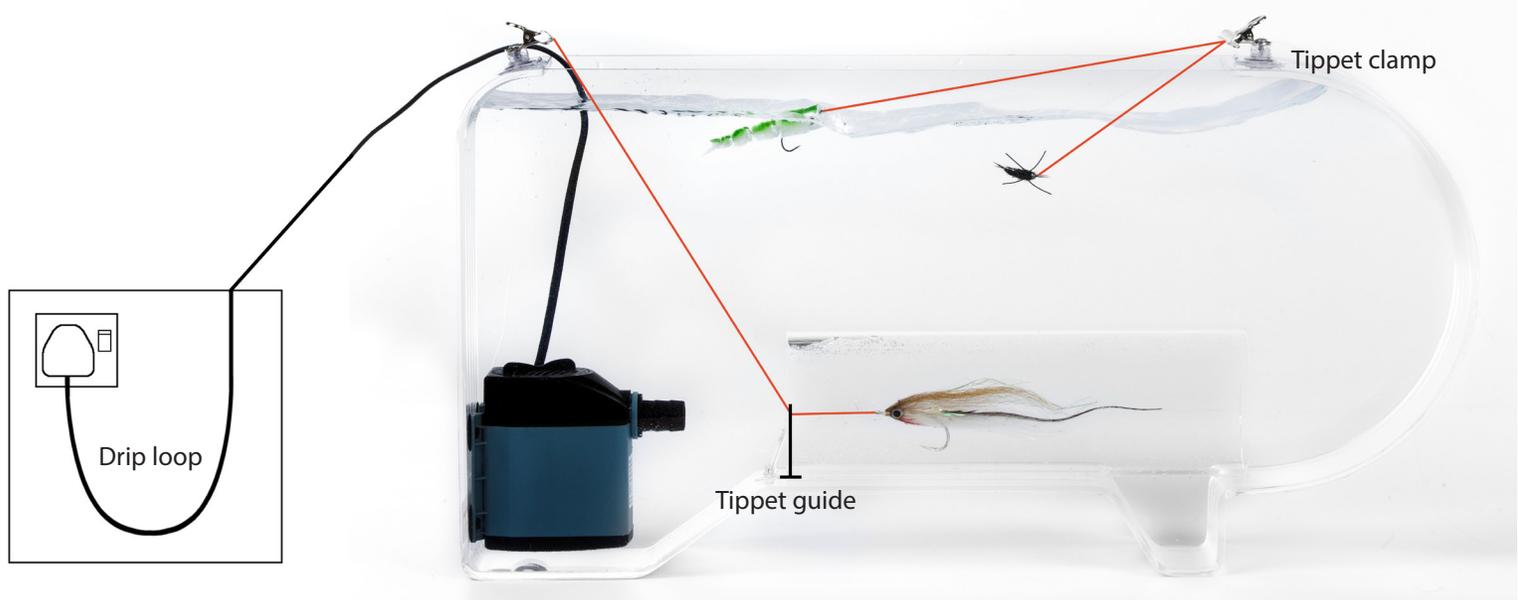


# Fly Tester™ User Guide

Congratulations on purchasing your new Fish-Skull® Fly Tester™. Get ready to start designing better flies!



## Setup

### Swim tank

1. Rinse your Tester before using for the first time to rid it of any accumulated dust particles.
2. Set up your Tester on a flat, stable surface such as a table or shop counter.
3. Fill your Tester with clean water (typically the correct water level with the pump installed is about 1-2 inches (2.5-5cm) below the top of the tank).

### Pump

**WARNING:** Risk of electrocution. Make sure that the electrical cord dangling down from the tank has a “drip loop.” (See diagram.) Arrange the cord so it hangs down well below the electrical outlet before running back up again. Any water running down the cord will drip down from the loop, rather than going into the outlet. Extension cords should be mounted to allow for drip loops as well.

1. Position the pump inside the Tester with the pump nozzle aligned with the center of the cylinder. Push the pump firmly back onto the back of the Tester so the suction cups hold the pump in place.
2. Feed the electrical cord underneath and to the side of the pump, then up and out the side of the Tester.
3. Position the electrical cord guide (suction cup with hook) to keep the cord neatly out of your way.
4. Set up a safety “drip loop.”
5. Plug in the pump.
6. Turn the pump on. Water will immediately start circulating through the swim tank.
7. Use the variable flow control located on top of the pump to suit the type and size of fly you are testing. Most flies will swim well at the slowest speed setting; we recommend using this as a starting point.

### Tippet guide and clamps

1. The tippet guide is designed to hold your tippet (and attached fly) in the middle of the water flow in the cylinder. Position it at the entrance to the cylinder.
2. The 2 tippet clamps are designed to hold the end of your tippet in place while swimming your flies. These attach to the front and back of the Tester using suction cups. (See diagram.)

You are now ready to start testing!

### Included Materials

- Acrylic swim tank
- Water pump with adjustable flow control
- Tippet guide (suction cup with stem and hook)
- Tippet clamps x 2 (suction cup with metal clamp)
- Electrical cord guide (suction cup with hook)

## Testing Flies

Flies of various types, styles and sizes can be tested in a number of ways:

**The bottom section** i.e. the acrylic cylinder (tube) is used primarily for testing streamer flies.

1. Tie a length of tippet to the fly you wish to test.
2. Position the fly inside the cylinder and hook the tippet onto the hook of the tippet guide.
3. Turn the pump on.
4. Adjust the length of tippet to position your fly near the center of the cylinder.
5. Once you are happy with the position of the fly, use the tippet clamp to secure the end of the tippet in place.
6. Adjust the speed of the water flow to simulate different environments.

**The top section** can be used to test various types of floating surface flies such as foam poppers, sliders, bugs, and even dry flies.

1. Position your fly in the water flow where desired and then secure the end of the tippet in the tippet clamp.
2. Adjust the speed of the water flow to simulate different environments.

**The middle section** can be used to test and observe various subsurface flies such as nymph, wet, or emerger patterns in the same way as the top section.

## Cleaning

Your Fly Tester™ is going to get dirty! Most flies are tied using organic material from dead animals (fur) and birds (feathers) which have also usually been dyed in various colors! Therefore, the water in your Tester will need to be changed often and the acrylic tank cleaned on a regular basis.

Scratches are a major concern when cleaning an acrylic tank. With these tips, scratches can be avoided and cleaning your acrylic tank can be less stressful.

*Tips for cleaning an acrylic tank:*

- For cleaning the acrylic tank, DO NOT use products that contain ammonia, alcohol, or abrasives such as Windex and other commercial cleaners. DO NOT use coarse sponges or pads.
- Mag-floats or a soft cotton cloth should be used for cleaning the acrylic tank.
  - There are also sponges/pads made for cleaning aquariums that are compatible with acrylic as well, but be sure to read the labels and directions carefully.
  - Soft plastic scrapers can also be purchased that are used for cleaning aquariums.
- In the unlikely event that algae ever becomes a problem, empty the entire tank and soak with bleach water (use 1 part bleach to 20 parts water) for 24-48 hours. The algae will wipe off with a soft cotton cloth.
- If scratches do occur, purchase an acrylic scratch removal kit. These will allow you to buff the scratches right out.

## Warranty

We offer a 1-year limited warranty on the pump and acrylic tank. Please register your Fly Tester™ by going to <http://flymenfishingcompany.org/products/fish-skull-products/fly-tester/>



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