



*Toothy Terror!*

# SWIMBAITS FOR PIKE.

By  
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Better watch out for your livelihood, *Esox Lucius*. Whether dwelling in the weeds or suspended in open water, swimbaits are becoming the most widely used, and productive baits to catch monster fish.

**H**AVE YOU HEARD OF SWIMBAITS? MOST ANGLERS STILL ARE UNAWARE OF THESE SIMPLE TO USE LURES..

JUST FIVE YEARS AGO, I NEVER KNEW WHAT THIS CONCEPT WAS EITHER.

< 45 inch Northern Pike caught on swimbait.  
Photo by Andrew Ragas.

I am not sure how this is possible, but some anglers have not used these simple to use fishing lures yet.

Thousands of fishermen are going to catch very big fish this year on swimbaits if they apply them into their arsenals. If you don't know about swimbaits, you are missing out on some of the biggest fish that you will ever catch.

Swimbaits resemble a bait fish with a side to side wobbling action which is imparted from their tail segments. They are made of soft plastics, molded or not, and are simple to use.

Haven't your heard of the saying "big baits catch big fish." With simbait fishing, this concept is true. Big bass, walleye, northern pike and muskie would rather eat one big meal over many smaller meals.

Big fish are much smarter than smaller fish. A big fish will conserve its energy and when it decides to eat, it is going to make sure that it doesn't use more energy to chase a meal that will not give it as much energy in return.

Big fish want to eat one big meal and then they want to relax. Throw a big swimbait in front of an active bass, walleye, pike or muskie and hold on.

There are all types of different swimbaits that resemble different types of fish. To have more success with swimbaits, try to match the hatch.

If you are fishing in the north-country for Northern Pike, the subject of this article, there is a good chance that these Pike will be feeding on Yellow Perch and various Sucker species. Use a swimbait that has the same profile as either forage species and you will match the hatch!

So, how do you fish a swimbait? It's fairly simple. Cast them out as far as you can and retrieve them in any speed you wish until you find a reaction from the fish. Personally, a slow, steady retrieve will catch most of my fish because the lure's tail segment provides all of the action.

You can speed them up, jerk them, pause them and basically do anything that may cause your lure to look like a wounded bait fish.



Shack Attack Suzy Sucker



Storm Swim Shad