

## SHIMANO CALCUTTA 401

# SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 Fishing Reel Instruction Manual

Model: CALCUTTA 401

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This instruction manual provides essential information for the proper setup, operation, and maintenance of your SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 baitcasting fishing reel. To ensure optimal performance and longevity, please read this manual thoroughly before using your reel.

The SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 is a high-performance round baitcasting reel designed for durability and smooth operation, featuring advanced technologies for an enhanced fishing experience.

## 2. KEY FEATURES

The SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 incorporates several advanced features:

- **X-DRAG System:** This system provides enhanced drag performance and stability, allowing for precise drag adjustments and consistent pressure during fights.
- **S Compact Body:** Designed for improved ergonomics and a more comfortable grip, the compact body reduces the overall size of the reel without compromising line capacity or power.
- **SVS (Shimano Variable Brake System):** An innovative centrifugal braking system that allows for precise control over casting distance and prevents backlashes, adjustable to suit various lure weights and wind conditions.
- **A-RB (Anti-Rust Bearings):** Specially treated stainless steel ball bearings that are at least 10 times more corrosion resistant than standard stainless steel bearings, ideal for both freshwater and saltwater environments.
- **POWER AL (Power Aluminum):** Constructed with high-strength aluminum for the frame and side plates, ensuring rigidity, durability, and powerful cranking performance.



*Image 1: Overview of the SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 reel, highlighting X-DRAG and S Compact Body features. The image displays various logos including X-DRAG, S COMPACT BODY, POWER AL, E.T., S A-RB, and SVS. It also shows close-up views of the reel's handle and drag system, the side plate with the SVS braking system, and a comparison illustrating the compact body design.*

## 3. SETUP

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### 3.1 Mounting the Reel

1. Align the reel foot with the reel seat on your fishing rod.
2. Tighten the reel seat nut securely until the reel is firmly attached to the rod. Ensure there is no wobble.

### 3.2 Spooling Fishing Line

1. Pass the fishing line through the rod guides, starting from the tip and working towards the reel.
2. Tie the line to the reel spool using an arbor knot or a similar secure knot. Ensure the knot is tight.
3. Close the bail (if applicable) or engage the line guide.

4. Maintain light tension on the line as you slowly reel it onto the spool. The line should be spooled evenly and tightly, filling the spool to approximately 1/8 inch (3mm) from the rim. Avoid overfilling or underfilling.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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### 4.1 Casting

1. Press the thumb bar or clutch button to disengage the spool.
2. Hold the spool with your thumb to prevent line from coming off prematurely.
3. Execute your cast. As the lure travels, release your thumb from the spool.
4. Just before the lure hits the water, lightly feather the spool with your thumb to slow it down and prevent backlash.
5. Engage the reel by turning the handle to prepare for retrieval.

### 4.2 Drag Adjustment (X-DRAG)

The drag system controls the amount of resistance the line experiences when a fish pulls on it. Proper drag setting is crucial to prevent line breakage and ensure successful fish landing.

- To increase drag, turn the star drag knob clockwise.
- To decrease drag, turn the star drag knob counter-clockwise.
- A good starting point for drag setting is approximately 25-30% of your line's breaking strength. Adjust as needed based on fishing conditions and target species.

### 4.3 SVS (Shimano Variable Brake System) Adjustment

The SVS system helps control spool speed during casting to minimize backlashes. It is located on the side plate of the reel.

1. To access the SVS weights, open the side plate of the reel. Refer to the reel diagram for the exact location and opening mechanism.
2. Inside, you will find small centrifugal weights. Engaging more weights (pushing them outwards) increases braking force, suitable for lighter lures or windy conditions. Disengaging weights (pushing them inwards) decreases braking force, suitable for heavier lures or calm conditions.
3. Start with a moderate number of weights engaged and adjust based on your casting style and conditions.
4. Close the side plate securely after adjustment.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance will extend the life and performance of your SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 reel.

### 5.1 After Each Use

- **Rinse:** If used in saltwater, lightly rinse the exterior of the reel with fresh water. *Do not submerge the reel.*
- **Dry:** Wipe the reel dry with a soft cloth.
- **Loosen Drag:** Always loosen the drag completely before storing to prevent compression of the drag

washers.

## 5.2 Periodic Lubrication

- Apply a small amount of reel oil to moving parts such as the handle knobs, worm shaft, and spool shaft.
- Apply a thin layer of reel grease to gears if you disassemble the reel for deeper cleaning. *Only disassemble if you are familiar with reel mechanics. Otherwise, seek professional service.*

## 5.3 Storage

Store your reel in a dry, cool place away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures. Use a reel cover or bag to protect it from dust and scratches.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
<b>Backlash during casting</b>	SVS brakes not properly set, thumb not feathering spool, incorrect lure weight.	Increase SVS braking force, improve thumb control, use appropriate lure weight for reel.
<b>Drag slipping or inconsistent</b>	Drag washers worn or contaminated, drag not tightened sufficiently.	Clean or replace drag washers, ensure drag knob is tightened appropriately.
<b>Reel feels stiff or noisy</b>	Lack of lubrication, dirt/debris inside reel, worn bearings.	Clean and lubricate reel, inspect for debris, consider professional service for worn parts.
<b>Line not spooling evenly</b>	Line guide obstructed, improper line tension during spooling.	Check line guide for obstructions, ensure consistent tension when spooling.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Below are the key specifications for the SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 fishing reel:

**Brand:** SHIMANO

**Model:** CALCUTTA 401

**Hand Orientation:** Ambidextrous

**Color:** Silver

**Material:** Stainless Steel (components), Aluminum (handle)

**Item Weight:** 335 Grams

**Fishing Technique:** Spinning (*Note: While listed as 'Spinning' in some specifications, the SHIMANO Calcutta 401 is a baitcasting reel.*)

**Bearing Material:** Stainless Steel

**Fishing Line Type:** Braided (Recommended)

**ASIN:** B00B7T50JO

**First Available:** March 2, 2013

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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For warranty information, service, or technical support regarding your SHIMANO 13 CALCUTTA 401 fishing reel, please refer to the official SHIMANO website or contact SHIMANO customer service directly. Keep your purchase receipt as proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

Official SHIMANO Website: [www.shimano.com](http://www.shimano.com)