

THE LIVE BAIT JIG

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Every wonder why you end up in a tangle?

Gary gives us some pointers to help with the technique....

Using a bait jig might seem like a simple operation but some people are struggling to use this item of equipment. I'll explain how I use a bait jig...

GETTING READY

I prefer to use a bait rod spooled with braid....Braid has less drag than mono in the water, gives a better feel to hook the bait.

- * When you select a jig there will be a snap or swivel on one end, the other end will be a straight length of line.
- * Attach the snap or swivel of the jig to the main line. A snap swivel on the main line will make it easy to change jigs.
- * To the other end of the jig tie a loop with a simple over hand knot. Make sure to keep the loop big enough to pass a six ounce snapper lead through.
 - * Pass this loop through the eye of a snapper lead then pass the lead through this loop

WE ARE NOW READY TO FISH.

- * Open the bail arm or free spool your chosen reel and lower the jig into the water
- * Hold the rod with your right hand and allow the line to pass between the thumb and index finger of your left hand. Maintain gentle pressure with the left hand, **this allows you to control the rate of descent.**
- * It is important to keep light pressure on the line allowing the sinker to take the jig straight down, this will prevent the jig from tangling. **It also allows you to feel the bite as bait fish attack the jig.**
- * As you feel the bite happen stop the jig, engage the reel or close the bail arm.
 - * Wait a few seconds to allow the jig to load up...now crank it up with a smooth motion.
- * Lift the loaded jig into the boat, lift the tip of your rod and grab the sinker, keeping the line taunt. Start unloading the jig from the bottom up.
- * Bait can be found at any depth, it is not necessary to drop the jig all the way to the bottom. You only need to go as far as where the bait is located. Hook up and go past the bait and you'll tangle

WITH A LITTLE PRACTISE IT IS A SIMPLE SKILL TO MASTER.

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD FISHING.

TROUBLE SHOOTING	
PROBLEM	POSSIBLE SOLUTION
I felt the bite, cranked the line up and before it got to the boat it was tangled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* How smooth was your motion?* Remember Yakkas swim upward and all over the place when they are hooked.* No need to jerk the rod on the way up, the motion should be continuous, keeping line tight and no need to stop and jerk.
I dropped the jig into the water, let it go down, cranked it up and it was tangled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* You didn't feel the bite and let the jig right to the bottom.* The bait weren't as far down as the bottom.* As soon as the bait hooks up it starts swimming upwards or all over the place.* If you aren't winding upwards when this happens the jig will tangle.
I do everything as above but get one yakka to my mate's six.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Remember feel for the bite,* stop the line,* wait for a second or two while all the hooks load up,* then its up and back to the boat.* Maybe you didn't wait for the jig to load up?