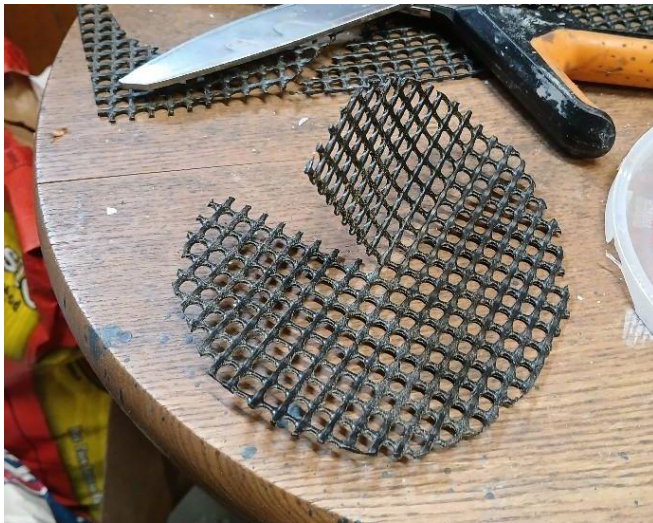


Build Your Own Mini Spat Tube It is Easy

Minnow Traps (see photo below) are available at Bass Pro Shop in Hampton for \$12.99 plus taxes. Military and First Responders get a 10% discount. They can also be purchased online at Cabelas.com (shipping charge may apply).



To create a mini spat tube, start by cutting 2 circular pieces from a scrap of small mesh spat bag.



Cut a straight line to the center of both circular pieces.

Overlap the edges of the cut to create a cone.





Press the mesh cone into the cone shaped-end of the Minnow Trap. Secure it in the metal cone with a medium cable tie.



Before assembling the 2 halves of your modified Minnow Trap, put the metal clip in one of the hinge brackets. Put your spat in one of the halves. You can start with 500 to 1000 $\frac{3}{8}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " spat.



After loading the spat, use a medium cable tie (8" to 11") to lock the upper and lower brackets on the opposite side from the hinge. Gently bend the hinge tongs (with pliers) until the 2 halves remain snug to each other.

To make sure all of the spat are large enough to remain inside the cage mesh, shake the cage over a piece of plastic. If any fall through, they should be put in a mesh bag (like the bag they came in), and back in the cage. Vegetable bags are available online. After a few weeks, all of the spat should be large enough so you can dispose of the bag. If you purchase $\frac{1}{4}$ " spat, put all of the spat in a mesh bag and grow them until they are about $\frac{1}{2}$ ", and then remove them from the bag.

2 mini spat tubes will fit in a Tidal Tumbler or a Rough Rider. You may also deploy the mini spat tube independently using crab pot line tied to the metal clip and hang it to a cleat on your dock. When the spat grow to 1.5", you can move them to the standard cages with 1" mesh.