

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Tips for hooking fish

Re: Tips for hooking fish

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URL:

Let me address your points. First always keep large amounts of slack off the water, you do this by measuring your cast, that's why you false cast a couple of times. Once the fly hits the water you should already have less slack on the water. I'm not sure what you mean by using your finger as your stripping guide.

As for set the hook, many times if you cast to rising fish the fish will hit the fly as it hits the water if you cast is where the fish rose. However, when watching fish rise you want to make sure you are seeing the fish rise either in the same spot all the time, or whether it's moving around some. If the fish is moving as it is rising, then try to anticipate where the next rise will be. And remember if you are getting a lot of looks and no takes, change flies, because that's the same as a refusal. Now we get to the third point.

Always tie flies with sharp hooks, you can check the sharpness by scratching the hook on the back of your thumbnail. If it doesn't catch on the nail, it's dull, if after checking several and finding them dull you should go shopping for new hooks. Mustad hooks are not always sharp out of the box, so I don't use them. When you tie on a fly make sure it's sharp before you tie it on and check for rust. if it's rusty throw it away.

Now I'll add; trout hook themselves 90% of the time, just lift the rod and keep a short loop in the line to cushion the set, and you are lifting the rod a short strip will drive the hook home. You seldom have to do more, but I'll add when you use streamers because the hooks are larger you may want to give a good strip of the line to set the hook.