## SOFT PLASTICS 101

#### Chapter 8 - Storage Solutions



When it comes to storing your soft plastics and jigheads there's a stack of options available and also a few important things to remember.

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- Don't mix different soft plastics together. Different brands of soft plastics can react with each other, turning into one big messy blob, so it's important to keep different brands of soft plastics separate.
- Soft plastics can also react with different plastic containers, so they are best stored in their original packets, to keep them in optimum condition. Moncross have a selection of boxes that feature a ZMan OK sticker and these are suitable for storing loose ZMan plastics.
- Bleeding can also occur between different colours of soft plastics, so if storing them loose you may wish to consider the colours that you put together, or even better store them separately in their original packaging to avoid colours mixing.
- When storing soft plastics it is also important to avoid extreme heat as this can cause damage to the material. Avoid leaving soft plastics in direct sunlight in a vehicle or on your boat deck.

An excellent option for storing soft plastics in their original packets is the ZMan Bait BinderZ.



Bait BinderZ feature two corrosion resistant, nickel-plated rings that are spaced perfectly to fit the prepunched, reinforced holes found in the bottom of standard size ZMan packets, holding approximately 10-12 packets, depending on model.

This means no plastic sleeves taking up space, you can directly access each pack without having to open a separate plastic sleeve or remove the packet from the BinderZ and risk losing it and it means more time fishing and less time digging for the plastic you're after.

Constructed from quality 500 denier nylon, with a sturdy carry handle and zip. Remember to give your zip a spray or oil, especially if fishing in a saltwater environment.



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Another option for storing your soft plastics is the plastic containers that are readily available from supermarkets. These are an inexpensive option that's available in a myriad of sizes to suit different size packets, numbers of packets and even suitable to store soft plastics plus other items such as leader or scent.

These containers are often waterproof, can be stacked and are also fairly durable. An excellent option for those who have large numbers of packets that they need to store effectively.



MMC-176WBL

MMC-176WB

Moncross also have a range of trays available that are suitable for storing ZMan plastics loosely, without reacting and these feature a ZMan OK sticker on the tray. This selection of trays is also perfect for jighead storage, from smaller session boxes or application specific boxes, to larger trays suitable for storing larger and heavier offshore jigheads.

The range features models that have locked compartments, for example MMC-176WBL, with the 'L' meaning locked. While the versions with adjustable dividers have the 'L' removed, so for example the equivalent size would be the MMC-176WB and this would feature adjustable compartments and a diagram on the front giving a breakdown of these divider options. Most of these trays area available in both clear and smoke black.

The Moncross website has a breakdown of the available sizes along with information regarding the length of plastics that they suit and the applications in terms of jighead sizing also. Check out the following page for more info on one of the most popular Moncross ranges, the Walker boxes.

# http://tackletactics.com.au/Moncross

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#### MMC-176MW

The Walker box is available in two models, both of which are double sided. The 176MW and the 176MWE, with the 'E' standing for EVA, as it comes with the option of running the supplied EVA foam in one or both sides.

The standard MW features 15 adjustable compartments on one side, making it perfect for jigheads, while the other side features 5 larger compartments for jigheads, or soft plastics up to 3".

This popular option is ideal for carrying a stack of jigheads or jigheads and plastics for a session.

#### MMC-176MWE

The Walker MWE features the 5 larger compartments on one side, the same as the MW, with the other side featuring an EVA foam insert, that is pre-slotted for inserting jigheads, flies, hooks, etc. It also comes with a second sheet of EVA that can be inserted if the dividers are removed on the other side. Check out these shots from Tackle Tactics Pro Angler Felippe Gapski, of his jigheads all sorted and ready for tournament day. Fish on!



That's a quick wrap up of a few storage options for both plastics and jigheads. Remember not to mix your soft plastics with other brands or colours, select storage that will not react with the plastics and where possible store your soft plastics in their original packaging and out of extreme heat. By keeping your jigheads in order it also makes it easy to keep track of hook sizes and weights that you are running low on, while also making rigging quicker and simpler.

All the best with the fishing. Tackle Tactics