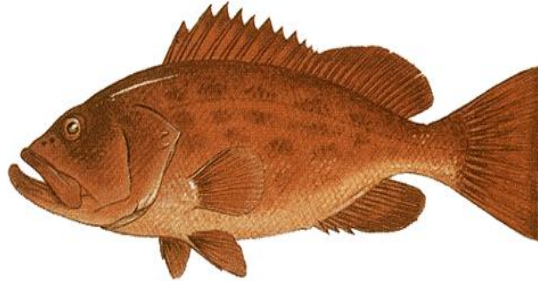


# How To Catch Grouper



## **EQUIPMENT**

- 1. 6-7' HEAVY ACTION ROD.**
- 2. LEVEL WIND REEL WITH 50-6# TEST MONAFILAMENT LINE.**
- 3. HEAVY DUTY SPINNING REEL WITH 40-50# TEST MONAFILAMENT LINE.**
- 4. DEPTH RECORDER/FISH FINDER. A COLOR MACHINE IS BETTER BECAUSE IT WILL SHOW THE SOFTNESS OR THE HARDNESS OF THE BOTTOM BETTER.**
- 5. FOR BOTTOM FISHING, PUT YOUR LINE THROUGH A 5-8 OUNCE SINKER AND THEN PUT ON A RED BEAD AND TIE IT TO A HEAVY SWIVEL. THE RED BEAD STOPS THE SINKER FROM BEATING AGAINST THE SWIVEL.**
- 6. NEXT, TIE ON A 2 1/2-3FT. OF 80# MONAFILAMENT LINE AND ATTACH IT TO A 7/0 OR 8/0 HOOK USING AN IMPROVED CLINCH KNOT OR A UNI-TO-UNI KNOT.**  
**[CLICK HERE FOR KNOTS](#)**

## **TROLLING EQUIPMENT + HARWARE**

- 1. USE THE SAME ROD AND REELS AS BOTTOM FISHING.**
- 2. FOR TROLLING, TIE YOUR LINE TO A HEAVY DUTY SWIVEL AND CONNECT IT DIRECTLY TO THE PLANER. FROM THE PLANER, TIE 10-12 FT. OF 50# TEST MONAFILAMENT LEADER TIED DIRECTLY TO YOU LURE USING A UNI-KNOT OR IMPROVED CLINCH KNOT.**
- 3. #2 PLANER FOR DEPTHS OF 20 FT.**
- #3 PLANER FOR DEPTHS OF 30. FT.**
- #4 PLANER FOR DEPTHS OF TO 40 FT.**



#### **4. MANUFACTURE'S DOWN RIGGER OR POOR MAN'S DOWNRIGGER.**



#### **AREAS TO FISH 1. DURING THE SUMMER**

**MONTHS, THE WATER HEATS UP AND MOST OF THE GROUPEL WILL MOVE TO FIND COOLER WATER. (20-25 MILES).**

**2. DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, WHEN THE WATER IS IN THE GULF COOLS DOWN, THE FISH WILL MOVE INSHORE. LOTS OF TIMES YOU CAN FIND GROUPEL IN 20-25 FT. OF WATER.**

**3. FISH ALONG THE EDGES OF THE SKYWAY CHANNEL AND THE EGMONT CHANNEL. DON'T FISH THE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CHANNELS, ALWAYS FISH THE EDGES AND DROP OFFS.**

**4. LOOK FOR HARD BOTTOM OR AREAS THAT HAVE A CHANGE IN DENSITY OF THE BOTTOM.**

**PICK AREAS THAT SHOW A DEFINATE ROCKY BOTTOM OR LEDGES.**

**5. WORK THE ARTIFICAIL REEFS LOCATED ON YOUR LOCAL MAPS OR LOOK ON OUR SITE TO GET THE LORAN NUMBERS .**

#### **DEAD BAITS**

**1. WHEN USING DEAD BAITS, CUT THE BAIT IN HALF AT A 45 DEGREE ANGLE. THIS ATTRACTS FISH.**

**2. AFTER YOU CATCH A FEW FISH WITH DEAD BAITS, THEN SWITCH OVER TO LIVE BAIT. THE SMELL FROM THE DEAD BAIT ATTRACTS BIGGER FISH AND WILL GET THEM INTO THE FEEDING MODE.**

#### **FROZEN WHITE BAIT**

#### **FROZEN SQUID**

#### **FROZEN SARDINES**

#### **LIVE BAIT**

**1. HOOK THE BAIT IN THE BACK NEAR THE DORSAL FIN.**

**2. LOWER THE BAIT TO THE BOTTOM AND REEL UP ABOUT 3 TURNS ON THE REEL.**

**3. WHEN THE GROUPEL GRABS YOUR BAIT, HE WILL TRY TO HEAD FOR HIS DEN IN THE ROCKS. RED GROUPEL HAVE A MORE SUBTLE BITE, IT'S MORE LIKE A TUG. GAG**

**GROUPEL WILL SLAM IT LIKE A RUNAWAY FREIGHT TRAIN.**

**4. THE FIRST THING YOU SHOULD DO IS CRANK THE REEL AND LIFT THE POLE WITH THE TIP TOWARD THE SKY IF YOU CAN.**

**5. DON'T GIVE UP. JUST REMEMBER HOW GOOD THESE FISH TASTE WHEN YOU GET THEM TO THE TABLE.**



#### **ARTIFICIAL BAIT**



#### **1. WHEN USING ARTIFICIAL BAIT, YOU**

**MUST FIRST CHOOSE IF YOU ARE GOING TO USE A DOWNRIGGER, A PLANER, OR JUST A BAIT THAT HAS A DEEP DIVING LIP ON IT.**

**2. YOU MAY WANT TO USE TWO POLES WHILE TROLLING.**

**3. PUT THE LINE THAT YOU WILL USE FOR YOUR DOWNRIGGER OUT APPROXIMATELY 150 FT, THEN ATTACH IT TO THE DOWNRIGGER. LOWER THE DOWNRIGGER BALL TO A DEPTH 2-3 FT. FROM THE BOTTOM. PUT OUT YOUR NEXT LINE APPROXIMATELY 25 FT. THEN ATTACH IT TO A DOWNRIGGER.**

**4. IF YOU ARE USING PLANERS, CHOOSE THE PLANER THAT WILL TAKE THE ARTIFICIAL BAIT TO HALF OF THE DEPTH YOU ARE TROLLING.**

**5. START TROLLING AT 1500 RPM'S. THIS IS APPROXIMATELY 4-5 MPH. IF NOTHING HAPPENS, THEN TRY SLOWING DOWN OR SPEEDING UP.**

**6. ONCE A FISH HITS, THE PRESSURE OF THE FISH WILL TRIP PLANER AND THE FISH WILL COME TO THE SURFACE. JUST SLOW THE BOAT DOWN AND REEL THE FISH IN.**

**7. IF YOU ARE USING A DOWNRIGGER OR A POOR MAN'S DOWNRIGGER, THE LINE WILL POP OUT OF THE RELEASE CLIP AND YOU'RE IN FOR A FIGHT.**

**8. SLOW THE BOAT DOWN. YOU WILL BE IN A TUG OF WAR FOR A WHILE. THE FISH WON'T COME TO THE SURFACE LIKE IT DID WITH THE PLANERS.**

**9. MAKE SURE YOUR GROUPEE IS LEGAL.**

**10. IF IT IS NOT LEGAL, PLEASE RELEASE IT TO PRESERVE THE GROUPEE FISHERY.**