

CATCH BLACKFISH WITH THE MAGICTAIL TOG JIG

by Matt Sorrentino ([@swagmattic](#))

Whether you're new to the game or an old salty dog with decades of experience dropping rigs on wrecks, there's a lot to learn if you want to catch blackfish with jigs.

Do you attempt to catch blackfish with jigs? You should! At times they out fish rigs and produce really big catches. I must ask... How did anglers target summer flounder 10, 15, 20+ years ago? The majority now target them with jigs. The migration to the jig occurred in the sea bass and tuna game years ago and guess what... The tog game too!

Light tackle jigging for tautog is still a relatively new technique and the concept is simple. Lighter line, small reels and lighter rods all directly contrast conventional tog fishing wisdom. Lighter tackle allows the small jigs to get to the bottom faster, entice more bites and with its stealth approach gives the fish a sense of security so they take the bait. Unlike heavy blackfish rig fishing (typically use 6+ ounce bank sinker) the tog can pick up the smaller jigs and swim away without feeling the tug of the line and weight as they crunch and munch the bait. Light tackle jigging for tog allows anglers the most natural presentation of baits. This directly results in more bites and opportunities to catch. The obvious first step to catch blackfish with jigs is to pick out the jig.

HOW DO BLACKFISH FEED?

Tautog pick at their food. They're typically chewing on mussels, barnacles and other crustaceans clinging to rocks and structure. When feeding off the bottom they come at the bait from above and pluck at it. That is why you get those small taps when you first feel the fish. ***Setting the hook on a tog is a process that gets refined only with practice and experience.*** But as common sense would point out, if the fish's point of attack is from above the jig, you would ideally want the hook pointing in that direction. When you swing that hook is more likely to land and set in the fish mouth than with a side facing jig.

TOG JIG OPTIONS

In the past there were 3 basic types of Jigs used for Blackfishing.

- The Bean Jig – *The bean jig is a flat jig that lies with the hook on its side.*
- The Football Jig– *Resembles a football with the hook pointing upright.*
- The Banana Jig – *Similar to the football jig this jig is more slender and the hook point still faces upright.*

There are a variety of tog jig options on the market. With all of the brand names, at some point you'll ask, "**What type of Tog Jig should I use?**" Or "**What is the best Blackfish jig?**"

In my book, the answer is simple. It's in the name of the jig... The Magictail "Game Changer" Tog Jig is the best jig. Whether targeting blackfish from the boat on reefs and wrecks or land based fishing, Magictail Tog Jigs out produce.

SO WHAT SETS THE MAGICTAIL GAME CHANGER TOG JIG APART FROM THE BEAN, FOOTBALL AND THE BANANA JIG?

It's all in the intricate design which was advanced from the classic football and banana styles. The Magictail Tog Jigs take the concepts to the next level! The lead head shape ensures the jig always lays flat and doesn't roll. The long shank, super strong and super sharp Mustad Black Nickel hook has all of the right qualities; shank length to easily bait and accept large pieces of crab while offering the ultimate in strength and point sharpness. The upward facing hook sits with open space between the hook and the bottom structure. This allows the fish to swim in and take a clean swipe at the whole hook. It makes the elaborately timed hook set process a whole lot easier and increase your hookup percentage.

These are the Magictail Tog Jig secrets which set them apart from all the other jigs.



This photo shows the unique design of the Magictail Tog Jig.



December 6, 2018 with my limit+ of blackfish(tautog) caught using a 2oz MagicTail Tog Jig.

- What Jig for Blackfish video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDaWmMkwNZU>
- How to Bait Jig for Blackfish video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWFpkzavHDg>