

STINGER SILENT PRECISION ANCHOR

\$290 // www.goldendrake.com

This robust and well-engineered anchor system was designed to solve the problems of a standard anchor or stake-out pole in fragile environments and when going after easily spooked fish. You lower the Stinger up to 4' until the telescoping tip rests on the bottom under its own weight, drags a few inches and then securely holds in position using friction without raking or puncturing the bottom and stirring up silt. Three versions: one for kayaks without rudders, one that sits beside the rudder, and one that includes a rudder mounted on the same bracket.

PRO: Pulley and cleat lets you deploy it from the cockpit.

CON: Not designed to hold in fast current or 30+ mph winds.

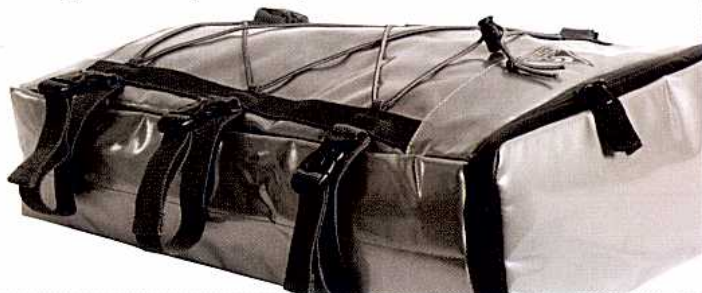
SEATTLE SPORTS KAYAK CATCH COOLER 20

\$60 (20") // www.seattlesportsco.com

Keep your catch (or lunch) cool on deck with this bag that has a heat-reflective exterior and a padded, insulated shell. The waterproof interior liner has a roll-top closure and is removable, so you can keep the shell clean and leave it strapped to your kayak when you go ashore with your catch. This one is 20" long. Also comes in a 36" version.

PRO: Many tie-down straps and bungee for loading stuff on top.

CON: More deck clutter.



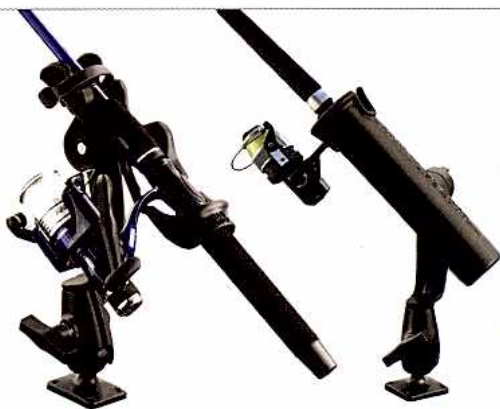
SHIMANO BRISTOL BAY PORTABLE LIVE-WELL BAG and KIT

Bag \$120, Kit \$100, Rod Holders \$30 // www.fish.shimano.com

Keep minnows, mackerel and other live bait in well-oxygenated comfort with Shimano's portable tank that doubles as a tackle bag. With a 6.25-gallon capacity, this thing is a virtual bass hotel. More than a year of service time later, the water-resistant heavy duty tarpaulin material hasn't shown the least wear and tear—it's tough. The optional but essential pump kit includes a submersible pump, plumbing, wire harness and switch; rod holders are another \$30. Add a 6- or 12-volt battery and charger and go after the big ones.—PAUL LEBOWITZ

PRO: A combo of bait well, tackle pack and rod holders.

CON: Pricy like most commercially available live-wells. Toggle switch may require eventual replacement.



RAM REVOLUTION RATCHETING ROD HOLDERS

\$35 // www.ram-mount.com

RAM's Revolution Series features burly composite construction, an infinitely adjustable rubber ball and socket base and a ratchet that allows you to adjust rod angle without loosening the ball mount. Comes in a tube version and regular rod holder version.

PRO: Good elevation off the deck and water.

CON: At over 1' tall, may seem a bit big for kayaks.

SCOTTY #400 ORCA ROD HOLDER, #459 FOLDING HEIGHT EXTENDER and #254M MINI ROD HOLDER HEIGHT EXTENDER

Rod Holder \$38 / Mini Rod Holder Height Extender \$12 / Folding Height Extender price TBA // www.scottypaddlesports.com

Scotty's bevy of new products for 2008 include the new ORCA rod holder with an ultra-fast release mechanism that lets you remove your rod to fight a fish with one quick motion. The Mini Height Extender extends the height of any Scotty post-mount rod holder by 4.25" while the Folding Height Extender extends the height of your rod holder by half a foot while also allowing you to fold it forward and back so it's right in your lap for the action but out of the way for paddling.

PRO: The next best thing to having a third hand.

CON: Choosing mounting accessories gets more and more confusing.

