

**ABBREVIATED KEY TO FRESHWATER FISHES (WITH COMMON NAMES) (based on  
Freshwater Fishes of Connecticut, Second Addition, by Walter R. Whitworth, 1996, and A Key to  
Common Freshwater Fishes of Massachusetts, by Michele Monjeau, no date)**  
(the information following each scientific name is the page and figure number of the fish in Whitworth's  
book)

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| 1a. Body long & snake-like (dorsal fin continuous with caudal fin)   | <i>Anguilla rostrata</i><br>(p 87; Fig 20) American eel<br>Go to #2 |
| 1b. Body not long & snake-like   |   |
| 2a. Body covered with scales   | Go to #3  |
| 2b. Body without scales but with smooth skin   | Go to #12   |
| 3a. Adipose fin (fleshy tap behind dorsal fin) present   | <i>Salmo Salar</i> (p 19 1, Fig. 162)<br>Atlantic Salmon            |
| 3b. Adipose fin absent   | Go to #4  |
| 4a. Pelvic fins <u>slightly behind or under</u> pectoral fins  | Go to #5  |
| 4b. Pelvic fins <u>located far behind pectoral</u> fins & near anal fin (near middle of body cavity)                             | Go to #10   |
| 5a. Spiny and soft parts of dorsal fin joined (entire dorsal fin joined together)  | Go to #6  |
| 5b. Spiny and soft parts of dorsal fin separate or only partly joined by a membrane; anal fin with up to three spines            | Go to #8  |
| 6a. Base of dorsal fin about equal in length to base of anal fin (dorsal fin lined up over anal fin)                             | <i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i><br>(p 110, Fig 49) black crappie      |
| 6b. Base of dorsal fin much longer than base of anal fin (anal fin behind dorsal fin)  | Go to #7  |
| 7a. Opercular flap (gill cover) with bright blue lines & bright red tip (spot)   | <i>Lepomis gibbosus</i><br>(p 106, Fig 44) pumpkinseed              |
| 7b. Opercular flap broad & black; pale to dark black region at end of soft dorsal fin  | <i>Lepomis macrochirus</i><br>(p 107, Fig 45) bluegill              |
| 8a. Maxillary (upper jaw) extends past eye; large mouth & head; faint black zigzag horizontal stripe                             | <i>Micropterus salmoides</i><br>(p 108, Fig 47) largemouth bass     |
| 8b. Maxillary doesn't extend past eye; no faint black horizontal stripe  | Go to #9  |
| 9a. Spiny & soft dorsal fins distinctly separate; yellowish body color; reddish pelvic fins; sides distinctly vertically striped | <i>Perca flavescens</i><br>(p 173, Fig 140) yellow perch            |
| 9b. Spiny and soft dorsal fins only slightly joined by a membrane; silvery body color; deep body; sides not vertically striped   | <i>Morone Americana</i><br>(p 167, Fig 13 1) white perch            |
| 9c. Spiny and soft dorsal fins partly joined by a membrane; copper body color; sides somewhat vertically striped                 | <i>Micropterus dolomieu</i><br>(p 108, Fig 46) smallmouth bass      |
| 10a. Snout long & duck-like; dorsal fin set far back on body; chain-like markings on sides; large sharp conical teeth            | <i>Esox niger</i><br>(p 150, Fig 105) chain pickerel                |
| 10b. Snout not long  | Go to #11   |
| 11a. Mouth points down, sucker-like; body almost round; head blunt   | <i>Catostomus commersoni</i><br>(p I 00, Fig 36) white sucker       |

11b. Large scales; small whisker-like barbels present at end of jaw; heavy body

*Cyprinus Carpio*

(p 129, Fig 75) common carp

12a. Barbels (whiskers) below chin; adipose fin present; tail forked

*Ictalurus punctatus*

(p 163, Fig 126) channel catfish

12b. Barbels below chin; adipose fin present; tail rounded or square

*Ameiurus nebulosus*

(p 162, Fig 125) brown bullhead

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