

# Going Blue Cod Fishing?

Look after the Cod and be a Responsible Fisher

**Did you know:** “Choosing the right hook makes it easier to release fish. And it increases their chance of survival.”



For blue cod



Use only 6/0 or larger circle hooks with no offset



If the fish is gut hooked, cut the line as close to the hook as possible, without pulling on the line.

## General things to consider when choosing a hook:

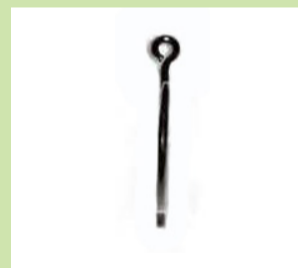
- Always use circle hooks – avoid offset as this increases the risk of hooking fish in the throat and gut.
- Only use one hook per rod – using multi-hook rigs inevitably means fish are poorly handled and have less chance of surviving when returned.
- Pinch the barb on your hooks using fishing pliers to reduce the size of the entry wound of the hook.
- Use the finest wire hooks possible that are appropriate for your target species. Finer hooks do less damage to a fish's mouth.

The advantage of circle hooks are that fish are hooked in the front of the mouth and they are self-hooking by design. This means fish do not have deep hooking injuries and are easier to unhook.



## Do use

Circle hooks and pinch the barb



Circle hooks with zero offset

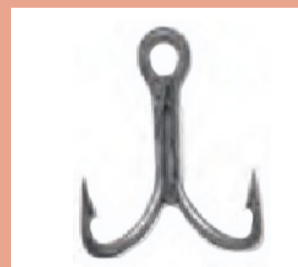


## Don't use

Circle hooks with offset



Circle hooks with barbs



Treble hooks

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