

The Ultimate Guide for Success: Fishing Soft Plastics To Bass!

Are you an avid angler looking to up your game? Well, if you're targeting bass, then fishing with soft plastics is a technique you definitely need to know. Soft plastics have revolutionized the world of bass fishing, and in this article, we will dive deep into the art of fishing soft plastics to bass.

Understanding Soft Plastics and Their Appeal to Bass

Soft plastics refer to artificial fishing lures made of various soft and flexible materials such as plastic, rubber, or silicone. These lures come in a wide range of shapes, sizes, and colors, imitating a variety of natural prey that bass feed on. The realistic appearance and lifelike action of soft plastics make them irresistible to bass.

What makes soft plastics particularly effective is their ability to imitate wounded or injured prey. When retrieved properly, soft plastics simulate the erratic movements of injured baitfish, attracting bass which are naturally opportunistic and always on the lookout for an easy meal.



Fishing Soft Plastics To Bass

by David J. Leonard (Kindle Edition)

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Choosing the Right Soft Plastics for Bass Fishing

When it comes to selecting soft plastics for bass fishing, the choices can be overwhelming. However, there are a few key factors to consider that will help you make the right choice:

- **Size:** The size of soft plastics should match the general size of the bass's prey in the area you are fishing.
- **Color:** Choose colors that resemble the natural prey in the specific body of water you are fishing. It's essential to consider water clarity and light conditions.
- **Shape and Action:** Select soft plastics with shapes and actions that imitate the specific prey you are targeting. This can include worms, crawfish, frogs, and minnows, among others.
- **Rigging Options:** Different soft plastics offer various rigging options, such as Texas rig, Carolina rig, or drop shot rig. Each rigging method produces different actions, depths, and presentations, so experiment to find what works best.

Techniques for Fishing Soft Plastics to Bass

Now that we've covered the basics let's dive into the top techniques for fishing soft plastics to bass.

1. Texas Rig

The Texas rig is one of the most popular and versatile setups for fishing soft plastics to bass. It involves inserting a bullet-shaped weight onto the line, followed

by a hook to which the soft plastic is rigged. This setup allows the lure to be presented, weedless, through heavy cover while still maintaining optimal action.

When using the Texas rig, cast the lure near potential cover areas such as weed beds, submerged trees, or rocky structures. Allow the soft plastic to sink to the desired depth and retrieve it with occasional pauses and twitches to imitate wounded prey. Strikes often occur when the bait is falling or at the end of a pause.

2. Carolina Rig

The Carolina rig is a highly effective technique for fishing soft plastics to bass, especially in deeper waters. It consists of a sliding sinker followed by a swivel and a leader with the soft plastic lure. This setup allows the lure to be presented at different depths while maintaining a natural and slow-moving presentation.

When using the Carolina rig, cast the lure out and let it sink to the desired depth. Retrieve it slowly while maintaining a slight tension on the line, allowing the soft plastic to drag along the bottom and create a disturbance. This technique is effective for covering larger areas and locating actively feeding bass.

3. Drop Shot Rig

The drop shot rig is a finesse technique that excels in clear water conditions and when bass are in a more neutral or finicky mood. It involves tying a hook onto the line, leaving a tag end, where a weight is attached below it. The soft plastic is then rigged above the hook, allowing it to suspend above the weight.

When using the drop shot rig, cast the lure near potential structure or cover and let it sink to the bottom. Slowly lift and drop the rod tip to create subtle movements in the soft plastic, imitating a stationary or injured prey. Pay close

attention to any subtle line movements or taps, as these could indicate a bass taking the bait.

Important Tips for Success

Here are some essential tips to increase your success when fishing soft plastics to bass:

- **Experiment:** Try different colors, shapes, sizes, and rigs to determine what the bass are responding to on a particular day.
- **Match the Hatch:** Pay attention to the natural forage present in the body of water and choose soft plastics that closely resemble them.
- **Work Different Depths:** Bass can be found at varying depths depending on the time of day and weather conditions. Adjust your presentation accordingly.
- **Be Patient:** Soft plastics require a slower and more deliberate presentation. Allow the bait to sink, retrieve it at a slow pace, and don't rush your retrieves.
- **Pay Attention to Structure:** Target areas with cover and structure, such as weeds, timber, or rocky points, as these are prime hiding spots for bass.

By mastering the art of fishing soft plastics to bass, you will have a highly effective technique in your angling arsenal. Take the time to practice and refine your skills, and soon enough, you'll be reeling in bass after bass with confidence. So grab your soft plastics, gear up, and get ready for a thrilling bass fishing adventure!

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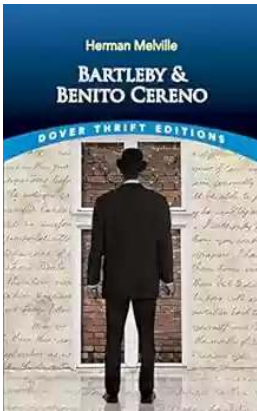
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A guide does not have the option of only fishing when the weather is perfect and the fish are biting. Based on the hands-on day to day experiences of a northwoods fishing guide with over 40,000 hours on the water, this book will unlock a few secrets for anglers who fish soft plastics in northern waters. Even anglers who fish southern or western reservoirs will find a few tips that will help when the bite is tough



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