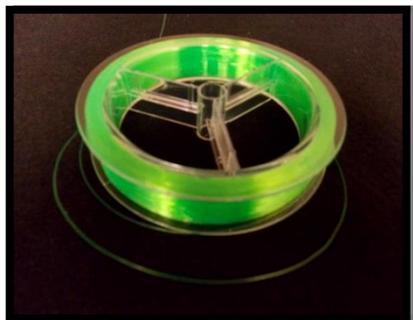


Rods, reels, sinkers, and hooks are no good to an angler without something to attach the hook to the other pieces of equipment, so **fishing line** is a must!



#### **Pick a color, any color!**

Fishing lines come in different colors. Colors can be important. If an angler is fishing in stained or muddy water then he or she may want to fish with a highly visible line, like yellow, because fish cannot see the line. On the other hand, some lines are clear or green, which makes them harder to see under water, and also harder for fish to see.

#### **What is the weight?**

Line comes in different weights or strengths. To avoid breaking your line on every strike, make sure your fishing line is strong enough. The higher the pound-test, the thicker the line and the more force it can take before it breaks.

*Just Remember:*

**Higher pound test =  
stronger (and stiffer) line**

Think about it; 30-pound test line is stronger than 6-pound test line. An angler fishing for bream may choose 4-6 pound test line, while a catfish angler may use 30-40 pound test line.



#### **References:**

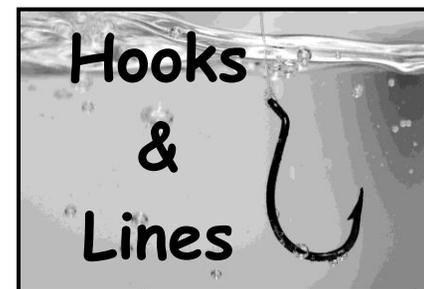
Information was partially obtained from the ABC of Fishing website (2012) at <http://www.abc-of-fishing.net/fishing-dictionary.asp>.

Information and photographs provided by MDWFP Fisheries personnel.

NMFH Visitor Education  
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## **Fishing Language:**

Common Fishing Terms,  
Fishing Gear, and  
Fishing Slang



**PO Box 100**

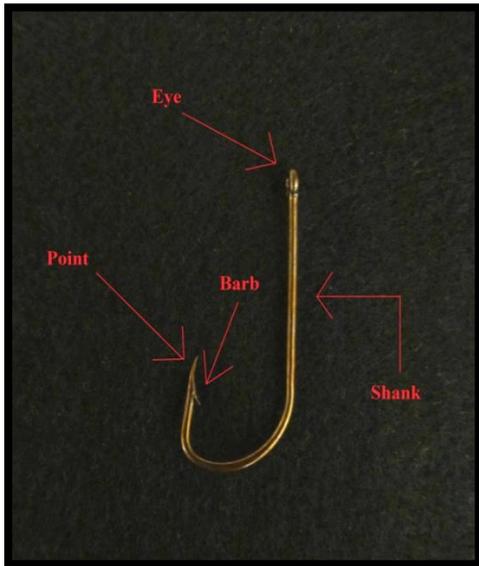
**457 CR 36**

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A **hook** is a necessary piece of equipment for anglers. If you want to land a fish, you have to hook it first! Hooks come in all sizes. Use bigger hooks to catch larger fish and smaller hooks for smaller fish.



#### Short Shank or Long Shank?

The longer the shank the easier it is to thread bait like worms, the shorter the shank the easier it is to hide the hook in the bait.

#### Thick or Thin?

Most people like a thin hook. Thick hooks will not penetrate the fish's mouth as easily, but are stronger and better for catching heavier fish.

#### Get To The Point!

All hooks have an eye and a shank, but some hooks have more points than others. Single hooks have one point. Double hooks have two points, and treble hooks have three points.

Chances of "hooking" a fish increase with double and treble hooks. Unfortunately, getting the fish off these hooks is harder, and many small fish cannot bite double and treble hooks. In some lakes you cannot use double or treble hooks, so check the rules before you go fishing!

Hooks should have sharp points because they increase the chance of successfully hooking your fish. There is an easy way you can tell if a point is sharp or not. Very carefully drag the point across your thumbnail. If it leaves a scratch behind, then the point is sharp enough. But do not press too hard when doing this!



#### Catching Weeds Instead of Fish?

To avoid catching weeds while fishing, use a weedless hook. The eye and point are attached by wires that bend if a fish bites the hook, but let the hook pass over weeds and logs without catching on them.

