

# Casting Corks

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If you are reading this article you may have already read a few other discussions on this website about a basic component of tackle boxes -- bobbers. You can call them floats, corks, or poppers, but they are all meant to do the same thing -- position the bait where you want it to go and to let you know if a fish tried to eat your bait.

## How Casting Bobbers Work

The most important thing a fishing bobber can do is float. They float on the surface and are even used bottom fishing to hold baits about the sinker near the bottom. But they do other things too. They light up, for example; a favorite among catfish fisherfolk. They pop – a major attractor to fish listening for injured baitfish.

With rare exception (small round bobbers like you use when fishing with a cane pole), almost any bobber adds another major advantage to using them besides the things on that list though. They add weight and that weight adds casting distance. Some of them are specifically designed to add casting distance. They are called casting bobbers.



[This casting bobber offers a rattler inside: they are almost like popping corks in their ability to attract with sound. They also add distance to your cast with their weight.](#)

## Casting with Bobbers

Bobbers make it easier to cast. The ones we define specifically as 'casting bobbers' are any bullet-shaped floating device that keeps the bait where we want it to be seen or smelled. To that extent, the only difference between a popping-cork bobber and a casting float is that the casting floats are pointy on both ends.

We question whether the two bullet-ends make a non-popper (yeah, we made that term up) harder to cast. The weighted popping corks seem to cast as far as we need them. But some people feel that distance casting helps them, and it is true that if you cannot get close enough to reach the fish then you need to throw far. Fishing for open-water predators, for example, can really benefit from a long cast and is the perfect situation for a fishing float. Live baits are kept in the feeding school with the leader, and they are unable to swim down and out of sight of the feed. One place we use casting corks is for permit fishing around the deeper wrecks. The ability to cast far enough and the ability to keep live pass crabs in the perfect place (about four feet under the glistening surface of that gorgeous water) makes fishing for the beasts pretty routine. It is a fishing float environment. You could not catch as many as we did free-lining that bait without the float putting it directly in front of those big black eyes and crushing jaws.

## Special use fishing floats

### BulletBobbers

BulletBobbers are made with keels underneath much like a sailboat uses to maintain route. The keel lets you essentially tack them (use the wind across your bow to push a sailboat into the wind in a Z-pattern), and use the air and retrieve pressure to steer them. For dock fishing and fishing near complex structure, they can be truly effective.

Bobbers help when you are dock fishing, because a live nervous baitfish will swim hard to get back to your boat and away from the structure. They know there are eyes looking at them under that dock and want out. A bobber can keep them there just long enough. We can foresee a day when bobbers have propellers and can be positioned from your iPhone or Android. (Now that's a good idea ...).

## Lit Bobbers

Another special bobber is built with battery powered lights. We mentioned that they are very popular among catfish anglers. It makes sense for the night feeder and they make sense for any species that feeds at night.



[5 Piece 15g EVA Floats +10pcs Glow Stick Fishing Floats Luminous Lighting EVA Foam Floats](#)

One place you might try one is dock-fishing late at night for snook. The fish are found around lights. And the edges – where they often sit to feed – are often around corners and behind structure that makes the shadow deep. A bobber with a light that disappears when that snook starts running can not only position the bait, but it can wake you up from that doze.

## Using bobbers for lures

The last thing to think about is using the casting power of a fishing float to cast a lure. We use them with DOA shrimp.



[DOA Deadly Combo Oval Float w/Clear Gold Shrimp - DC-OVAL-313](#)

We use them with soft plastic tails from other manufacturers, and we even use them for flies. Flies you ask? Yes, flies. You can tie a tiny fly that looks like a shrimp or is as small as a bay anchovy or glass minnow and put it behind a casting bobber. Throw it where you think the fish are (past it, actually, or let it drift or blow there) and retrieve the fly as if you had a fly rod. Fish will cooperate and often scare you with their aggressive behavior.

- See more at:

<http://www.theonlinefisherman.com/floats/casting#sthash.bVWeUCHN.dpuf>