

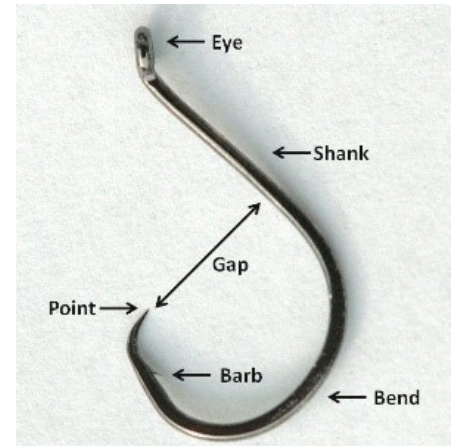
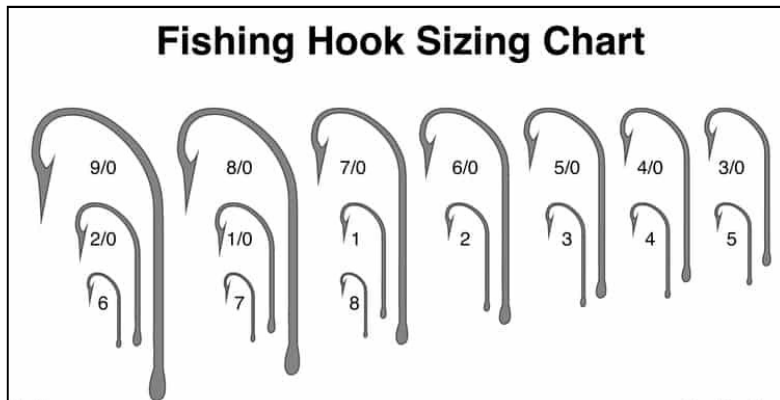
# Hook Selection and Knot Tying

## HOOK SIZE

There are many different types of hooks including circle, bait hook, and treble hook just to name a few. There are also many different sizes of hooks. Hooks can range in size from the smallest, size 32, to the largest, 19/0 (referred to as a 19 aught).

Selecting the correct hook is an important step for a successful fishing trip. The hook size should be matched to the species and size of fish that you're targeting.

Beginner anglers targeting panfish would use a size 8, 6, or 4 hook.



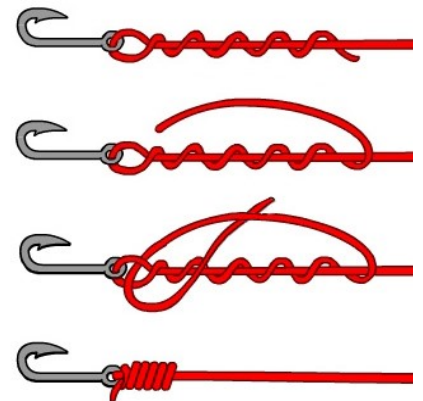
### BEGINNER ANGLER TIP

A small barb is on the inside edge of the point to prevent the fish from easily escaping. The barb also makes it difficult to remove the hook from the fish's mouth, or your finger, should you accidentally hook yourself. New anglers may want to pinch the barb down. This is easy to do by taking a pair of pliers and pinching the barb down.

## KNOT TYING

### Improved Clinch Knot—an old standby

1. Take the loose end of the line, called the tag end, and pass it through the eye of the hook. Pulling about 6 to 8 inches of line through.
2. Then take the tag end of the line and while leaving a gap above the eye, wrap the tag end around the standing line five times.
3. Next take the tag end of the line and pass it through the gap, or loop, you left above the eye of the hook. Then take the tag end and pass it through the loop you just created.
4. Wet the line and pull the tag end and standing line so the knot is seated onto the hook.
5. Use clippers to trim the excess tag end close to the knot.



### Palomar Knot—strongest knot to hold terminal tackle

1. Double 4 to 6 inches of your fishing line and pass the doubled line through the eye of the hook. You will end up with a loop on one side of the hook, while the other side of the hook has both the standing and tag ends.
2. Let the hook hang loose and tie an overhand knot in the doubled line, but do not tighten it down completely. Hold the knot loosely in place and let the hook hang loose.
3. Pull the loop end of the line far enough to pass the hook through it.
4. Wet the line and pull both tag and standing line to tighten.

