

TERMINAL TACKLE 101 - SWIVELS

Swivels generally serve two functions. First, they help to reduce the chances of your line twisting. Once in the water baited rigs or lures will move and possibly twist around. Retrieving a twisted line onto your reel over a period of time can build up and impact poorly on your fishing in many ways. Swivels can help to reduce line twisting and tangling headaches. Second, a swivel achieves a means of linking two fishing lines. Swivels can be used to join a mainline to a heavier leader, especially when you don't trust your line-to-line knotting skills. The following is a description of various types of swivels.

BARREL SWIVELS



Barrel swivel have twisted wire eyes wrapped outside each barrel. Barrel swivels are a basic swivel that you can use to attach two fishing lines together. They are the most inexpensive type of swivel. Barrel swivels are somewhat limited when it comes to preventing line twists. Because of their design there is a lot of friction and they do not spin well under pressure. That's why they should be used when you want an economical swivel that attaches one line to another line while line twisting is not a critical concern. These swivels are often used in sinker making.

Purchasing Link:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/do-it-brass-barrel-swivels/>

3-WAY SWIVELS



It's a barrel swivel with an extra eye. Three-way swivels are great for setting up a number of different fishing rigs. One of the most popular is tying the main line to one eye, a leader with a rig or hook attached to the second eye and a leader of desired length to a sinker using the third eye. This set-up described used when drift fishing for Fluke aka Summer Flounder. Three-way swivels are economical and available in various sizes.

Purchasing Links:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/spro-3-way-swivel/>

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/sea-striker-3-way-swivel/>

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/rosco-brass-three-way-swivels/>

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CROSSLINE SWIVELS



It's a 3-Way Barrel swivel but with a perpendicular leg. Cross Line Swivel are great for many kinds of 90° dropper applications. These three-eyed versions of the barrel swivel are great for sinker drops, dropper lines or fishing dual lines like a teaser rig.

Purchasing Link:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/dolphin-crossline-90-swivel-color-black/>

BEAD CHAIN SWIVELS



Bead Chain swivels are like a chain of standard swivels. The more beads the more effectively the reduction of line twists. Anglers using spoons, especially the large bunker spoons, place these swivels ahead of lure in an effort to reduce line twist produced by the wobbling action and possible occasional spin of the spoon.

Purchasing Links:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/do-it-bead-chain-swivels/>

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/ball-chain-bead-chain-swivels/>

CRANE SWIVELS



Crane swivels are an improved version of the basic barrel swivel. The eyepiece ends inside the swivel not on the outside. This gives the swivel much better performance under heavy pressure and prevents line twists much better. Crane swivels have highly polished internals which reduces any friction and enhances its ability to turn. Because of these features however, crane swivels are more expensive than barrel swivels, but if you want to prevent line twisting it's a better choice over the barrel swivel. The crane swivel is the half way mark between a barrel and a ball bearing swivel in quality and cost. The "barrel" of a crane swivel is brass.

Purchasing Link:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/rosco-crane-swivel/>

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ROLLER SWIVELS



Roller premium swivels which are sometimes called “power swivels” are smooth turning swivels that come close to the performance of ball bearing swivels at a much lower price. Roller swivels are a good choice for spinner baits if ball bearing swivels are out of your budget. The Roller is a premium swivel made of high-grade stainless steel and usually has a gunmetal black finish. They offer super smooth rotation and unbelievable strength and durability. They are typically much stronger than standard barrel swivels and crane swivels despite their tiny appearance. With their reduced visibility, they offer very little water resistance in trolling and are superb for finesse type fishing where stealth is the key.

Purchasing Link:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/spro-power-swivel/>

SUPER SWIVELS



They may look like Crane swivels but in strength they are SUPER. These are 100% stainless steel construction, usually with a nickel black finish. These swivels provided super strong breaking strength in a compact size.

Purchasing Link:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/krok-sss-stainless-steel-super-swivel/>

HEAVY SWIVELS



It's the Ultra Heavy Swivel for the ultimate fish turning power! Heavy... Lets call them Heavy Duty. These have rating that start at 150-lbs and go almost to 2000-lbs its use is reserved for the real BIG FISH! A secure fighting chair will be needed if you want to attempt to judge the performance of the larger sizes.

Purchasing Link:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/spro-heavy-swivel/>

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BALL BEARING SWIVELS



These high-end swivels are designed to operate effectively even when under heavy loads. They are manufactured some stainless steel components and have internal ball bearings, enabling them to turn freely under all loads within their range. Their high quality engineering and materials makes them expensive, but they provide superior strength and performance.

The premium grade versions of ball bearing swivels have super-strong welded stainless steel rings instead of split rings. These premium grade ball bearing swivels are ideal for heavy-duty fishing in fresh or salt water. They provide the ideal no-twist protection for big game leader connections and downrigger trolling.

Purchasing Links:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/sampo-double-solid-ring-bb-swivel/>

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/spro-ball-bearing-swivel/>

LEAD SWIVELS



The most popular size Lead swivels used around here is the 75 gram which equals just over 2-5/8 ounces and has a rating of 1,500-lbs. Used as a combination weight and swivel at the head of a leader for a baited hook for catching shark or billfish. It fits perfectly in the palm of your hand, which eliminates having to take wraps of the leader.

CAUTION:

Leadering fish by hand can be dangerous. This practice should be reserved for anglers with proper knowledge, gear and experience.

Purchasing Link:

<https://fishermansheadquarters.com/lead-swivel/>

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SOME SWIVEL PARTICULARS

Style	Brand	Model	Size #	Rating (lbs)	
Barrel	Do-It	1913	7	50	
Barrel	Do-It	1921	3	65	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	12	15	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	10	30	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	7	75	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	5	90	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	3	100	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	1	150	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	2/0	225	
Crane	Rosco	R-BL	4/0	350	
Power	Spro	SPSB	8	50	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	6	80	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	4	130	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	2	230	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	1	330	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	1/0	370	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	2/0	550	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	3/0	790	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	4/0	940	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Power	Spro	SPSB	5/0	1180	Roller Swivel aka Power Swivel
Super	KROK	SSS	10	150	
Super	KROK	SSS	7	180	
Super	KROK	SSS	5	220	
Super	KROK	SSS	3	310	
Super	KROK	SSS	1	500	
Super	KROK	SSS	1/0	600	
Heavy	Spro	SHSB	03	150	
Heavy	Spro	SHSB	04	240	
Heavy	Spro	SHSB	05	380	
Heavy	Spro	SHSB	06	560	
Heavy	Spro	SHSB	07	860	
Heavy	Spro	SHSB	08	1030	
Ball Bearing	Sampo	BX-RB	1	30	
Ball Bearing	Sampo	BX-RB	2	45	
Ball Bearing	Sampo	BX-RB	3	60	
Ball Bearing	Sampo	BX-RB	4	150	
Ball Bearing	Sampo	BX-RB	5	200	
Ball Bearing	Sampo	BX-RB	6	300	
Ball Bearing	Sampo	BX-RB	8	500	