

SINKERS

You got it “sinkers not bloody anchors”

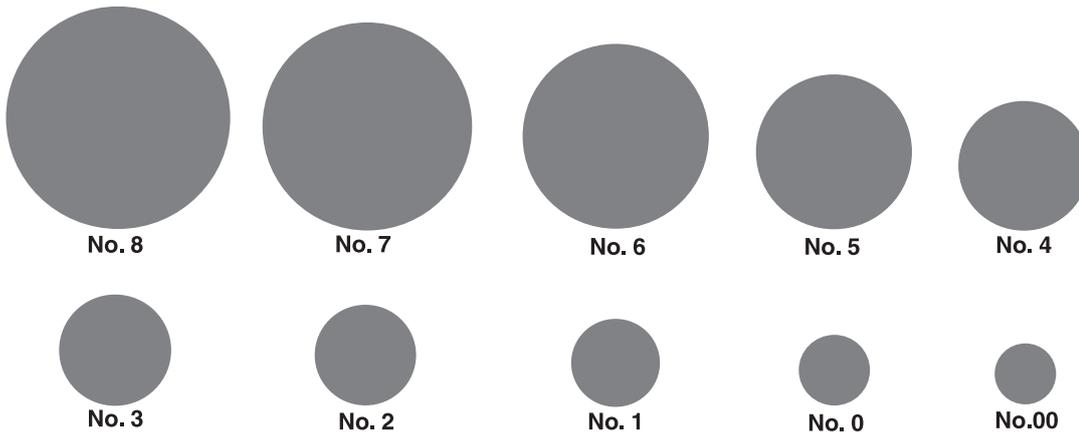
Sinkers have two main purposes. No.1 - to get the bait to the bottom. No.2 - to assist in cast length. Only the angler can choose the size of sinker required on any particular day. As mentioned earlier they are sinkers, not anchors and when in the water should be able to slowly travel around the sea bed floor in harmony with the current.

Current strength and wind force on exposed line are two factors that must be taken into account when selecting sinker

size. Too much weight and the sinker will stay stationary, not enough weight and the sinker might not reach the bottom or travel too fast in strong winds and currents. Only experience will teach you what size to use on the day. Most anglers would agree, that it is easier to detect a bite on a light sinker than a heavy one, therefore stay as light as the winds and currents allow. In regards to cast length, select a sinker that will assist you to cast to the desired fishing spot, using only the amount of weight required to achieve this, but still keeping in harmony with the wind and

current factors. At times when wind and current strengths are low, the sinker can be disposed of altogether and simply let the bait drift or swim around. This is one of the reasons we have put down sinkers as being optional in various rigs shown in this publication. On days when the wind is howling or the currents are raging, it's near impossible to keep in harmony with the elements, so take the tip, stay at home and slip, slop, slap. “Slip on the Michael Jackson CD, slop down a beer, slap on the Rambo video.”

SIZE GUIDE TO BALL SINKERS...



HOW TO SET YOUR DRAG

Throughout this publication, in the how to catch fish sections, we refer to either setting or adjusting the “drag” on your reel. If you are not sure what or where the drag mechanism is on your reel, ask your bait and

tackle supplier. When setting the drag for the first time, say, to just under breaking strain, it's a good idea to hold the rod tip upright and have someone standing about 5m. in front of you trying to pull the fishing

line through the runners and off the reel. If the line breaks set the drag lighter. If the line pulls off too easy, set the drag a little heavier until you have the setting you require.

BEACH RODS

As beach rods come in many shapes, forms and lengths and the angler must be comfortable with their

gear when fishing, we have suggested in this publication, that the rod should suit the individual. Your local bait and

tackle supplier will be able to help you with this selection, as well as balancing up a reel to the rod.