

Anglers Angle – Trick Worms

Trick worms are plastic worms that are rigged without a jig or sinker. They are rigged just on a hook so they are free moving / floating. Trick worms are very effective in spring when bass are in the shallows. There are a number on trick worm brands but Zoom Trick Worms are very popular. Any slow sinking or floating worm will work.

The recommended way to rig a trick worm is to use a 3/0 or 4/0 extra wide-gap worm hook using monofilament line. Mono line sinks slowly compared to fluorocarbon line. To reduce line twist a small barrel swivel is recommended and a leader about 18” long should be used. A spinning rod and reel is recommended as this is a very light weight lure and hard to throw with a baitcast outfit. A 6’6” medium action rod is best.

Trick worms are very effective before the spawn and just after the spawn. They are also very effective around docks or other structure. They are normally fished in shallow water 5’ or less, 10’ maximum. In clear water like Keowee bright colors can be effective but green pumpkin is always a good choice.

Cast the trick worm to your target area and let it sink a few seconds. Then retrieve the worm by twitching it back towards you but with many pauses. You need to try different retrieves to see what is most effective. Watch your line and if it moves that means a bass has picked it up and you need to set the hook. You may not feel the bite.

If rigged properly you can even cast it on to the shore and let it slide into the water. Any cruising bass has a chance to swallow it.

Give it a try – have some fun.