



Explore · Fish · Dive The Great Barrier Reef

Suggested fishing tackle

- Hooks:** 5/0's to 9/0's
- Mackerel rigs:** 8/0-9/0's thick gauge with big trebles as stingers plus Single strand wire around 124lb – as stingers
- Sinkers:** pea for the shallows
To ½ lb (sizes 4-12)
½ to 1lb for deep water – snapper
 - Ball sinkers can have great success under 60 metres
 - Rigs vary from running sinkers in tenders to snapper rigs drift fishing from mother ship
- Swivels:** 80-100 lb - brands: shogun, w 180 lb plus for wire trace & lures
- Lures:** bibbles for mother ship - bibb minnow for the tenders
 - Gt's pencil poppers – cotton cordell blue & silver
 - Rapala, halco in different colours (*silver/blue, gold/yellow & red /white are popular*) and many more colours to choose from
 - Metal slices, slugs 45-65 gm for tuna etc, 65-85 gm for mackerel, wahoo
- Jigs:** live bait & jig heads, squid (variety of weights for different depths)
- Plastics:** berkley gulps, snap backs; colours - nucleur chicken, pearl
- Lines:** 30-50 lb at least (a must for deep water) and suggest nothing less than 30 lb as this can lead to losing too many fish
 - **Mono** – shallow water again 30-50 lb
 - **Leader** – 30-80 lb – especially when using braid

Must have kit if you can:

- Hook removers / lip grippers**
- Knives / pliers / side cutters / balloons – mackerel fishing with live bait hat / sunscreen / glasses / long sleeve shirt**
 - Depending on weather and area of fishing you can lose a fair bit of tackle, suggest extra hooks and sinkers (*100 hooks & sinkers of different sizes should be ok*)
 - Your style of fishing will change a lot from the mother ship to the tenders.
Tenders: The lighter the better for the tenders and depth.
You can fish as light as possible from the tenders with no sinker and 2 or 3 x 6/0's ganged.
Mother Ship: Drift and weather conditions dictate sinker sizes on the mother ship, usually ¼ to ½ pound snapper leads.
Ganged 6/0's usually preferred in the tenders, pater nosta rigs for the mother ship.
Cut bait usually has the most success from mother ship and pilchards from dories.
 - It's always a good idea to take a spinning rod for feeding surface fish.
- Rods / reels:** a heavy spinning / casting reel, rod and handline, and a good quality overhead are a must for these types of trips.
 - Rods and reels are a personal choice as we all fish differently.
Penn, Shimano, Ugly Stick, Diawa are just a few to mention

