

## Homemade Hook Baits & Suitable Presentations (Part 3) – by Ollie Pearce

Having identified the rigs that I often use in my own angling, I am now going to show you how I go about tying up these rigs with several step-by-step guides.



### Combi Rig

#### Step 1:

These are the components you will need to make a Snowman Combi Rig – a bottom bait, a pop up, a boilie stop, a small rig ring, a hook, a short section of shrink tubing, Korda Supernatural braid (18lb), ESP Soft Ghost Fluoro (15lb), some rig putty, scissors and a couple of knot tightening tools.

**Step 2:** Make a suitable sized hair loop for the two baits being used in a length of the braid while it's still attached to the spool. Thread on the baits with a baiting needle and secure in place with a boilie stop.



#### Step 3:

Snip off around 8 inches of braid, tie on a rig ring using two granny knots and then knotless knot your hook of choice in the braid, leaving a suitable hair length of approx 1.5-2cm between the ring and the bottom bait.

**Step 4:** Now get the fluorocarbon and fold it back on itself, thus making a point in the material. Thread the braid up through the loop in the fluoro, trap it in place with your thumb and forefinger just above the hook eye and then make five turns up the fluoro over both the tag end and main part of the fluoro.





**Step 5:** Now make five turns back down, over the top of the previous five. Try to keep the coils as tight as possible. Thread the braid back through the small loop of fluoro the **same** way as the braided hinge. Moisten with saliva and slowly tease the knot down.

**Step 6:** The end product should be a compact and neat, barrel shaped knot. Trim the tag ends.



**Step 7:** Cut a short section of shrink tubing at an angle and slide it on over the eye of the hook. The angle at which it is cut helps to create an effect similar to that of a line aligner but is far less time consuming.

**Step 8:** Tie a figure of eight loop knot in the end of the fluoro. Here I am using a boom of around 6 inches which will be used over a relatively firm lakebed with a spread of free offerings. Immerse the shrink tubing in boiling water for a couple of seconds, remove it and then manipulate a gentle curve in it with your fingers.



**Step 9:** Finally, cover the barrel shaped knot with a small amount of putty and add another small blob half way along the fluoro. Test the rig in the margins or a bucket to ensure it is finely balanced and you're ready to go!



## Solid Bag Rig



### Step 1:

These are the components you will need to make a shot-on-the-hair, Solid Bag Rig – a pop up, a boilie stop, a small rig ring, a split shot, a hook, a short section of shrink tubing, Korda Supernatural braid (18lb), some rig putty, lead wire, a ring swivel, scissors and a couple of knot tightening tools.

### Step 2:

Make a suitable sized hair loop for the pop up being used in a length of the braid while it's still attached to the spool. Thread on the bait with a baiting needle and secure in place with a boilie stop. Add a small split shot directly underneath the bait.



### Step 3:

Snip off around 8 inches of braid, tie on a rig ring using two granny knots and then knotless knot your hook of choice in the braid, leaving a suitable hair length of approx 1.5cm between the ring and the balanced pop up hook bait.



**Step 4:**

Cut a short section of shrink tubing at an angle and slide it on over the eye of the hook. The angle at which it is cut helps to create an effect similar to that of a line aligner but is far less time consuming. Now tie a Grinner Knot to the ring of a size 8 ring swivel ensuring that the length of hook link does not exceed 3 inches.

**Step 5:**

Immerse the shrink tubing in boiling water for a couple of seconds, remove it and then manipulate a gentle curve in it with your fingers.



**Step 6:**

Finally, get a small amount of lead wire, coil it tightly around the middle of the hook link and then cover it in putty. This prevents the putty from slipping on the braid. Test the rig in the margins or a bucket to ensure it is finely balanced and you're ready to go!

## Chod Rig



### Step 1:

These are the components you will need to make a Chod Rig – a pop up, bait floss, a small rig ring, a hook with an out-turned eye, ESP Bristle Filament, a lighter, some rig putty, a ring swivel, scissors and a couple of knot tightening tools.

### Step 2:

Pull off 8 or so inches of Bristle Filament and tie a knotless knot in it using the natural curve of the material to your advantage. Leave a couple of inches in the material that would normally be the hair.



### Step3:

Now tie a 3 turn Blood Knot to connect the stiff material and the swivel. I usually aim for the length of the finished rig to be around 2-2.5 inches although may lengthen it slightly if fishing in dense weed. Moisten the knot with saliva and tease it down slowly to prevent any kinks. Trim the tag end and blob it with a lighter for added security.





#### **Step 4:**

Next, get a small rig ring and slide it over the hair section. Push the hair through the back of the eye, towards the point so that the ring is “sandwiched” and you create a “D”. Trim the hair and blob with a lighter until the “D” is the correct size and shape. It is vital that you cover the hook link material with your thumb and forefinger so that it cannot become damaged. Carefully apply a gentle curve in the material using your thumb and forefinger.

#### **Step 5:**

Get some bait floss and thread it through the rig ring. Now, to secure the pop up in place, make two small loops followed by 3 turns in the floss (a bit like a Grinner Knot). This is basically a Slip Knot once tightened. Get your chosen bait and place it in the middle of the loop you have created. This can be fiddly without practise but is made easier by placing the bait on the central, circular part of the spool of Bristle Filament. Once the knot has been tightened down, follow it with a couple of overhand knots and then blob the tag ends.



#### **Step 6:**

Depending on the buoyancy of your pop up, you may need to add a small amount of putty over the Blood Knot to the swivel to ensure it sinks correctly. Test the rig in the margins or a bucket to ensure it is finely balanced and you’re ready to go!

## Multi Rig



### Step 1:

These are the components you will need to make the Multi Rig – a pop up, bait floss, a small rig ring, a hook, silicon tubing, a coated braid, a split shot, some rig putty, a small bead, scissors and a couple of knot tightening tools.

### Step 2:

Tie a figure of eight loop in the coated braid while it is still attached to the spool. The size of loop you make dictates the height at which the pop up will sit off the bottom. I tend to make my loops approx 1.5-2 inches.



### Step 3:

Cut two lengths of silicon (4mm each) and slide them over the hook point and up to the eye. Push the loop through the eye of the hook, away from the hook point. Now slide on the rig ring and then pull the loop down and over the hook point. Ensure the loop is up against the silicon.



**Step 4:**

Remove a small amount (approx 1cm) of the braid's coating and attach a split shot. This creates a hinge/pivot point and anchors the pop up in place. If needed, cover the shot in putty for additional weight if your bait is very buoyant and not sinking.

**Step 5:**

Tie the length of the rig to suit the terrain you intend to fish over and the baiting strategy you are planning to use. I use a figure of eight loop attached to a quick link and tend to opt for a final length of around 6-8 inches over a relatively firm lakebed with a spread of free offerings. Add a small blob of putty to the middle of the rig. However, if I was fishing in light silkweed, I would choose to lengthen the rig so that it is longer than the silkweed which means a slow sinking bait can settle perfectly, leaving confidence high in anticipation for a bite.

**Step 6:** Finally, get some bait floss and thread it through the rig ring. Now, to secure the pop up in place, make two small loops followed by 3 turns in the floss (a bit like a Grinner Knot). This is basically a Slip Knot once tightened. Get your chosen bait and place it in the middle of the loop you have created.



This can be fiddly without practise but is made easier by placing the bait on the central, circular part of the spool of Bristle Filament. Once the knot has been tightened down, follow it with a couple of overhand knots and then blob the tag ends. To complete the rig, now add a Thinking Anglers hook bead to the hook by sliding it over the point. When up against the silicon, this will help to keep the "D" in place. Test the rig in the margins or a bucket to ensure it is finely balanced and you're ready to go!

***Be lucky.  
Ollie Pearce***