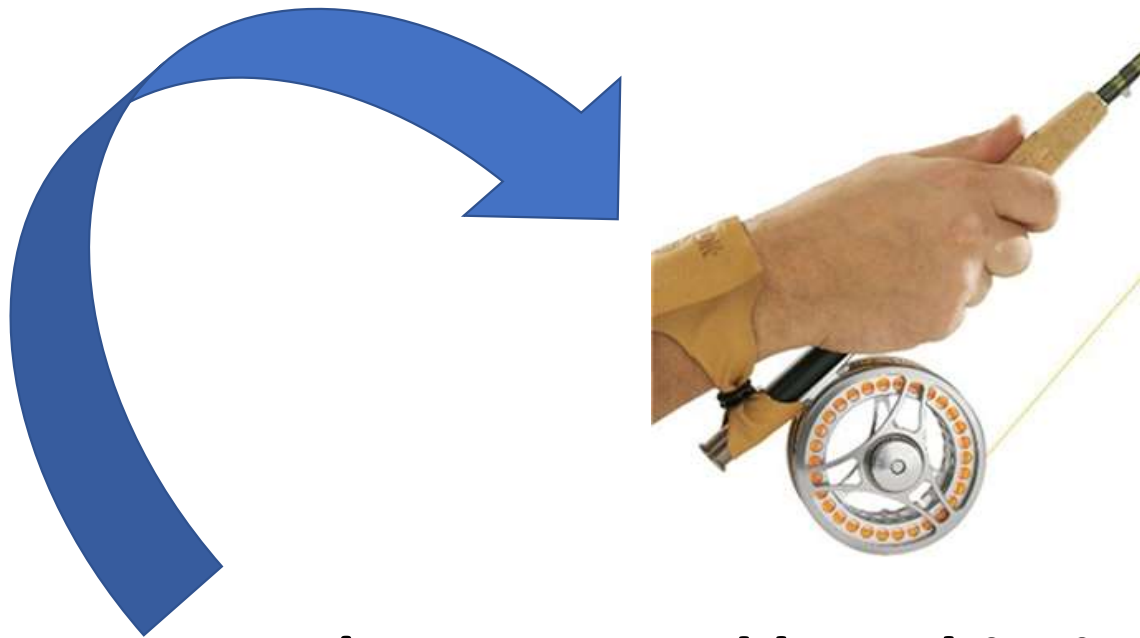


FIX:

The caster maintains a straight wrist during the stop and the rod tip stays in a near vertical position, allowing the line to unroll properly in the air.

Consciously keeping your wrist aligned with the fly rod is the key to getting a powerful back cast.

It's this important!



Don't go out and buy this, just learn not to break your wrist when you cast.

*The Stroke is as Simple as
Answering the Phone.*



*Bring the phone to your ear.
Wrong number.*

Hang it up.

Accelerate to a stop, hesitate, accelerate to a stop.

The Stroke

Phone rings,
could be that
special person,
eagerly pick it
up.



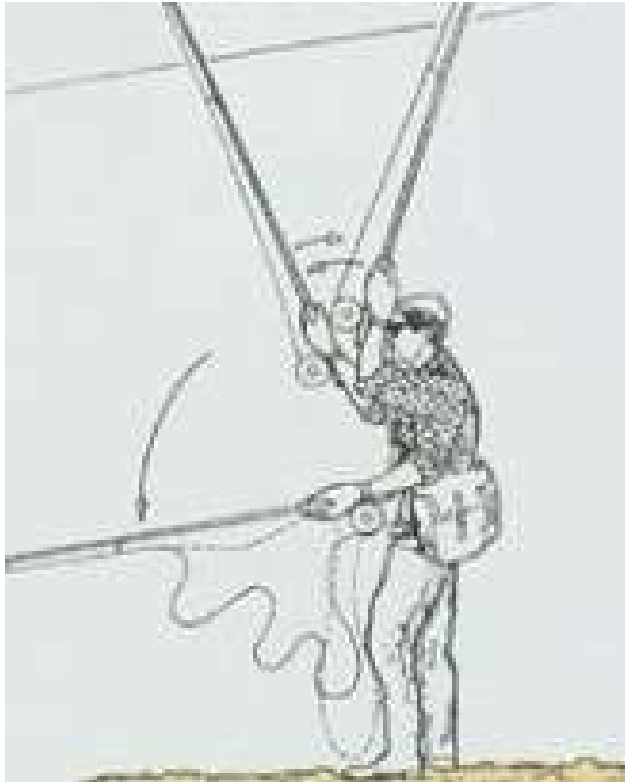
Oh, no!
It's your ex!

Hang it up!

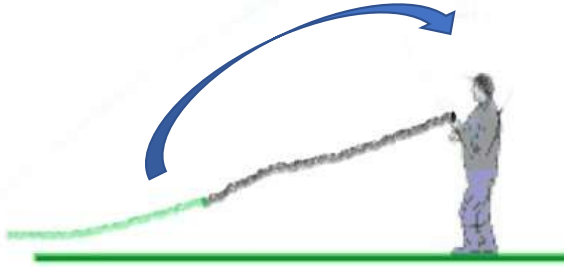


So far, this is almost all elbow action.

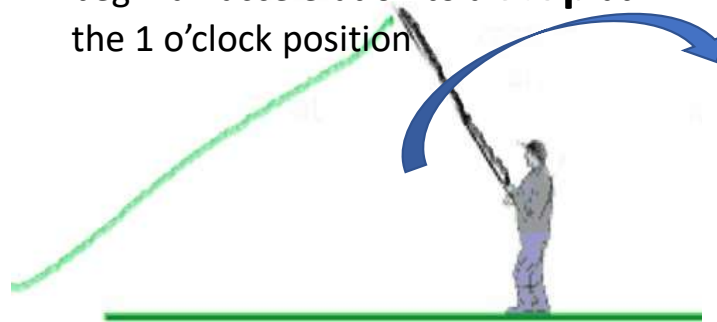
Short cast, short stroke. Long cast, long stroke.
To lengthen your stroke, add some shoulder action.
(raise your elbow)



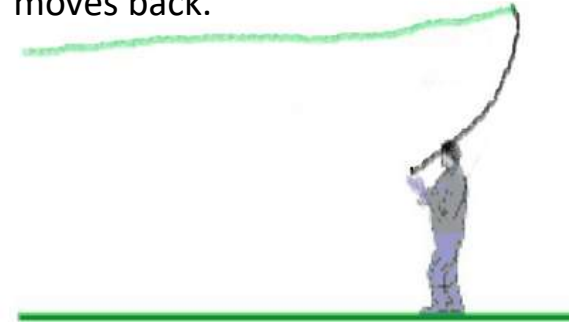
Start low.



Take up the slack. Don't rip it out of the water. At the 10 o'clock position, begin an acceleration to a **stop** at the 1 o'clock position



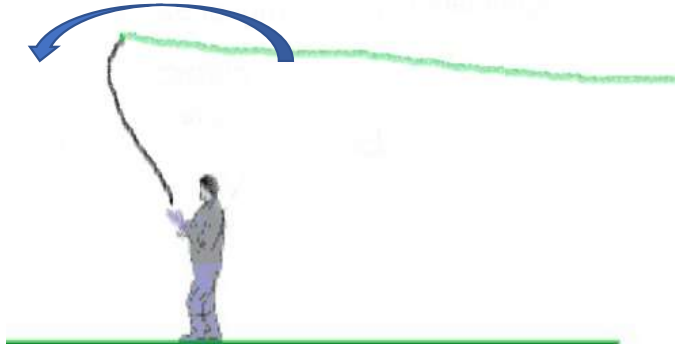
At the 1 o'clock position, the rod will unload, and the line moves back.



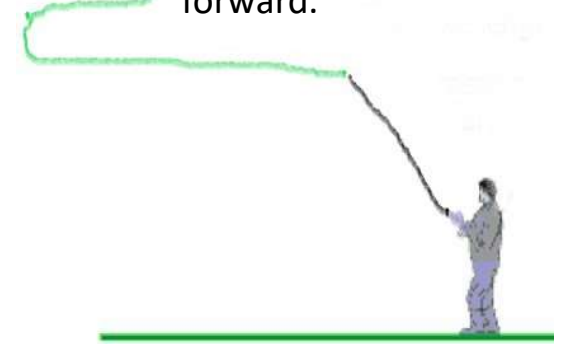
Hesitate to let the line unroll behind you.



After hesitation, accelerate forward to a **stop** at the 10 o'clock position



Let the rod unload forward.



Accelerate



Stop



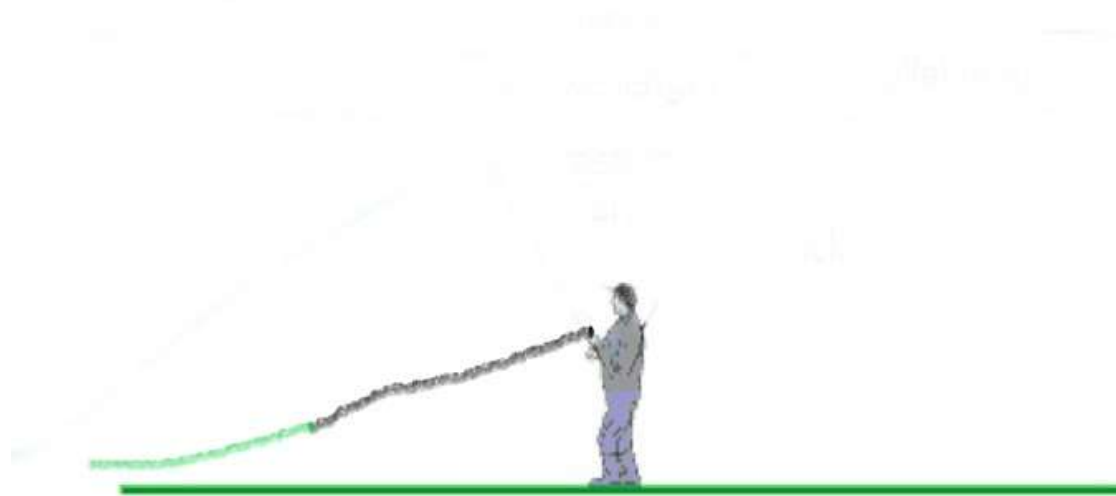
Pause



**As the line
unfurls forward,
lower the rod tip.**



A Complete Cast

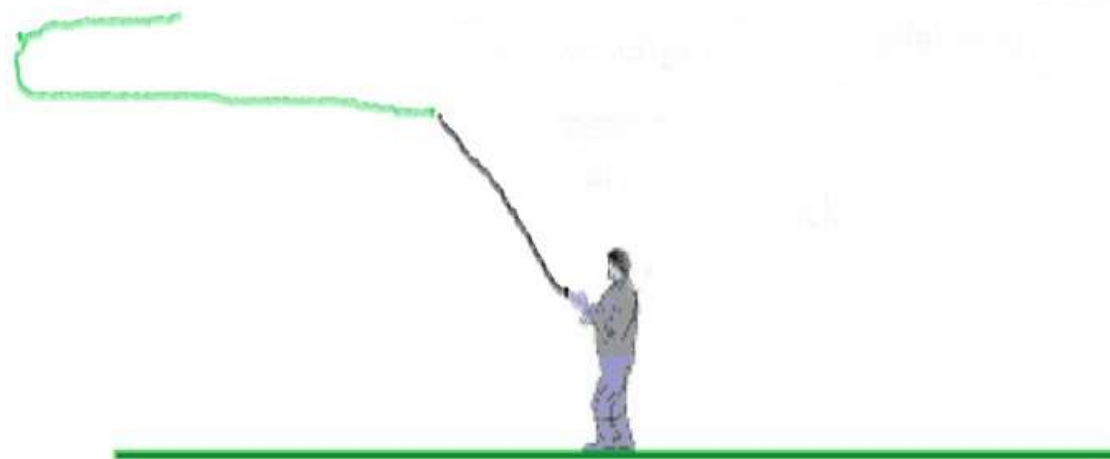










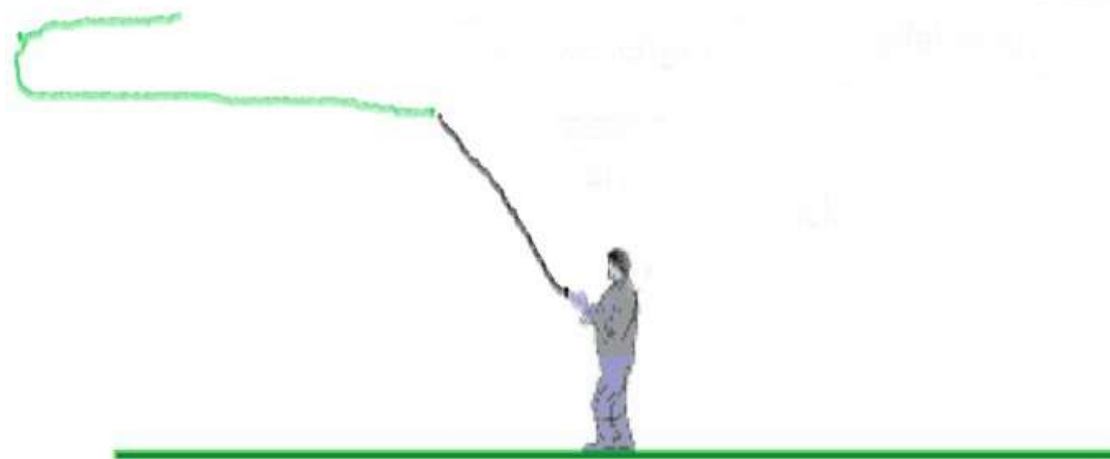






**Lower the rod or shoot line
before the line pulls forward
tension, loading the rod.**







**Or else the rod will unload its tension
back toward you, pulling the line with it.
The line will land in a pile in front of you.
Bad line!**



Other Types of Casts

Roll Cast

Mend

Flip Cast

Two-handed Cast

Side Arm Cast

Water Load Cast

Reach Cast (a built-in mend)

Underhand Flip Cast

Bow-and-arrow Cast

Lefty Kreh Cast

And a Whole Bunch More That You Don't Need to Worry About Now