

# FISHING BASICS



## QUICK TIPS, RESOURCES AND GEAR

### 1. PICK YOUR ROD & REEL

A closed-face spincast rod and reel are great for learning how to fish.



### 2. CHOOSE YOUR BAIT

Different species of fish have different appetites. Choose your bait based on what kind of fish are in the lake and what you are trying to catch.

#### TROUT

- » Powerbait
- » Lures
- » Flies
- » Salmon eggs
- » Worms
- » Jigs



#### SUNFISH & CRAPPIE

- » Jigs
- » Worms
- » Mealworms



#### CATFISH

- » Stinkbait
- » Worms



#### BASS

- » Jigs
- » Worms



Bait restrictions may also apply to specific waters. Check the current Fishing brochure for additional information. Download the brochure online ([cpw.state.co.us/Fishing/Brochure](http://cpw.state.co.us/Fishing/Brochure)), or pick up a copy at over 700 license agents statewide.

## 3. GET YOUR GEAR ON

You need just a few basic items to get started. The fun part is adding to your gear collection as you progress!

- » Fishing line, 4- to 8-lb. test



- » Hemostats or needle-nose pliers



*These help you dislodge hooks and grip line while tying knots.*

- » Sinkers, 1/8 oz.



- » Bobbers



- » Hooks, #8 or #10



- » Swivels, #10



*Swivels keep your line from twisting.*

## 4. KNOW YOUR KNOT

There are lots of fishing knots. The Improved Clinch Knot is a good, basic knot to get you started.



- » Thread the line through eye of the hook. Double back and make five or more turns around the line.



- » Bring the end of line back through the first loop formed behind the eye. Then go through the big loop.



- » Wet knot and pull the tag end to tighten down the coils. Slide it tight against the eye, clip excess.

## 5. PICK YOUR SPOT

Where should you go? You can find your perfect fishing hole by using the Colorado Fishing Atlas.

[cpw.state.co.us/fish/fishingatlas](http://cpw.state.co.us/fish/fishingatlas)

## 6. CATCH LIMITS

To maintain good fishing, the state regulates the number of fish you can catch and have in your possession. Check the current Fishing brochure for the regulations.



### LICENSE INFORMATION:

Anyone ages 16 and older will need a fishing license.

One-day, additional-day and annual licenses are available:

- ONLINE: [CPW.STATE.CO.US/FISH/BUYANDAPPLY](http://CPW.STATE.CO.US/FISH/BUYANDAPPLY)
- BY PHONE: 1-800-244-5613
- AT OVER 700 LICENSE AGENTS STATEWIDE