

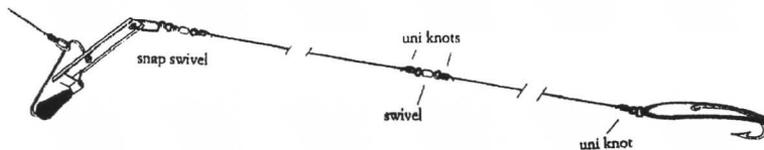
## TROLLING WITH PLANERS

L.B. Huntington Company has been producing fishing lures and equipment for over 75 years and during this time their spoons and planers have helped anglers in both fresh and saltwater catch a remarkable number of gamefish. As with any piece of fishing equipment those who know how to use it properly will have consistent success and the following explanation should make an expert out of a novice in a very short time.

With the exception of the Double Drone all Huntington spoons perform better when connected to a trolling sinker or planer. Even a 10 or 12 ounce sinker will carry the spoon a few feet below the surface at trolling speed while a planer will take the lure much deeper.

Select the size of your planer to match your tackle and the species of fish you would like to catch. A #1 or #2 planer will work well in most fishing situations but those who target big tuna on the offshore grounds will need the extra diving power of a #3.

When selecting a leader use as light a line as practical. The lighter the leader the better the spoon will work and the less chance of spooking a shy fish. In most cases a 30 foot leader will do the job but on occasion you may need up to 100 feet of leader between the planer and spoon. This long leader is normally employed on bluefin tuna and king mackerel who can be very selective. A swivel should be used to attach the leader to the planer with another swivel set halfway down the leader to minimize line twist. The spoon is always tied directly to the leader.



It is easy to set a planer. Simply let out the desired amount of line, engage the reel and the planer should set. If not, drop back with your rod tip to put a bit of slack in the line and this should set the planer. If the planer will not set bring the entire rig back to the boat to check for fouled lines or trash on the lure. Also, if there is too much drag created by the lure-leader combination the planer will not dive.

A planer that consistently trips itself may require some adjustment to keep the wire and blade symmetrical. Points "a", "b", and "c" of fig. 1 should be in line. If the planer tracks right of center, bend the wire in direction "A" as shown in fig. 2. If it tracks left adjust it by bending the wire in direction "B".

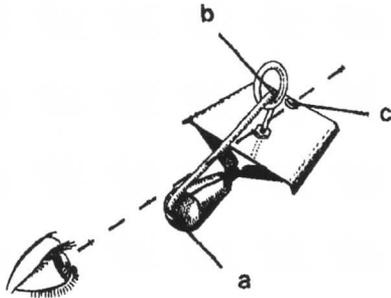


fig. 1

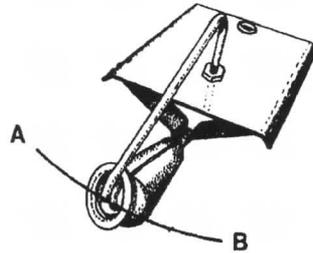


fig. 2

When a fish hits the lure the planer will trip and come to the surface. At this point the angler will crank in the line until the planer is close to the rod tip. Taking care to keep away from the planer the mate will bring in the leader and land the fish. Big fish require an experienced mate and gloves should be worn by anyone handling the line even on small fish.

Bringing in a planer that has not tripped can be quite a chore. Slow the boat and pump the line in as if you had a big fish. Be careful when the planer is close to the surface as it can pop out under pressure and strike the boat or someone on board.

Planers will work with all types of lures and baits and the #4 and #5 are frequently used on wire cable to make a very effective downrigger. The #4 Hi-Speed planer is designed so it can be trolled at up to about 20 knots. This fishing tool is an inexpensive way to get your spoon or other lure down to the strike zone and put more fish on the end of your line.