



Bigfish Fishing Shirts



Fishing clobber serves an important purpose in keeping us covered up against harmful UV rays. Big Fish fishing shirts are both functional and fashionable; perfectly suited to the demands of the modern fisho.

Reviewed By Ben Knaggs.



Summer is here and the urge to get outside and enjoy the warm weather is irresistible to all of us. Life never feels better than when you've got the sun on your back chasing fired up fish in warm water. How can you not love this time of year?!

Of course the blistering Aussie sun does present some dangers to those of us who enjoy the outdoor lifestyle, and as such, the slip, slop, slap message has been drilled into all of us for decades now for good reason. The on or near water environments we conduct our favourite sport in are particularly hazardous, as those harmful UV rays can actually reflect up off the water surface, increasing the likelihood of damaging sunburn.

Therefore, fishing clothing has to be more than a pair of boardies and a tank top these days, to help minimise UV exposure and reduce the risk of skin cancer and associated health problems later in life. But UV protection is not the end of the checklist for an appropriate fishing shirt in particular. It will also need to be light, comfortable, breathable, quick drying and easily washable. Oh, and looking kinda cool never hurts either.

Aussie made Bigfish fishing shirts tick all these boxes. Manufactured from UPF 50+, 'sports dry' weaved polyester material, these fishing specific shirts are perfect for the Aussie outdoors. Designed and extensively tested in the Northern Territory, they keep the sun off vulnerable skin while also keeping the wearer cool in hot weather.

The lightweight, sports dry material

is obviously the crux of these shirts. Extremely soft, smooth and light in weight, this breathable double weave fabric has a 'holey', corrugated appearance which promotes the wicking process which takes perspiration away and cools your body at the same time. As a bonus, it's also much more durable than standard cotton shirts and will not fade or shrink like cotton does, retaining its UPF factor for a far longer length of time.

I've been wearing these shirts most days I've spent on the water over the last few years, and I find them a great improvement over the button up 'Columbia' style cotton shirts that are also popular in sportfishing circles. The material does not stick to your skin when wet from sweat or water, and dries much faster than cotton shirts that become heavy and uncomfortable once saturated.

Although it sounds like a total contradiction in terms, I also find these shirts to be warmer on those days when wind chill is a factor. The fact that there are no buttons to bust off is good too, especially if you happen to be

expanding horizontally!

Bigfish shirts are certainly eye catching, coming in a range of designs which are all pretty funky. Most of these designs feature depictions of our favourite sportfish such as bass, Murray cod, bream, kingfish, golden perch, sailfish, snapper, barra, jacks, flathead and more. All Bigfish shirts are created using a process known as 'dye sublimation', which essentially transfers the ink into the polyester fibres themselves. This means the dye actually becomes part of the fabric and therefore does not inhibit the material breathing, nor wash out or fade over time.

All Bigfish fishing shirts are 100% Australian made, from concept and design right through to printing and final seaming, so you know they are top quality. Designs and sizes for women and kids are also available, and pricing is \$89.95 for mens/womens shirts and \$59.95 for kids wear.

The Bigfish fishing clothing range is expanding all the time, and also includes hats and buffs. Check out the full range and order online at: www.bigfishgraphics.com.au. **FISHNSW**