

JUST HOW MUCH DID THAT FISH REALLY WEIGH?

The experts say there's a fairly simple way to find out, giving anglers still another reason to release that big one to fight another day.

To estimate the weight:

Measure the fish in inches from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail with the fish laid flat, its mouth closed and tail lobes pressed together. Multiply the length three times, then divide that total by a special formula for that particular species of fish (1,600 for largemouth and smallmouth bass, 2,700 for walleye and 3,500 for muskie).

For example, a 20-inch bass weighs 5 pounds, figuring $20 \times 20 \times 20$ is 8,000 and 8,000 divided by 1,600 is 5.

12"	1.08 lbs	16"	2.56 lbs	20"	5.00 lbs	24"	8.64 lbs
13"	1.37 lbs	17"	3.07 lbs	21"	5.79 lbs	25"	9.76 lbs
14"	1.72 lbs	18"	3.65 lbs	22"	6.65 lbs	26"	10.98 lbs
15"	2.11 lbs	19"	4.29 lbs	23"	7.60 lbs	27"	12.30 lbs