

PERFECT PORTABLE POND POUNDER



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January 19, 2019

“A bad day fishing is better than a good day at work.” – Unknown angler

No truer words were ever spoken, and the outdoor recreation industry knows that. Many manufacturers now offer a variety of compact fishing rod and reel combos that are small enough to fit into a backpack or under a car seat. Intended for fishermen on the go, some rods implement a telescoping feature whereas others are multi-piece designs simply held together by friction. There are plenteous options available for you to pick from, but only one has proven to be deserving of your purchasing power.

PACKABLE CASTING PACKAGE

Two things are needed to cast your lure into the strike zone – a rod and a reel. EMMROD® is the preferred fishing rod producer for its plethora of pint-sized takedown packages that pack a punch. Great for backpackers, survivalists, and traveling adventurers of all types, EMMROD® rods are easily had on a budget, often times no more costly than the more traditional fiberglass or carbon fiber options. To top it off, their rods also serve as a primo package for peewees pursuing the plentiful pretty ‘perch’ found in ponds and other small waterbodies. Outlined below is the combo I keep in my vehicle and backpack for those times when I see a new waterbody deserving of my attention at a moment’s notice.



My particular EMMROD® is the Kayak King® Cast Rod. Like all EMMROD® designs, the Kayak King® is lightweight, has a stainless pole, and features the ¼ turn locking quick disconnect takedown design. Though puny at first sight, it is nearly indestructible. The long butt end improves leverage when hauling in trophy fish, and the rubberized grip helps to create a more positive purchase when it inevitably gets wet.

Intended to be paired with a baitcaster or spincast reel, I chose to pair my rod with a cheap underspin spincast reel. Why? Because it’s what I already on hand, and it works just fine. I favor the addition of a spincast reel because they are better at preventing backlashes, allow for flickable pitching and casting in tight quarters, provide simple casting control for new anglers, and can be readily found for under \$30. My particular micro spincast reel set me back a miniscule \$15, and it has been perfectly serviceable for several years now.

EMMROD® rods make for great secondary, or even primary, rod and reel combos when fishing from a float tube, canoe, or kayak. Just be sure to pair them with reels suited to your casting style and target species.

POCKET SIZED TACKLE BOX

You'll also need to pair that rod and reel with a proper tackle box. Fortunately, a small, compartmentalized box is all that is necessary to keep you outfitted for any number of scenarios. Had for only a few dollars, any generic micro tackle box will do the trick.



I pretty well exclusively use my EMMROD® rod and reel combo for small water bodies and fish under 10 lbs., so I am able to pack my box with an assortment of small lures that otherwise wouldn't be possible with larger tackle. I tend to pack a plethora of small, versatile lures to include: crankbaits, spinnerbaits, inline spinners, buzzbaits, jigs, poppers, and plastics. I also like to bring along PowerBait®, a paracord stringer, a couple bobbers, and some nail clippers for trimming line. The simplicity of the entire package encourages me to pack my box with cheap tackle. They catch fish just as well as the pricier options anyways.

PUNY, POWERFUL ANGLING PROWESS

EMMROD® offers a variety of rods to suit your particular needs. Spinning, casting, and fly fishing designs are available to help you pursue small freshwater species all the way up to large saltwater piscivores. EMMROD® brings you back to the basics and encourages you to keep it simple. Their portable takedown designs permit you to travel unencumbered and persuade you to have your rod and reel package accessible at all times for whenever the urge to wet a line strikes you. Complimented with a suite of small tackle options, your perfect portable pond pounder is never out of reach.

“There are always new places to go fishing. For any fisherman, there's always a new place, always a new horizon.”
– Jack Nicklaus



Photo courtesy of Courtney Maichak. Largemouth bass caught with an EMMROD® Kayak King® Spin Rod in a rural pond in Payne County, Oklahoma.