



3.5 CLASS TROLLING SPINNERS SPINNER GUIDE

WHAT KIND SHOULD YOU USE?

All 3.5 spinners are the same, right? Wrong! While there are many similarities, some 3.5 class spinner blade styles have different “spin profiles” which can significantly change the presentation. The most common “3.5 spinners” use a 3.5 size Colorado style blade, which is where the name “3.5” came from. Even so, most similarly sized blade styles use their own unique sizing scale. It’s the shape, contour, and length and width that makes the difference, rather than the number on the blade. **The term “3.5 Class” is used to identify spinners and spinner blades that are appropriately sized to fish well behind a 360° flasher. Each of these 4 blades are considered 3.5 Class Spinners:**



BLADE	SHAPE & SIZE	LIFT - ANGLE BETWEEN BLADE & SHAFT
Colorado	Round 1-1/8" Long x 3/4" Wide	Moderately dished contour provides high lift
BV Cub	Pear Shaped 1-1/8" Long x 3/4" Wide	Pear shape provides medium lift
Baby Back	Round 1-1/4" Long x 7/8" Wide	Deeply cupped lip provides even higher lift than a Colorado
Wise Guy	Narrow 'double-ended' profile 1-5/8" Long x 3/4" Wide	Moderately dished contour and unique shape provides lower lift for a tighter rotation around the shaft

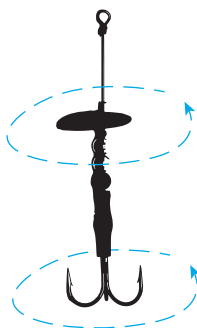
Ever notice that some spinners have different wire shaft lengths? Here's a few reasons why:

Longer wire shafts:

1. Allow for easier tuning
2. Can aid in protecting your leader because the fish's teeth will more often be scraping on the wire and not on your leader line

Short wire shafts:

1. Don't bend as easily, which may allow more time before you have to straighten or re-form the wire



Tuning a Spinner

Take the spinner shaft between your thumb and forefinger and twist it back and forth. Your treble hook should spin in a straight line with the wire shaft, without moving side to side. If it is off center, make minor adjustments until the hook is in true alignment with the shaft. This is often best done by moving the hook within the hook tubing.



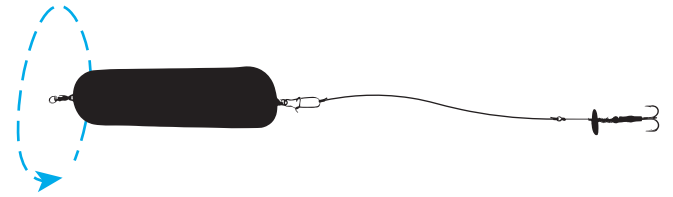
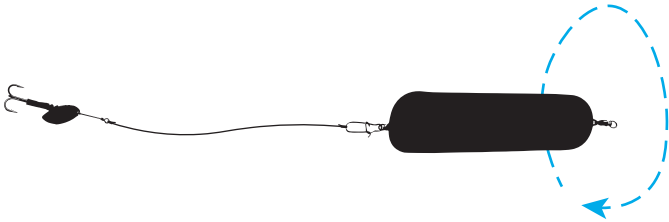
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When trolling spinners behind a 360° flasher, the blade shape, size, and lift will have an effect on the action of the flasher

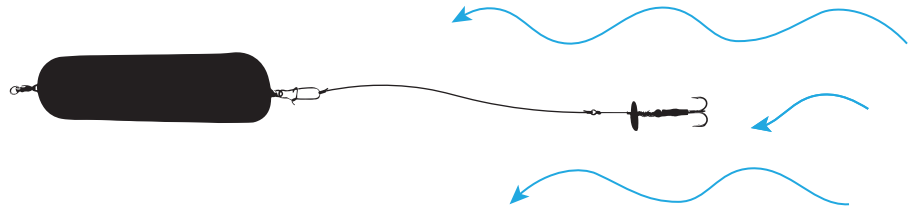
Narrower blade designs like the Wise Guy have less resistance, allowing for a little freer rotation of your flasher.

Round blades will have a bit more resistance, making the flasher rotation a touch less robust. If a round blade is too large it will hamper the flasher rotation significantly.

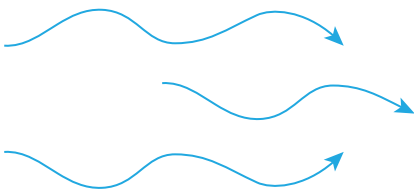


While the differences in the profile of the spinner blade may be subtle, the reactions of fish can be quite varied by the presentation

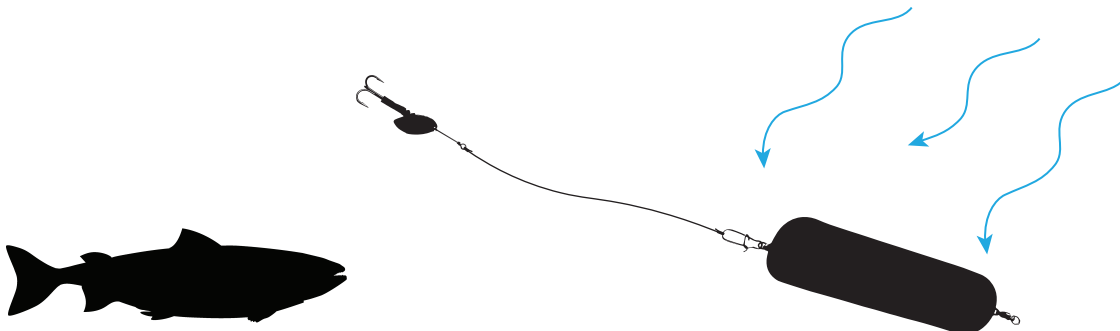
When you are trolling **downstream**, a spinner with a higher lift will present a larger, more visible target as it comes straight into the fish's face as they are looking forward. Therefore a spinner with a round blade and high lift is more likely to be seen and struck than one with a narrow, lower profile blade.



When trolling **upstream** a fish will most likely see the spinner from a side-view perspective as the lure travels past the fish. In this case a narrower blade with a low lift will be easier to see because the blade surface will be more exposed to view as it passes into the fish's range of view.



If you are trolling **cross-current** or in a **slack tide**, most often, a fish will see the spinner from a side-view perspective as the lure moves past the fish. Similarly to trolling upstream, a narrower blade with a low lift like the Wise Guy will be easier for the fish to see.



So get out there and try different spinner blade profiles, the fish will tell you what they want!