

The Sturdy Scale for calculating the weight of salmon



Edward Sturdy was a salmon fisherman who created a scale for estimating the weight of a salmon based on its length. He based the scale on fish caught on the Evanger River, part of the Vosso system in Norway. The formula is four thirds the length of the fish (1.3333•) times the square of its girth divided by 800 (according to a note in Fred Buller's book on giant salmon, see page 442). This scale was popularised in the Fishing Gazette. It can only be a rough estimate but

it is probably the best we can do in an age where more and more fish are being returned and weighing before release is often unfeasible.

If you like to have a good idea of the weight of your fish it might help if you added some measurements to your rod or wading stick.

The measure should be taken from the furthest extension of the mouth to the inner curve of the tail (so not to the tips of the tail).

The following table uses imperial measurements:

Salmon weight by length

Length (inches)	Weight (pounds)
24	6
25	6.5
26	7.5
27	8.5
28	9.5
29	10.5
30	11.5
31	13
32	14
33	15.5
34	17
35	18.5
36	20
37	22
38	23.5
39	25.5

40	27.5
41	29.5
42	32
43	34
44	36.5
45	39
46	42
47	44.5
48	47.5
49	50.5
50	53.5
51	57
52	60
53	64
54	68
55	72