



THE BLOW BACK RIG

By Lee Pollard

I have fished with blow back rigs for many years and have taken a number of big fish from various types of waters. These include low stock waters as well as highly pressured, commercial lakes. Due to the mechanics of the rig, I think its set up makes it a lot harder for carp to deal with when compared to the conventional hair rig and feel it has definitely banked a bonus fish or two for me.

The mechanism of the rig works differently to a normal rig in that when the fish tries to eject the hook, the hook will be blown out of the mouth in a straight line with the bait following it as the small rig ring attached will simply run up the shank of the hook. This takes the 'sting' out of the blow, and as the baited ring slides up the shank tilts the balance of the hook making it travel out with the point angling downwards. When the ring reaches the eye it will become even heavier and the hook will drop down into the bottom of the fish's mouth. A long shank hook works best as the ring has more distance to travel and hence more leverage when tilting (angling downwards), slowing the bait down more on ejection which should leave the hook in the mouth for that vital split second or longer. Rig rings work well with pop-ups and give a very good presentation, but can also be used on bottom bait rig too.

End tackle you will need to tie the rig:

- Long shank hooks (Size 8)
- Small rig ring
- Coated braid
- Shrink tubing
- Swivel



Step by step guide

Step 1

Take a length of coated braid of your choice to suit your own angling, strip off 3 inches of coating and tie the loop for your hair.



Step 2

Thread on the ring, then tie one over hand knot to secure the ring about 1 inch up from the bottom of your hair.



Step 3

Now thread the hook through the ring - point first, positioning the ring level with the point. You can now pass the braid through the eye of the hook towards the point and tying it off with a knotless knot, going round the shank 6-7 times and back through the eye towards the point of the hook.





Step 4

Slide down a piece of shrink tubing roughly $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch long until it is just covering the eye of the hook. When in place, steam the tubing with a slight kink in it just to help the hook turn even more when in the fish's mouth.



Step 5

Finally take a swivel and tie on using a figure of eight loop knot.



Finished!

The rig is finished and is ready to go, very simple to tie but very effective.

Even when the cold snaps in winter have started to set in, it's well worth a go; as I was, you may well be pleasantly surprised by your results.



I hope this has helped you to understand the benefits and ideas behind the blow back rig, and that it helps you catch a whacker!

All the best and be lucky
Lee Pollard