



FISHING TIPS FOR BEGINNERS



GEAR

A closed-face spincast rod and reel with a bobber, lead-free sinker and a circle hook is the easiest for beginners to use.

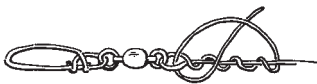
Match the line and hook size to fish you want to catch. For freshwater, use 6-10 lb. test line; for saltwater, use 10-20 lb. test line.

Remember to bring:

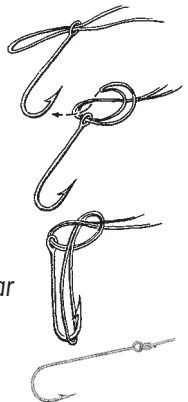
- Nail clipper or line clipper
- Hemostats or needle-nose pliers
- Net to help land your fish
- Measuring tape or fish ruler
- Ice chest to store the keepers
- First-Aid kit

KNOTS

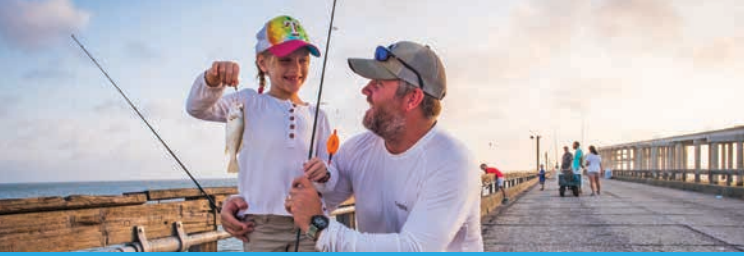
Don't lose the big one!
Attach hook with a Palomar
or Improved Clinch knot.



Improved Clinch



Palomar



BAIT

Check the fishing reports on the Outdoor Annual App to see where and what the fish are biting.

- Worms are great bait for most freshwater fish. Catfish also like hot dog pieces. Rainbow Trout like corn.
- Shrimp is great bait for most saltwater fish (only use native Gulf of Mexico shrimp).

SAFETY

Fish:

- Use barbless hooks or mash down the barb.
- Use wet hands to handle fish, quickly remove the hook and gently return the fish to the water, or put on ice.

People:

- Protect yourself from the sun and hooks. Bring water; wear a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen or sun-protective clothing.
- Keep an eye on the weather and changing water conditions.
- Non-swimmers should wear a life jacket.

Habitat:

- Pack out all litter, even if it's not yours.
- Use lead-free sinkers.
- Don't dump live bait back into the water.

REGS & ETHICS

Anyone age 17 and up needs a fishing license, unless fishing in a Texas State Park. Purchase online or at an outdoor retailer.

- Observe regulations – download the free Texas Outdoor Annual App for daily bag and fish length limits. www.OutdoorAnnual.com
- Respect other anglers and recreational water users. Keep noise to a minimum so you don't scare the fish away.



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