



# Let's Go Fishing



## How to cast a spincasting reel

- 1 Hold rod with reel on top. Locate the button.
- 2 Bring rod back to your ear. Push and hold down button.
- 3 Bring the rod forward. Release the button on the reel at the same position you would throw a ball. Reel in the line until you hear a click.



## Seasons & Rules

Fishing rules booklets can be found where you purchase licenses, or [idfg.idaho.gov/rules/fish](http://idfg.idaho.gov/rules/fish).

Idaho residents will need a valid Idaho fishing license if 14 or over. Nonresident children under 14 must be accompanied by a valid license holder or purchase a license.

Visit [license.goutdoorsidaho.com](http://license.goutdoorsidaho.com)

Or scan QR Code to buy your fishing license.



Idaho Department of Fish and Game adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability or veteran's status. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of Idaho Fish and Game, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707 OR U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Federal Assistance, Mailstop: MBSP-4020, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, Telephone: (703) 358-2156. This publication will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the IDFG for assistance.

Costs associated with this publication are available from IDFG in accordance with section 60-202, Idaho Code. BOC- Let's Go Fishing/ 5-2022/NJ

## Have fun but remember:

- ◆ Pick up after yourself.
- ◆ Leave your spot cleaner than you found it!
- ◆ Respect other people's fishing space.
- ◆ Do not transport live fish.





Cutthroat Trout



Yellow Perch



Bluegill



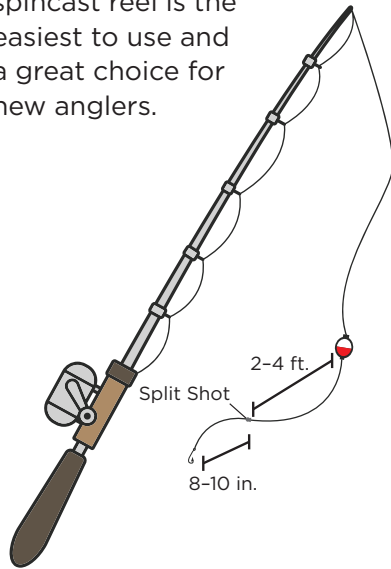
Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass

## Basic Fishing Setup

A closed-faced spincast reel is the easiest to use and a great choice for new anglers.



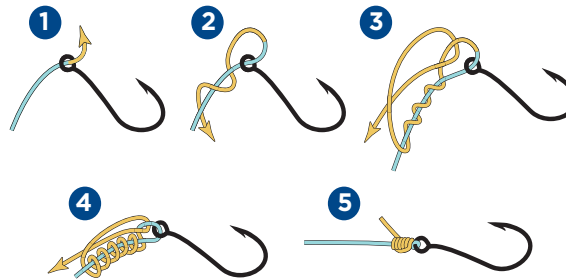
Fish Illustrations CCBY by Joseph Tomelleri  
Other Illustrations CCBY Idaho Fish and Game

Rainbow Trout



## Improved Clinch Knot

Use this knot to tie on a hook or lure.



- 1 Pass line through the eye of the hook.
- 2 Make 5 turns around the line above the hook.
- 3 Pass line through the "tear drop" loop above the hook eye.
- 4 Pass line through the "big loop" you made when putting the line through the tear drop.
- 5 Moisten line and pull the knot tight against the hook eye.

## Keeping & Cleaning A Fish

- Keep fish cool on ice or in the water on a stringer until ready to clean.
- Hold fish with the belly up.
- Insert knife tip into the fish's anus. Make a shallow cut upward along belly to the head.
- Make a cut under the jaw. Use the lower lip as a handle to pull organs down and out.
- Scrape out dark line (kidney) along backbone with a spoon or thumbnail.
- Rinse with clean water.
- Eat fish within 2 days or freeze in baggies filled with water.

## Catch & Release

- Use barbless hooks. You can press the barb down with pliers.
- Land fish quickly. Leave fish in the water if possible. Never hold a fish by the gills or squeeze the belly.
- For lip-hooked fish, hold the hook with pliers and pull backwards with a gentle shake.
- If the hook is swallowed or difficult to remove, cut the line as close to the hook as possible. Most hooks dissolve.
- Gently place the fish in the water supporting it above the tail and under the belly until recovered and able to swim off on its own.