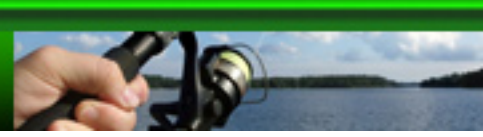




Introduction to Fishing





Introduction to Fishing

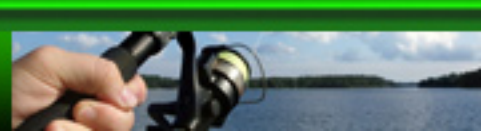


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Introduction to Fishing



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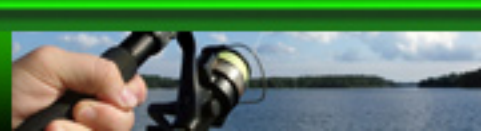
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INTRODUCTION

Congratulations! You've decided to give fishing a try. If you are a lover of the great outdoors, there is simply no better way to enjoy Mother Nature than by fishing. There are certainly plenty of different types of fishing, which we will delve into in more detail in a few pages, but regardless of whether you're into freshwater fishing or saltwater fishing; there is always the great outdoors to enjoy.

Once you really get into fishing you will find that this wonderful sport incorporates itself well into many activities. Take the family out camping near a lake while you get in some fishing time. Charter a boat and head out to the open seas to cast your line for some of the larger game fish. Plan an entire vacation around your fishing plans. Whatever you choose to do, one of the great things about fishing is that it allows you to enjoy one of the most wonderful sports in the world as well as spend time with friends and family.

The benefits offered by fishing are innumerable. Not only do you get to spend time outdoors, which is something that most people just do not get enough of considering our hectic modern lives, but it is also a great stress reliever. Fishing is the ideal way to unwind. Whether you are a busy executive who spends too much time cooped up in an office or you just have stress from some other source in your life, there is no better way to relax than heading out to the water to do some fishing.

If you've never fished before, don't worry! There are plenty of people around the world who would like to partake of the many benefits offered by fishing, but simply do not know how. While fishing may seem as though it would be confusing, with all the many different types of species of fish, the countless lures and knots and locales, it really does not have to be complicated at all.

Fishing can actually be a fairly simple pastime. This is a sport that can be both fun as well as productive, regardless of whether you are just starting out or you are an experienced fisherman/fisherwoman.

In the next several chapters we are going to look at the sport as a whole as well as various types of fishing and even different types of species that you can set your hook for when you get started.

So, let's get started and get you ready to learn how to fish!

CHAPTER 1

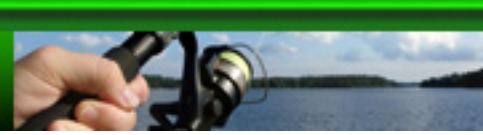
Getting Started

What is Fishing?

Fishing can be fairly basic or it can be more advanced. In its simplest form, fishing involves just a hook and a length of string. To a large degree, this is how fishing has been conducted for centuries. The fancier poles, lures and weights come into play with fishing for sport, along with a variety of different and very distinct methods.

The main idea behind fishing is to locate a spot that you deem to be a likely source for fish, whether that happens to be in a boat out in the middle of the lake or the ocean, or standing on a pier or a dock. Once you feel a tug on the line, it means that a passing fish has taken a fancy to whatever you have placed on the hook and it is time to reel him in. The exact type of bait that is used to lure fish will largely depend on the type of fish that you are hoping to attract and the technique that you are using.

Worms are certainly the most common bait to be used by most fisherman but there are a variety of different types of flies and lures that can be used as well. Other possible live bait options include minnows, shrimp, insects and



even chunks of meat or fish.

Fresh water fishing is one of the most common types of fishing. As the name implies, this type of fishing is conducted in a body of freshwater as opposed to saltwater. An individual might choose to use live bait with this type of fishing or they may choose to use a lure instead.

Another popular type of fishing is known as deep sea fishing. This type of fishing is commonly performed on a boat that has traveled some distance out to sea and continues to move through the water. An extremely strong pole will be used for this form of fishing and will be hoisted from the boat's stern. A line which has been baited will then be towed in the water behind the boat as it moves along. The boat will slow down when there is a fish on the line in order to allow the fisherman to reel in the fish.

Yet another popular form of fishing is fly fishing. This type of fishing is certainly growing in popularity around the world. In terms of skill, fly fishing is largely considered to be one of the more advanced techniques. It certainly does require some practice in order to perfect the skill of being able to effectively cast the line. This type of fishing is most commonly used in streams and rivers for trout fishing and salmon fishing. Because of the prevalence of salmon in that area, those who enjoy Alaska fishing commonly rely on fly fishing. To take part in fly fishing, you will need a fly rod as well as an artificial fly. Both of these types of gear are specifically designed for fly fishing.

Levels of Fishing

There are many different levels of fishing which you can enjoy. Never fear, if you are just starting out, there is nothing that will prevent you from eventually being able to tackle (no pun intended) the more advanced forms of fishing. In the beginning; however, you might want to get started with some of the simpler techniques.

For Beginners

Regardless of where you live, there is a good chance that you will be able to locate a fishing hole somewhere close by. It might not be the best fishing location, because there are just some locales around the world that are known for their exceptional fishing, but it will be a good place to get started.

Individuals who are new to fishing will typically decide to get started with whatever waterway they can find near their home. When you are just getting started, it is important to not necessarily focus upon the type of fishing that you are looking to catch, but just to work on your technique and catch any fish in general. Of course, if you really want to make sure that your chances are good you might think of getting in some practice time at a fish pond that has been stocked. These sites typically charge an admission that is relatively small. This is an ideal location for beginners. The best way to get started is with a simple fishing pole, a bobber, a hook and a worm.

For Advanced Levels

Once you have the hang of basic fishing, you might want to try some more advanced angling. This is a good opportunity to do some traveling and head out for some fishing locales that may be better than those in your geographic area. It is also a good time to try to catch a specific species of fish. There are many different types of specific species which you can cast your line for, including:

- Walleye fishing
- Marlin fishing
- Steelhead fishing
- Crappie fishing