

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TREATMENT OF FISH TO BE SENT FOR TAXIDERMISTRY.  
PRINT OFF THESE INSTRUCTIONS HERE AS A PDF**

**The following instructions are for best practice**  
They should be followed as closely as possible to give the best results in the completed mount.

**WHEN YOU CATCH THE FISH DO THE FOLLOWING:**

- On landing it the fish should, if possible, be photographed in natural light against a neutral background. NO FLASH !! Some close up shots is always helpful. Dont worry if you cant. The fish needs to be deep frozen as soon as possible after capture.
- Do not gut the fish
- Do not wash it or wipe it, leave it as it is.
- NEVER store it in water. It can be kept on ice or in a cool room or deer larder for a few hours.
- To protect large fins, like the tail, bandage them in kitchen tissues or toilet roll and dampen.
- Wrap the whole fish, thoroughly in cling film, then lay it flat on a board, only slightly larger than the fish
- Wrap more cling film around the fish and the board so it won't fall off. If hardboard or wood are not available cardboard will suffice.
- Place in a freezer. If no freezer is available keep it in the coolest place you can find temporarily.
- Correctly prepared, A fish will store frozen for at least a year, usually far longer.
- **The Priority is to get the fish deep frozen as soon as possible after capture.**

If you are not bringing it personally, you can easily send it. I can arrange collection or give you carrier details --- email me. Many of the fish that we mount arrive by courier. The following instructions will ensure that your fish arrives in perfect condition.

**3. Postal instructions:**

**FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LETTER AND YOUR FISH WILL ARRIVE IN PERFECT CONDITION.**

**First of all obtain the following items:**

- **A suitably sized and very strong thick cardboard box (NEVER POLYSTYRENE)** At least 4 to 6 inches bigger and 3-4" wider and deeper than the fish as it is in the freezer. You can cut a box to fit.
- **Packing materials you need to get**
- (Bubble wrap. A large roll is by far the best option for a fish)
- Large strong polythene sacks. Not thin bags with holes in
- 2" wide strong sticky brown plastic Parcel tape large rolls X 2 to 4 rolls. (Not cello tape or cheap paper tape)
- **Black ink permanent Marker pen** (not a biro or a pencil)
- **Letter with your full details on it -- to go in with the fish.**

**How to book my fish in for postage to taxidermyuk.net**

Only do this when you have everything ready to send your fish.

**WARNING:**

never book a fish to be sent unless you have spoken to me personally, and I have accepted the delivery.

**I WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY PARCELS WHICH ARE UN ANNOUNCED. THEY WILL BE RETURNED TO SENDER UNOPENED.**

- **Go to [www.parcelforce.com](http://www.parcelforce.com) click on "sending a parcel"**
- **Enter the post codes. Yours and mine.**
- **Weigh your fish out of the freezer and add 2 kg to the weight to allow for packing etc.**
- **You will be sent to a page with the options to send your parcel.**
- **Have the fish collected from your address or take it to the depot --**
- **Choose EXPRESS 24 or preferably EXPRESS A.M.**
- **You must then fill in all parcel details weight size etc.**
- When you reach the "service" page – "recipient options" click on **EXPRESS A.M** and make sure you select "deliver direct to recipients address" DO NOT click **pick up from post office or depot ..( I charge £25.00 to collect a parcel if you do.)**
- **Pay for the booking and book your collection. DO NOT BE OUT WHEN THEY COME ! you will have to pay again.**

**HOW PACK AND SEND THE FISH.**

1. Take a household bathroom type towel, wet it thoroughly, and wring it out **so it is only damp and does not drip at all**, take the fish (frozen on its board) from the freezer and wrap it up in the damp towel.
2. Place the whole lot in at least two big strong polythene bin liners and seal each one.
3. Wrap it up tightly with the 2" brown parcel tape then put it back in the freezer and leave for 12 hrs.

**On the day it is ready to go:**

4. Take the fish from the freezer, **WRAP IT TIGHTLY IN BUBBLE WRAP** and place it in the cardboard box and pack tightly
5. When you are ready to send it, contact the carrier company. (always in the morning before 9.a.m)
6. Put the delivery address and your address (marked sender) very clearly on the parcel on at least two faces of the box. Add your phone number (mobile) and mine.
7. Enclose the covering letter containing all of your details. (Full home address emails phones etc)
8. Prepare the parcel **in advance** and pack it **as close as possible to the time of collection.**
9. **Never ever pack with any ice.**
10. **Never send on a Thursday or Friday. Only Mon - Wed**
11. **Never send a fish without confirming the arrangements with me first.**
12. **CONTACT ME to advise about sending.**