

# A GUIDE TO... CARING FOR YOUR CATCH

## Getting organised



**Getting organised**  
 1 The hard part is done and the fish is safely in the net  
 2 Secure net with a bankstick to let the carp recover  
 3 Prepare unhooking, weighing and camera equipment  
 4 Position unhooking mat/cradle and wet with lake water  
 5 Wet sling to protect carp's protective layer of mucus

## Lifting out the carp

1 Remove rig from fish's mouth or open bail arm on reel  
 2 Breaking down the net makes lifting out the fish easier  
 3 Ensure rig isn't caught in net, check for obstructions  
 4 Check fins are flat, roll down net and slide into sling  
 5 Carefully lift out of the water and carry to the wet mat

## Unhooking

1 Remove hook using forceps if required  
 2 If the fish starts to flap, cover its eyes until it relaxes  
 3 Apply antiseptic product to the hookhold

## Weighing

1 Lift the carp's head and gently slide out of the net  
 2 Position fish in centre of sling and check fins are flat  
 3 Fasten the zips to prevent the carp sliding from the sling  
 4 Hook scales through handles. Hold scales using top loop

## Lifting & holding

1 Douse carp with lake water  
 2 Carp are cold blooded so cool your hands in water  
 3 Roll up sleeves and hold around pectoral and anal fins  
 4 If the fish starts to flap roll back on to your forearms  
 5 Keep carp as low as possible over mat during photos  
 6 Return fish in sling, supporting it until it swims off

## Lifting the carp out



## Unhooking



## Weighing



## Lifting & holding

