

SOFT PLASTICS 101

CHAPTER 7

RIGGING WEEDLESS JIGHEADS

In this chapter we look at weedless rigging, plus how and why you might opt to rig your soft plastic weedless.

Weedless (also referred to as snagless) rigging minimises the chance of your soft plastic fouling or snagging, allowing you to more effectively target fish in and around structure, including weed beds, mangroves, fallen timber, lily pads, reef and so forth.

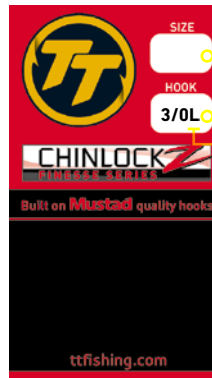
Being 10X Tough and super-soft and flexible makes ZMan soft plastics the perfect plastic for weedless rigging. The material allows you to pin small amounts of plastic into the keepers and hook, with less chance of the plastic tearing when rigging and also when the fish strikes. They can also be rigged over and over again with minimal damage to the material.

Being super-soft and flexible means it is also much easier for a fish to clear the hook when it strikes a ZMan ElaZtech plastic, when compared to traditional, stiffer soft plastic materials, and this in turn has seen a growth in the popularity of weedless rigging.

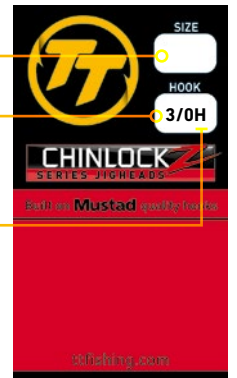
In our previous chapter we looked at standard jigheads and the fact that there are fine / light ('L') wire hooks designed primarily for penetration and then heavy wire hooks ('H' / 'XH') designed for strength. This is the same for weedless jigheads, with the TT Lures ChinlockZ and SnakelockZ available in both a heavy wire and also a Finesse version, built on a light wire hook.



CHINLOCKZ FINESSE SERIES PACK - RED TOP & BLACK BOTTOM



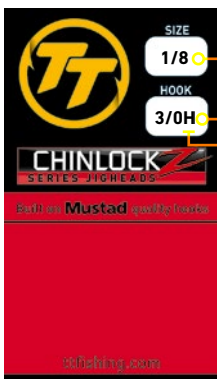
CHINLOCKZ SERIES PACK - BLACK TOP & RED BOTTOM



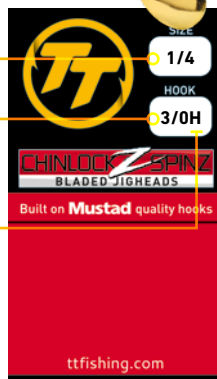
NO JIGHEAD WEIGHT

HOOK SIZE: 3/0
'L' - HEAVY WIRE
'H' - LIGHT WIRE

CHINLOCKZ SWS SERIES PACK - BLACK TOP & RED BOTTOM



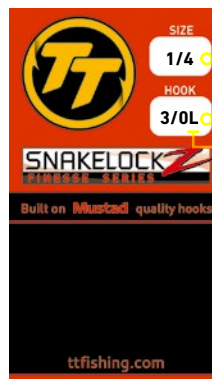
CHINLOCKZ SPINZ SERIES PACK - BLACK TOP & RED BOTTOM



JIGHEAD WEIGHT

HOOK SIZE: 3/0
'H' - HEAVY WIRE
'H' - HEAVY WIRE

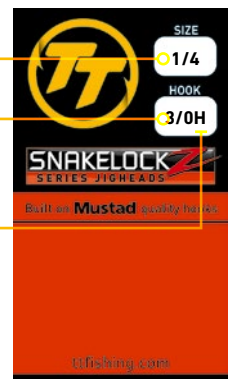
SNAKELOCKZ FINESSE SERIES PACK - ORANGE TOP & BLACK BOTTOM



JIGHEAD WEIGHT

HOOK SIZE: 3/0
'L' - LIGHT WIRE
'H' - HEAVY WIRE

SNAKELOCKZ SERIES PACK - BLACK TOP & ORANGE BOTTOM



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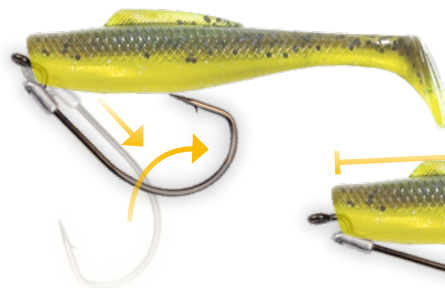
RIGGING WEEDLESS JIGHEADS

HOW TO FIT A WEEDLESS JIGHEAD

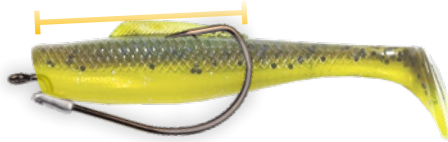


Step 1 – Push the hook point into the centre of the nose of the plastic and at a 45 degree angle push it through and out of the underside of the plastic. You effectively want to capture a few millimetres of plastic that will be locked into the chin lock when rigging is complete.

Step 2 – The hook will slide easily through the plastic until you reach the chin lock and then it will take a little effort to slide the plastic over the chin lock. Holding the bend of the hook between your thumb and pointer finger (hook point down) and pulling the plastic over the chin lock slowly is effective and avoids the pointy end of the hook.



Step 3 – As the chin lock exits the plastic you will feel it pop out and the hook will want to turn over to face point up as the chin of the plastic positions itself neatly in the chin lock.



Step 4 – Measure where the hook needs to sit in the plastic. Bend the plastic a little so that you can pass the hook point directly from the centre of the underside of the plastic out through the topside of the plastic.



Step 5 – Pull the barb and hook point down against the top of the plastic and you're ready to fish some heavy cover. Get that plastic in their and hang on!

HOOK SIZES FOR CHINLOCKZ OR SNAKELockZ WEEDLESS JIGHEADS

ZMAN SOFT PLASTIC	WEEDLESS HOOK SIZE
2" GrubZ	4
2.5" GrubZ	4
2.5" ST GrubZ	4, 2
2.5" Slim SwimZ	4, 2
2.5" PrawnZ	2, 1
2.5" TRD CrawZ	2, 1
2.75" DropKickerZ	2, 1
2.75" FinesseFrogZ	2/0
2.75" TRD BugZ	2
3" Slim SwimZ	1, 1/0, 2/0
3" MinnowZ	2/0, 3/0
3" Scented ShrimpZ	2/0, 3/0
3" Baby GOAT	1, 1/0, 2/0
3" TRD HogZ	1, 1/0, 2/0
3.3" Mulletron	3/0, 4/0
3.5" Drop KickerZ	1/0, 2/0, 3/0
3.5" GrubZ	2, 1
3.5" Trick SwimZ	2/0, 3/0, 4/0
3.5" Trick ShotZ	2/0, 3/0, 4/0
3.5" EZ ShrimpZ	2/0, 3/0
3.5" Pro CrawZ	4/0 – 6/0
3.75" StreakZ	1, 1/0, 2/0
3.75" GOAT	3/0 – 6/0

ZMAN SOFT PLASTIC	WEEDLESS HOOK SIZE
4" Mulletron	4/0, 5/0, 6/0
4" Finesse ShadZ	1/0, 2/0
4" Scented Jerk ShadZ	2/0 – 4/0
4" StreakZ Curly TailZ	1/0 – 4/0
4" DieZel MinnowZ	4/0 – 6/0
4" SwimmerZ	4/0 – 6/0
4" Turbo CrawZ	2/0 – 4/0
4" Hard Leg FrogZ	5/0, 6/0
4" Pop FrogZ	4/0 – 6/0
4" GOAT ToadZ	5/0, 6/0
4.2" Trick ShotZ	1/0, 2/0, 3/0
4.25" Billy GOAT	4/0 – 8/0
5" DieZel MinnowZ	6/0, 8/0
5" StreakZ Curly TailZ	5/0, 6/0
5" Scented PaddlerZ	5/0, 6/0
5" StreakZ	4/0, 6/0
5" Scented Jerk ShadZ	5/0, 6/0
6" DarterZ	4/0 – 6/0
6" SwimmerZ	6/0 – 8/0
7" DieZel MinnowZ	10/0, 12/0
7" Scented Jerk ShadZ	6/0, 8/0
8" StreakZ XL	10/0, 12/0
9" GrubZ	6/0 – 8/0

