

KEEP RUNNING

Jon 'Shoes' Jones reveals how running leads could up your catch rate on pressured venues.

Anybody who has ever fished with me will know I'm constantly tweaking my rigs, bait and anything else that will give me an advantage over other anglers around me. When I look back over the last twenty years it really surprises me how things have gone full circle. There are tactics, rigs and approaches that I was using over a decade ago that are suddenly dominating our sport. This doesn't surprise me really and, to be fair, it's like anything in life. You've only got to look at clothing and fashion. It still makes me smile when you see young, trendy people wearing clothing that I was wearing when I was a teenager. So, where am I going with this? Well, basically, I'm saying that, in a bid to get the ultimate edge, I don't think you have to be thinking about weird and wacky approaches. You just need to look at the tactics that were getting used to great success many moons ago. Although the sport may have changed and grown a lot, we're still fishing for the same species of fish and still targeting similar venues. So, recently, I've been trying some of the tactics I used many moons ago with great success and, low and behold, the results have been astounding.

Now many moons ago, if you walked around a carp fishing lake, I'd say that nearly everybody on

**HOW TO...
CREATE A RUNNING RIG ARRANGEMENT**



01

Start by sliding a Korum Running Clip onto your line.



02

Now slide the angled buffer bead onto your main line.



03

Tie a swivel onto the end of your line like this.



04

Carefully pull the swivel into the buffer bead.



05

Using some pliers, remove the swivel from a Distance Swivel Lead.



06

Here's the finished lead arrangement. It's that simple!



The lead will always fall away from the carp when it picks up your hookbait.

the venue would be using running rigs. The lead arrangement was absolutely devastating and I caught hundreds of carp using it. Apart from general coarse or specimen anglers, I rarely see anybody using a running rig setup these days.

With most carp anglers these days opting for lead-clip arrangements and helicopter presentations, I genuinely believe that running rigs could give you the ultimate edge on pressured venues. Semi-fixed lead arrangements like lead clips use the resistance of the lead to drive the hook into the carp's mouth. Although these presentations are

undoubtedly effective, they can sometimes work against you. You see, when a carp is hooked there's a good chance it will shake its head and it's possible it could bounce the hook out in the process. Now I know this may seem a little bit extreme to some but I'm certain it happens time and time again, especially on venues that have a barbless hook only rule. I think in some cases the carp can move, shake their head and eject the rig without you even getting a registration on the indicator.

So how can running rigs help? Well, a running rig acts totally different to a semi-fixed set-up.

When a fish picks up the hookbait and bolts, the lead will always run away from the fish, making it virtually impossible for it to use the weight of the lead to its advantage. Regardless of how much the carp shakes its head, it will find it virtually impossible to shed the hook.

Another great reason to use running rigs is because bite indication is absolutely brilliant. Due to the fact that the lead acts like an anchor point, you will get indication as soon as a carp picks up your hookbait. Although I'm not a massive fan of fishing with super-slack lines, if I was going to use them, I would certainly do so with a running rig. Regardless

of which way the carp moves after it picks up your hookbait, you'll always get a positive indication on your alarm.

It couldn't be simple to set-up a running rig arrangement. As a rule, I general use one of the Running Rig Kits from Korum. Alternatively, I simply slide a lead onto my main line, push on two Rubber Beads and tie on a swivel. It's that simple!

AVID TIP

Regardless of what lead arrangement and rig Jon is using, he uses this PVA bag/stringer combination.



Jon caught this stunning 20lb-plus mirror using the tactics outlined in this feature.



ANGLER PROFILE

NAME: Jon Jones
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