

VALENTINE *Classic* Planetary Fly Reels

Thank you for selecting a Valentine fly reel. Your *Classic* Planetary fly reel incorporates Valentine's unique *Planetary Gear System*™ providing unique and useful features for greater fishing satisfaction and convenience.

Valentine Planetary Gear System™

All Valentine Planetary Gear fly reels incorporate the Valentine Planetary Gear System. This system utilizes the simple mechanical principle of planetary gearing; one large gear mounted concentrically to the front of the spool, the other affixed to the crank knob handle via a stainless steel shaft and a bronze pinion bearing, assembled to a round plate referred to as the crank plate. The spool and the crank plate rotate independently of one another on the reel's main spindle, interacting only through their respective gears. Gripping and subsequent cranking of the crank knob handle engages the crank plate gear, referred to as the pinion gear, driving the larger gear on the spool. The spool always rotates at a faster rate than the rotational speed of the crank plate due to the respective size relationship of the gears. This feature provides the fly fisher the advantage of retrieving line at a faster rate than conventional fly reels, especially helpful when playing a fish that may suddenly change direction, creating a necessity to pick up slack line quickly.

The system has another useful advantage, alternately, when line pays out from the spool (presumably when an especially large fish is on the other end) the crank knob does not orbit around the reel's central axis, preventing finger injuries and incidences of broken leaders due to snagging. As a hooked fish makes its "run", line is taken from the spool; since the spool and crank plate are independent of one another, the crank plate "floats" rotationally, with the crank knob gravitating to a 6:00 position due to its weight and the weight of its associated components (bronze pinion bearing, shaft, gear, etc.). The crank knob will then rotate, only on its own axis, as the spool continues to rotate. As may now be envisioned, this mechanical system is located toward the front face of the reel, having no direct effect on the disc drag system situated towards the back of the reel. This independence between the drag system and the planetary gear system allows any degree of drag resistance settings, including entirely "off", without affecting the ability to spool line: direct and positive line retrieval capability!

Specifications & Features

- 1-1/2 to 1 retrieval ratio for fast line retrieval: One crank rotation results in 1 and ½ full spool revolutions.
- Anti-reverse functionality: Crank knob gravitates into a stationary bottom dead center position as line pays out.
- Positive line retrieval: Direct (gear) spooling action at any drag setting, even in the drag "off" position. The drag need not be engaged to create friction to "drive" the spool as is typical of most anti-reverse reels.
- Easy, quick spool changes in seconds without tools or coins: Simply slide the latch pin towards the center of the latch housing to disengage the crank plate for removal and access to the spool
- Unique reel foot: Cold forged and heat treated 6061 alloy Aluminum reel foot is assembled to the frame with **four** stainless steel screws for positive securement and peace of mind. The foot has a conically tapered shape preventing unwanted movement and loosening on the fly rod in any direction.
- Large, contoured crank knob handle provides gripping ability with comfort.
- Durable construction: Light gold anodized finish on all aluminum frame components. Black hard coat finish on spool. All ferrous components fabricated from high quality 300 series stainless steel. Plastic components fabricated from high wear and impact resistant Dupont Delrin or Delrin AF.
- Infinitely adjustable stainless steel disc / Delrin AF® drag with smooth, low start up friction .
- Machined aluminum 6061 alloy construction on major frame components and spool for superior strength and corrosion resistance.

Specifications & Features cont.

- Sensible and simple mechanical design, without delicate or fragile parts, for low maintenance and dependable trouble free operation.
- Complete factory parts and service since 1972.
- General Specifications:

Model	Size (Diameter)	Weight	Line Capacity Example
350	3.5" / 89 mm	8.0 oz. / 227 g	WF7F / 150 yds. 20# *
375	3.75" / 95 mm	9.0 oz. / 255 g	WF9F / 200 yds. 20# *
400	4.0" / 101 mm	10.0 oz / 284 g	WF11/300 yds. 20# * or WF11F/220 yds. 30# *
* Line capacities based on Cortland® lines and backing. Capacities may be greater or lesser depending on product brand used.			
Specifications subject to change.			

General Maintenance: Lubrication

Adhere to a regular lubrication schedule to ensure reliable performance of your reel. Use light reel or gun oil. **DO NOT** use grease for lubrication of moving components. Grease will captivate and hold grit and foreign matter in areas where mating components interact.

- Regularly lubricate the spool pawls (spring loaded stainless steel pins) located on the rear of the spool. Remove the spool from the reel and lay it down with the pawls facing upward. Place a drop of oil on the exposed pawl pins and gently "pump" the ends with a small screwdriver, toothpick, etc. This will allow lubricant to flow into the working area of the pawl. Wipe away excess lubricant from the face of the spool flange.
- Occasionally place a drop of lubricant at the end of the reel's main spindle. This will lubricate spool bushings and the crank plate latch mechanism.
- Regularly lubricate the bronze pinion bearing (adjacent to the crank knob). Remove the crank plate from the reel and place a drop of oil in the small square opening at the center of the small gear of the crank knob assembly. Allow lubricant to penetrate into the hole by (end play) pumping the crank knob several times. Wipe away surplus lubricant remaining on the face of the gear. Also, apply a drop of oil at the interface of the crank knob washer and bronze bearing allowing lubricant to seep between the surfaces.

Saltwater Environment Usage

The components in your reel are resistant to corrosion from saltwater exposure, however varying degrees of corrosion may still occur if not given proper attention. After using your reel in saltwater thoroughly wash and rinse with fresh water. Allow to dry and lubricate as per the aforementioned procedure. Additionally, it may be beneficial to periodically remove frame screws and apply a coating of grease, then reassemble.

Left hand / Right hand Orientation

Carefully follow these instructions to convert your reel to the desired retrieve orientation. To avoid damage to the protective anodizing on components always use an appropriately sized screwdriver for this procedure. 'Left hand' designates that retrieve winding is done with the left hand (counter clockwise winding) and conversely 'right hand' designates that retrieve winding is done with the right hand (clockwise winding).

1) Remove the crank plate and spool from the reel.

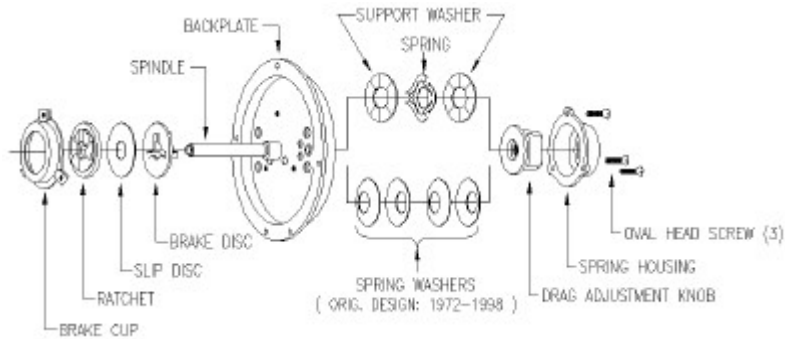
2) Remove the (3) screws from the black spring housing on the back of the reel (see illustration) to allow the now unsecured drag components to be removed from the reel. There is no need to remove the spring components or the red drag adjustment knob, but do tighten the drag adjustment knob until resistance is encountered from the spring system. This will ensure the drag spring components are not pinched during reassembly later.

3) Remove the stainless steel brake cup on the inside of the reel and replace the existing ratchet with the oppositely configured unit. **NOTE:** Black colored ratchets are for left hand retrieve and brown colored ratchets are for right hand retrieve. On earlier production models (manufactured prior to 1987), ratchets for right hand retrieve orientation were white in color.

Left hand / Right hand Orientation cont.

4) Reassemble all the components in the order shown in the illustration below, making certain the (3) screws are sufficiently tightened. With the red drag adjustment knob in the 'backed off' position, you should be able to rotate the ratchet with your finger. If not, recheck the assembly of the components.

Drag Mechanism - Exploded View



(Frame components removed for illustrative purposes)

5) It will be necessary to reposition the banana shaped stainless steel line guards on the reel's frame when changing the retrieve orientation. Do this by removing the (6) screws from the frame posts. (There is no need to remove the reel foot; Leave it assembled.) Now position the line guards to their appropriate new locations and reassemble the frame posts and screws. DO NOT fully tighten the screws until all three frame posts have been assembled to the frame. **NOTE: One of the three posts is longer than the other two. It is very important not to assemble the longer frame post between the line guards.** Failure to do so will result in distortion of the frame upon re-assembly.

6) Proceed to tighten all the screws and reinstall the spool and crank plate. **NOTE:** Always make certain the crank plate assembly is secure and properly latched to the spindle when reinstalling to prevent accidental disengagement.

Trouble Shooting

Symptom	Possible Reason	Solution
Drag resistance not discernible, or does not engage at any drag setting.	Spool pawl pins are staying in the "down" or "in" position (flush with face of spool flange) because of, or a combination of, silt or salt buildup and lack of lubrication. Subsequently, pins do not engage drag (ratchet) mechanism.	Remove gear from spool, remove pawl pin springs and pawl pins. Clean / ream cylindrical pawl pin bore cavities with a pipe cleaner soaked with lubricant. Reassemble, making certain the pawl pins extend above the surface of the rear spool flange after assembly. Re-lubricate as per procedure in General Maintenance section.
	Damage to drag ratchet teeth has occurred and spool pawl pins no longer engage.	Replace ratchet. Contact Val-Craft Inc. for drag ratchet replacement.
Crank knob orbits around the main spindle of reel when line is paying out, rather than gravitating to the bottom dead center position. (6:00 position).	Bronze pinion bearing (at base of crank knob) is contaminated with debris, corrosion deposits or aged & congealed lubricant.	Flush and / or submerge bronze pinion bearing area with alcohol or kerosene type solvent to loosen and remove debris or aged lubricant. Additionally, if available, apply compressed air to bearing area to aid in removal of contaminants. Re-lubricate as per procedure in General Maintenance section.
	Sand particle lodged in spool or pinion gear.	Flush and rinse with (fresh, if available) water.
	Damaged pinion gear, bronze pinion bearing or stainless steel pinion shaft, preventing free rotational movement of knob assembly.	Contact Val-Craft Inc. for factory service / repair.

Repairs & Service

Your Valentine reel will provide many years of dependable service with minimal care. Most individual components can be replaced if damage or wear does occur. Although most replacement parts may be easily installed without special tools, please contact Val-Craft Inc. for more involved repairs.

Repairs & Service cont.

Necessary repair or replacement of components covered under the warranty will be made by Val-Craft Inc. at no charge. Services, not covered under warranty are available from Val-Craft Inc. and may be subject to invoicing, or payment in advance for labor and replacement parts. For non-warranty service please include \$15.00 U.S. for standard return shipping, insurance and handling coverage. For service, send the complete reel, shipping costs prepaid, with an explanatory letter to:

Val-Craft Inc.
Dept. R
P.O. Box 469
171 West Main Street
Norton, Ma. 02766-0469

Ship to the P.O. box if using postal service. Ship to the street address if using UPS or FedEx.

Please note that service or modifications performed on Valentine Fly Reels by individuals not recognized as authorized Val-Craft agents may void the warranty.

Date purchased: _____

Serial # : _____ (Located on the rear inside flange adjacent to the foot.)

Please save this document for future reference.

Warranty / Guarantee

Every Valentine reel is individually serial numbered for registration in the original owner's name. Reels are warranted against defects in materials and construction. Val-Craft, Inc. will replace or repair any components that are defective under this warranty. This provision is void in instances of negligence, abuse, or uses other than intended. In addition, your complete satisfaction is guaranteed. We are entirely confident that after receiving and using this product, you will be delightfully satisfied. However, for whatever reason(s), should this product not meet your expectations, return it to the seller for a complete refund.

Valentine Fly Reels

manufactured by

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