


Ice Fishing Checklist

Produced By The GSO Fishing Ice Team

www.gsofishing.com

Must Have Items:		Additional Items That Make Your Trip More Comfortable:	
	Auger- whether it's a hand or power auger, SHARP blades make your day more enjoyable.		Fishfinder or graph- not necessary but you WILL catch more fish.
	Gas- fuel for Augers, Heaters, and Snowmobiles/ATV.		WATERPROOF BOOTS- Dry warm feet are key.
	Ice Scoop- An ice scoop is key to keeping your ice holes clear of slush and ice. This prevents any line snags or cuts when jigging or reeling in a fish.		Seats- Comfortable chairs can keep you fishing longer.
	Rod(s)- Having the right rod for the right species is key! For example, lake trout vs perch rods. I like to have at least 2 different actions and setups.		Shelter- This certainly makes it a lot more fun on cold, windy or even sunny days.
	Reel(s)- good to have larger reels for Lakers. For perch and trout most ice reels will be fine.		Ice Anchors- if you have a shelter you need the anchors... Always use them as wind can come out of nowhere quickly.
	Sled- A good sled will fit all of your gear, and fit in the back of your vehicle for transport. Covers are a great idea, and a must for anybody pulling them behind a machine.		Drill adapter: a drill adapter makes anchoring your hut a lot faster and easier so you don't have to put them all in by hand.
	Tackle and Bait- Appropriate tackle for the species you are targeting.		Heater- again a comfort thing that will keep you fishing.
Other Items Needed:			Lighter - Sometimes in extreme cold the ignition on your heaters wont work.
			Shovel- Anything from a hand shovel, avalanche shovel, or big snow shovel can be helpful to clear the snow off the ice and keep it from melting (and you standing in water) when you turn on the heater in your hut.

			Sunscreen and Sunglasses- if the sun is out, the snow will help it blind and burn you.
			Rod Holder(s)- these are great to have and inexpensive. In Colorado we can have an additional rod stamp, and sometimes the fish love the "dead stick".
			Snacks/Drinks - Snacks and drinks are sometimes the key to being out on the ice for a miserable hour to being out on the ice for a fun filled day.
			Blankets- Sometimes a good blanket can come in handy on extremely cold days. Be sure to keep it off the ice so it stays dry and doesn't soak up water making you colder.
			Ice Cleats: Ice Cleats are always a good idea when you are walking on new ice that isn't covered by snow yet. Ice can be very slippery especially when you start drilling holes and water spills onto the ice.
			Foam Tiles: Not only are foam tiles better for your back to stand on but they keep your feet a bit warmer also. By not standing on the ice (or standing water) your feet are more likely to stay warm and dry.
			Deer drag harness: These work great for pulling your gear across the ice and taking the weight of your sled off your arms.