

Real Pro's Tip Sheet

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Making Lexan Diving Lips

We strongly recommend that you make all of your diving lips out of Lexan poly-carbonate (one of the strongest plastics) and *not* plexiglass. Use 1/16" lexan for small lips, 1/8" for the mid sizes and 3/16" for the largest lips. Making your clear diving lips out of Lexan is rather easy using a few basic tools.

Lexan is available from many hardware stores. It may be special order in your area. If it is, be patient and wait for the Lexan to arrive, do not let the sale person talk you into buying plexiglass. Plexiglass will often shatter in cold water as your body baits bounce off rocky bottoms.

Trace a template of the lip style you want to use, put the template on the Lexan sheet and trace it out on the masking that was applied to the lexan sheet at the factory. Now, Lexan you must cut with a fine toothed saw, like a metal hack saw, coping saw, scroll saw, or the cut off wheels with a Dremel tool. Remember, always wear safety glasses when cutting or sanding lexan.

Remove the masking immediately after cutting the lip. Now deburr the lip using fine sandpaper or an electric sanding drum. Now your ready to install the lip.

Now that you have your lip ready, you must determine where to place the line tie. The closer to the body, the tighter the wobble and deeper the dive. The farther away from the body, the shallower the dive and wider the wobble. Using sharp drill bits you can now drill any desired holes for the line ties.

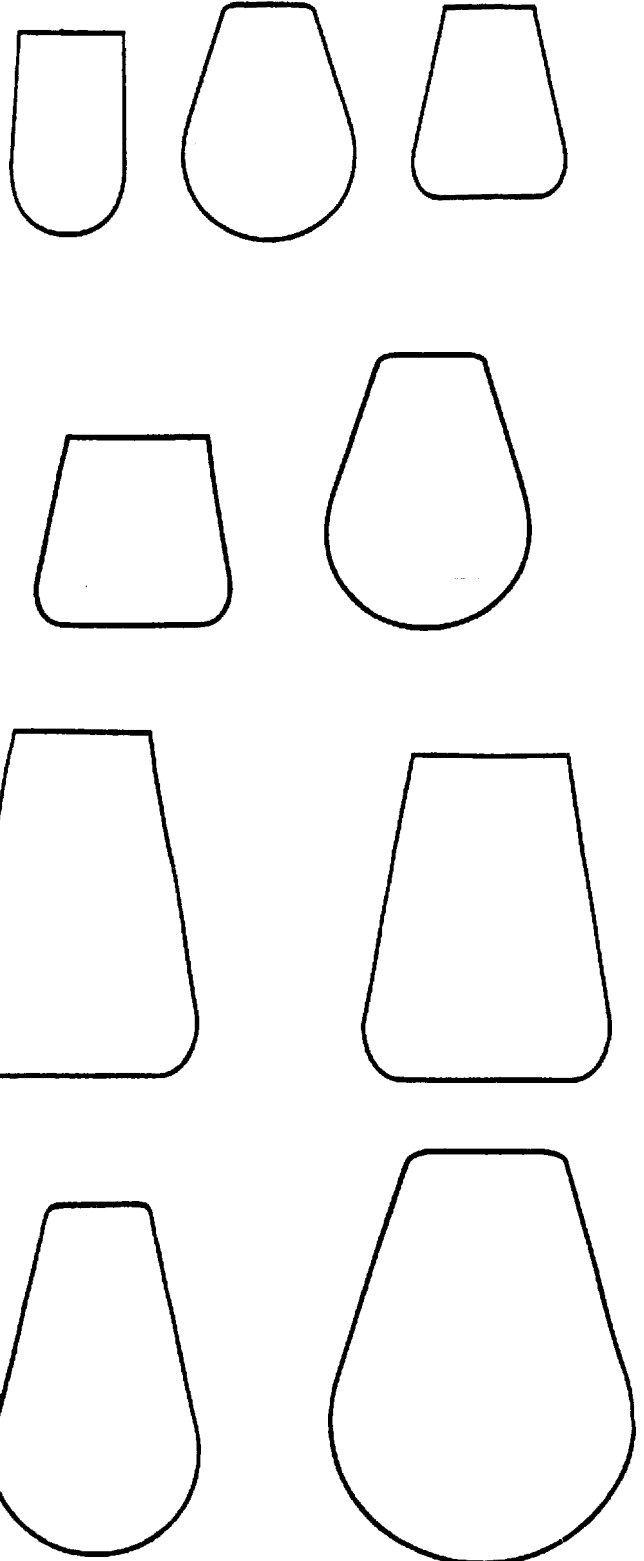
Installing the Lip

Cut a groove into the bait so the lip can slide into the bait without much pressure. Glue into position. On larger baits use the screw holes you drilled previously to attach hold the lips in place.

Effects of Lip Angle and Shape

To make your lures run shallow and to maximize the wobble install the lips at a large angle to the plane of the lure. To make your baits really dive, install lips almost parallel to the plane of the bait.

Square lips will always dive deeper than round lips. Round lips will increase the wobble the bait has as it travels through the water.



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