

Johnson Ross "XR-36" Review

When I began my Carping journey, there were few decent Carp Rods available, names such as Tricast Legends, Century Armalites, Black Max, Sportex etc were iconic. Then one day along came a rod that changed things. Amorphous, Daiwa Amorphous to be exact. These rods were distance rods, but rods that could be used by the every day Carper to do everything you needed. They became iconic themselves and anybody who was anybody had a set. sadly they became extinct and became a thing of Legend.

Times have changed and carp fishing rods are plentiful in supply. Rods can be purchased from £50 up to £300 but there are very few that will ever become iconic in the way the old 'morphs were. Enter the XR36.

Johnson Ross tackle, the same guys behind Matrix stainless steel products have managed to get Daiwa to tweek their own new Amorphous blanks, to try and get the blank as close to the old school one as possible. They did better than that, these have moved things on!



With the XR-36 The lads at Johnson Ross have designed a rod for distance but one that is still capable of playing fish close in without pulling hooks. By utilising the highest quality carbons available then wrapping it with 16 strand Amorphous they have created not only a beautiful rod to look at but an extremely durable one. So far there have been recorded casts in excess of 160yds with a baited rig but in the right hands who knows what is achievable.

Don't be fooled into thinking these are for distance fishing only. Become the master of a more powerful rod, you can use these for everything! I'm safe in the knowledge that no matter what situation I'm faced with, these rods will cope and cope well. Even an average caster like me can put a baited rig over 100yards with 20lb Xline! I've also hooked fish under trees under my feet, I've pulled out of none.

Two options are available, stock rods are built for us by Daiwa to the following specification: 50mm Silicon rings set with a 16mm tip ,Fuji DPS20 reel seat Stainless trim bands and a shrink rubber butt grip.



Alternatively Johnson Ross can do a full custom build through rod builder Vic Gibson.

If you are considering new rods, please check these out. I paid full price for these and have written the review purely to share the love I have for these stunning rods.

Enjoy
Spencer Humble

"XR-36" 12' 3lb 6oz tc
1 rod £289.99
2 rods £275 each
3 rods £259.99 each