

GARY BROWN'S ESSENTIAL BAIT FISHING RIGS

TROLLING A GARFISH RIG

For a garfish to be trolled at a slow pace (about 2 to 4 knots) you will need to make sure that you break off the lower bib. This will stop the pressure from trying to open the mouth of the bait and then secondly you will need to break all the vertebrates in its back. This will make the whole body of the fish more flexible as shown in Figure 1.

In Figure 2 you will see that you need to tie your line onto the hook and then onto a swivel. Between the eye of the hook and the swivel you will need to have a running ball sinker. The hook is then passed through the underside of the body (below the eye) and then passed out through the bottom of the fish (about where the stomach is). A thin cable tie is then poked through the eye and around the shank of the hook and pulled tight.

Before you tie the other end of the leader or mainline you will need to thread on a pink plastic skirt. Once this has been put on you will then tie the line off to the swivel and slide the pink plastic skirt down over the head on the fish.

This rig can then be trolled slowly for kingfish, tailor, tuna, bonito and many other pelagic species. You could also cast and retrieve this rig from the boat or off the rocks.

