Instructions for IDEAL Tape-Pak® and IDEAL Tape-Pak® XL-15 plastic reel and winder:

Important:

Replace IDEAL Tape-Pak® and IDEAL Tape-Pak® XL-15 storage reels or winder that has become chipped, cracked, or otherwise damaged.

To Unwind: Grasp handle **To Rewind:** Grasp handle and rotate pull out on fish tape. case in direction of arrow on case to pull in tape.





Note: IDEAL Tape-Pak® Footage Counter Units 31-126, 31-127, 31-128, 31-129: Use for pulling light loads only to prevent damage to the counter mechanism which can affect accuracy.

Replacement/Installation Instructions for Fish Tape in Plastic Storage Reel:

Tape Removal:

1. Unwind old fish tape completely from reel, leaving only that portion anchored in the reel.

Warning: Never remove screws while fish tape is coiled in the reel. Rapid uncoiling may cause injury.

- 2. Loosen and remove the reel screws and separate reel halves.
- 3. Remove anchoring screw and old fish tape.

Tape Installation:

- 1. Lay one reel half on flat surface with open side up.
- 2. Lay new fish tape coil in reel half removing any METAL TIES ONLY.

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NOTE: DO NOT remove adhesive tape wraps unless coil is to be unwound and laid flat before reeling into case (tape wraps are designed to break the first time the fish tape is pulled from the reel).

With the IDEAL Gold-Fish® Flexible Metallic Fish Tapes and the IDEAL S-Class[®] Non- Conductive Fish Tapes, which are secured by metal or plastic ties, slowly remove ties and uncoil the fish tape flat on the floor.

- 3. Position the opening in the pulling eye or hook loop at the reel mounting boss marked "anchor". On reels assembled with cross mounting screws and nuts, position at the mounting hole adjacent to the IDEAL logo.
- 4. Position winder (handle) in reel and position fish tape in slot in winder. On 31-126, 31-127, 31-128, and 31-129 IDEAL Tape-Pak® with counter mechanism, the performed pulling loop must be cut off to permit passage of the tape into the counter.
- 5. Install second reel half aligning the hole adjacent to the IDEAL logo with the hole in instruction #3. Insert a screw, making certain it passes through the opening in the pulling eye or loop. Tighten.
- 6. Assemble remaining screws (and nuts when so equipped).
- 7. Any unwound tape can now be wound into the case.

If your IDEAL Tape-Pak® stores the IDEAL S-Class® Non-Conductive Fish Tape, the IDEAL S-Grip® Puller conveniently locks into the IDEAL Tape-Pak® Fish Tape Case for storage with fish tape during periods of non-use.



Re-forming the Metal Fish Tape Eyelet:

The eyelet on your metal fish tape may come undone occasionally or your fish tape may break. The following instructions will allow you to re-form an eyelet on your fish tape.

1. Hold the metal fish tape with heat-protective gloves, and heat the end of the fish tape with a propane torch until about 2-1/2" of the tape is "red" hot.

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- 2. Use pliers to grasp the first 1/2" of the fish tape and bend it over onto itself until the tip is touching. (See Diagram 1.) A small loop will be formed from this bend. This loop should be too small for wires and is designed to help keep wires in the larger eyelet that you will form in step 3.
- 3. After the first bend is made, use the pliers to bend another 1-1/2" of tape over in the same direction as the first bend. Do not bend this too tightly as it should form a larger eyelet. When this bend is made, the first (smaller) loop should be touching the metal tape. (See Diagram 2.) If this second bend becomes difficult, it may be necessary to reheat the tape.
- 4. Allow the tip sufficient time to air cool before use. DO NOT quench in water.

IDEAL S-Class® Rapid-Pak® Fish Tape:

- 1. For IDEAL S-Class® Fish Tapes, carefully remove all plastic ties. Slowly uncoil the IDEAL S-Class[®] tape flat on the floor. Place one of the IDEAL S-Class[®] pulling eyes directly over the screw boss and pin. (See Diagram 3.)
- 2. Place remaining inner hub half over assembly, and beginning with the anchor boss screw, replace both inner hub screws. Note: Anchor screw must retain the IDEAL S-Class[®] pulling eye.
- 3. Place remaining outer race over entire assembly and make sure that the tape is properly positioned in the handle exiting port. Replace all remaining screws in both sides of the case.
- 4. All tape can now be wound into the case. Your IDEAL S-Class® Rapid-Pak® is now ready to be used.

Warranty limited solely to repair or replacement; no warranty of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or consequential damages.

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Fish Tapes and Accessories Operators Manual



- IDEAL Tape-Pak® Fish Tape
- IDEAL S-Class[®] Non-Conductive Fish Tape
- IDEAL Gold-Fish® Fish Tape
- IDEAL Tuff-Grip® Fish Tape
- IDEAL Tape-Pak® XL-15 Fish Tape
- Fish Tape Leaders and Accessories

General Information applying to all fish tapes:

Important Safeguards:

Metallic Fish Tape.

WARNING: Do not use near electrically live equipment. Electrical shock may occur.

- Always route wires to be pulled through eyelet pulling loop, twisting back over wires to form a closed loop. Wrap eye (loop) and wire bundle securely with plastic tape to prevent separation during pulling. Or use IDEAL Squid® Multi-Wire Pulling Leader.
- Protect yourself against the possibility of falling should the wires free up or separate from the pulling loop or eye.
- Do not grab the fish tape with pliers or other tools which may kink, damage or weaken the tape.
- Avoid pulling fish tape over sharp edges which may damage the tape.
- Inspect fish tape prior to each use. Do not use nicked, corroded or otherwise damaged fish tape which may be weakened and break during pulling.
- Do not use on power pulling equipment which could damage or break tape.
- For fish tape not contained in reels, grasp coil firmly and remove retaining ties or bands. Insert pulling loop in conduit opening. Push tape into conduit, uncoiling as tape is fed.
- · For fish tape in reels, unwind tape as it is fed into conduit.
- The use of wire-pulling lubricant such as IDEAL Yellow 77® Plus is recommended to reduce the effort required to pull the wires through the conduit and reduce the chance of damaging the wires due to excessive pulling force.
- Remove obstructions or obstacles which could be a potential trip hazard before pulling the fish tape back through the conduit.
- Do not attempt to force a pull that has become hung up. It is best to remove the wire and check for obstructions.
- Never attempt to make a cold bend to form a pulling loop on the end of a steel fish tape. 1

- Always keep your fish tape wound on its reel when not in use. This protects the tape and reduces the chance of tripping or accidental contact with energized equipment.
- Coiled tape is under tension-do not open reel with the tape coiled.
- The use of safety glasses is recommended when using this product
- When making pulls, do not pull directly towards you. Pulling to one side will reduce the chance of injury if the force required to pull the tape suddenly reduces
- Replace IDEAL Tape-Pak[®], IDEAL Rapid-Pak[®] and IDEAL Tape-Pak[®] XL-15 storage reels or winder that has become chipped, cracked, or otherwise damaged.

Instructions for IDEAL Flat Spring Steel Fish Tape:

Important:

- Hold flat steel tape coil firmly when removing retaining ties or bands to prevent rapid uncoiling and possible injury. Uncoil slowly.
- To reform pulling loop, heat spring steel fish tape to a dull red and bend by grasping the free end with pliers. Allow to air cool only. DO NOT QUENCH.

Instructions for IDEAL Gold-Fish® Flexible Wound Wire Fish Tape:

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- 31-402 Coil-Flex fish tape replaced with 31-143. Tape damaged or abused will have properties less than 500 lbs.
- IDEAL Gold-Fish® Replacement Handles: 31-143 handle LB-194
- 31-144 handle LB-195 31-145 handle LB-195

Instructions for IDEAL S-Class® Non-Conductive Fish Tape:

Important: Nylon/fiberglass tape.

WARNING: Do not bend IDEAL S-Class® Fish Tape smaller than a 3" radius or tape will break.

- Beware, and take heed of the cautions associated with this class of fish tape. 1) **DO NOT** EXCEED A MINIMUM BENDING RADIUS OF THREE (3) INCHES or tape will fracture.
- 2) **DO NOT** GRASP THE TAPE WITH ANY TYPE OF MECHANICAL PULLING TOOL or tape will be damaged and fracture.
- 3) When pulling the IDEAL Tape-Pak[®] Case, **DO NOT** allow tape to bend at 90° to winder. Keep IDEAL Tape-Pak® and conduit opening in a straight line.
- DO NOT pull IDEAL S-Class® Fish Tape with any type of mechanical fish tape puller. They will severely damage the tape. Use IDEAL S-Grip® S-Class® Fish Tape Puller (Catalog #31-170) for pulling this tape and extend the useful life of this tape.
- Five-year limited warranty on IDEAL S-Class[®] Fish Tape to leader and tape to evelet connection. Simply return broken pieces to IDEAL. Warranty limited solely to repair or replacement of eye or leader; no warranty of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or consequential damages. Warranty does not cover broken tape.
- The crimped connections refer to the connector at the point the fish tape is joined to the evelet, or the leader, or the leader to the evelet. If failure occurs within the five-year period (the tape pulls out of the eyelet or leader), IDEAL will install a new connector on the fish tape at no charge. IDEAL will not replace the entire fish tape.
- Caution: IDEAL S-Class® Fish Tape does not act like steel tape and can get twisted or knotted, similar to a garden hose. If this occurs, caution must be taken to carefully untangle. Remember, the warranty only covers the crimped connections, not the tape itself.

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- · Every non-conductive fish tape is "Proof Tested" to assure superior pull strength and proudly boasts a 5-year limited warranty on the crimped co tions
- Replacement winders for IDEAL S-Class[®] are the same as for the IDEAL Fish®: LB-195 winder for 12" case.

Accessories

Instructions for IDEAL Gold-Fish® Fish Tape Leader and Fi Tape Ball:

- 1. Unscrew end cap (LB-221 Adapter) from Leader.
- 2. After cutting off loop on fish tape. slide fish tape through hole in adapter.
- 3. Heat end of fish tape to a dull red and bend with pliers. Flatten end of tape while still red. Reheat if necessary.
- 4. Allow tape to cool. DO NOT QUENCH.
- 5. Reassemble adapter to leaded and tighten Pull on fish tape to ensure tape is secure in adapter.

Follow the same instructions as above for Fish Tape Ball.





