

Common mistakes while fishing for Crappie:

Mistake #1: Patience Doesn't Pay

We have all heard people say that patience pays when fishing. Unfortunately, that is not correct when fishing for crappie. Crappie are a schooling fish and it is important to find these schools. So when you're fishing for crappie, it is very important to be on the move constantly.

Mistake #2: Casting Un-sharpened Hooks

Have you ever set the hook and thought you had your crappie on for sure? The problem isn't your fishing technique, it probably is your hooks. It is important to replace your hooks about every 4th bite, or spend a few moments to sharpen your hook. You would be shocked to find out how much difference a sharpened hook makes.

Mistake #3: Not Using a Lake Map

If you have a map of the water you are going to fish, you can identify channels, brush piles and other areas you are going to fish. You can also mark the map for future reference as to where you might have caught some crappie.

Mistake #4: Stopping the boat when trolling

It is best to have 2 people along when trolling for crappie. If you have multiple poles in the water when you get a fish on, you will want to keep as many poles trolling as you can. If you stop the boat, you lose the correct depth where the fish are and will have to go through the setup all over again. With a second person, one person can keep steering the boat while the other person re-baits the poles.

Mistake #5: Getting too close to the fish

The first instinct is to get as close to the crappie as you can. But that is a big mistake. What happens is your boat makes a wake and can spook the fish if you get too close. The best thing to do is get a long cane pole or telescoping rod so you can reach out about 10 or 15 feet into the brush area you want to fish.

Mistake #6: Not knowing how to use your electronics

One mistake anglers make in using the fish finders is looking for large numbers of fish. Sometimes the unit will display that information, especially around the brush piles. Also, anglers overlook certain structures because the unit displayed no fish or may only see one or two, even though dozens are holding in and/or below the structures.