

# Harvest Moon: Friends of Mineral Town Fishing Guide

by Arashinonatsu

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HARVEST MOON:  
FRIENDS (& MORE FRIENDS)  
OF MINERAL TOWN  
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MEGA-MINI FISHING GUIDE  
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I. Introduction  
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Hello! I'm Arashinonatsu. I've compiled as much information as I could to endeavor to make the best in-depth fishing guide for Harvest Moon: Friends

of Mineral Town, also known as FoMT. My newest update now includes information for Harvest Moon: More Friends of Mineral Town, the alternate "for girls" version of FoMT. More Friends is commonly referred to as MFoMT, an acronym I despise and find quite awkward. Therefore, I will \*always\* use the acronym MoFo ('Mo're 'F'riends 'o'f) and shamelessly encourage you to use it as well.

\*NOTE! This guide has information pertaining \*only\* to these two (2) versions of Harvest Moon for the Game Boy Advance. I cannot help with any other game.

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01. Changes/Additions In MoFo  
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Most of the information in the guide works for both FoMT and MoFo, however there were a couple of changes/additions to MoFo that should be mentioned.

FARM DEGREES: In MoFo, you can get Farm Degree points for fishing. You can gain a maximum of 1,000 points in the Fishing category. Each new species of fish or item that you catch is worth 5 points. Each new Legendary Kingfish is worth 10 points. Catching all 51 fish will net you 15 points. You get 1 point for each set of 100 of any specific item. Also, when you catch a fish that's larger than the largest fish you have on record, you get 1 point for every extra 10cm.

THE WATERING HOLE: The watering hole on your farm can now be used to store the fish that you've caught. You can store up to 100 fish at a time.

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II. Why Do I Want A Fishing Rod?  
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The most obvious reason to \*want\* a Fishing Rod is to be able to fish. The most convincing reason to \*get\* a Fishing Rod is because they give it to you for free. Fish are an ingredient in many recipes, you can give them as gifts, and they also ship for money. Likewise, you may catch other items that are essential to Harvest Moon. You'll also need this Tool in order to access the much higher level Tools of the game. So basically, not only is fishing fun, it's lucrative as well! ^\_^

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III. How To Get A Rod And Use One  
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Go to Zack's house between 11am and 4pm. Make sure that you have an empty Tools slot in your rucksack and that you aren't carrying anything over your head. When you go inside, an event should trigger where Zack will give you a Level 1 Fishing Rod. Now you can catch Junk and Small Fish.

To use the Fishing Rod, go to a body of water and press the 'B' button. When you have a bite, an exclamation point will pop-up over your character's head. Press 'B' again to try to reel it in. If you've caught something, you can press 'B' to pocket it, or press 'A' to toss it back into the water. Be

forewarned that throwing things back in the water is considered littering and it will cause the inhabitants of Mineral Town to dislike you. It also decreases your chances of catching a fish. If you really want to throw something away, and can't get to the garbage can in Rose Square, just go into your rucksack. Move the pointer to the item that you want to throw away and press 'Start'. It will ask you if you want to throw the item away. No penalties! This works for your rucksack, the refrigerator, the shelf, and the Tool box!

When your Rod has been upgraded, you will need to charge it in order to use its full potential. To charge your Tool, simply hold down the 'B' button. The higher the Tool's level, the longer you have to hold the 'B' button in order to charge it. Charging uses more stamina and fatigue, but it allows you to do better things with your Rod. Keep an eye on your character changing positions as you charge the Rod. If you want to partially charge your Rod, this is the way to tell at what level it is currently at.

Just like in real life, the Library is your friend. So stop by from time to time. Not only can you learn a lot of interesting things about playing the game, on the second floor, the second shelf from the left is dedicated to fishing. "About Fishing" will give you basic information on how and where to fish.

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IV. Fishing Rod Upgrades  
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If you use your Fishing Rod enough, you will be able to upgrade it. Check the tool list under ::Start > Earnings > Tool Level List:: to find out if your Rod can be upgraded. The Tool Bar will start to fill the more you use the item. The Bar will be completely filled and a small colored ore will appear under the tool when it is ready. Give it to Saibara with the relevant ore and he will take care of it for you. You can still catch junk with upgraded tools! Just because you have a better Rod, doesn't mean people have stopped littering.

You may want to wait before you upgrade your tools. Skipping Copper and going to Silver is more economical for the money-conscious, but you can also skip completely all the way to Mystrile if you want to work that hard originally. It will take Saibara anywhere from 1 to 5 days to complete the new tool, depending on whether or not you are skipping upgrades.

The Fishing Rod is often considered to be the hardest tool to upgrade. It takes forever! My trick is to go into the Spring Mine (Festivals don't affect the levels at all) and continuously press the 'B' button. You don't need to charge it. When your character turns blue, rest in the Hot Springs, conveniently located next door. Then do it all over again! Unlike Festivals, time inside the Mines is only slowed, not stopped, so it may take a couple of days in game time. It's tedious, but at least you can get your Rod to a higher level much faster.

The Copper Rod is considered to be a Level 2 tool. With a Copper Ore, Saibara will make one for you for 1,000 G. Copper Ore can be found on all levels of the Spring Mine and can be shipped for 15G. You need this level Rod or higher in order to catch Medium Fish.

The Silver Rod is considered to be a Level 3 tool. With a Silver Ore, Saibara will make one for you for 2,000 G. Silver Ore can be found on all

levels of the Spring Mine and can be shipped for 20G. I've heard that some people have been experiencing problems when they upgrade to the Silver Rod in MoFo. They can only catch junk or small fish. I usually skip Silver when I upgrade, so this is something that I'll have to look in to. My only advice for now is to hang in there and upgrade to the next level as soon as you can.

The Gold Rod is considered to be a Level 4 tool. With a Gold Ore, Saibara will make one for you for 3,000 G. Gold Ore can be found on Level 3 and below of the Spring Mine and can be shipped for 25G. You need this level Rod or higher in order to catch Large Fish.

The Mystrile Rod is considered to be a Level 5 tool. With a Mystrile Ore, Saibara will make one for you for 5,000 G. Mystrile Ore can be found on Level 5 and below of the Spring Mine and can be shipped for 40G. You need this level Rod to hook a Power Berry or a Message Bottle/Recipe.

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01. My Rod Is Cursed!!!  
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When \*all\* your tools have been upgraded to Mystrile, only then can you get the Cursed Tools from the Winter Mine. Cursed Tools are considered to be Level 6 tools. The Cursed Rod is found by digging up the ground of the 29th floor of the Winter Mine. Sometimes, it's in the ground under the rocks.

Cursed Tools can be tricky. If you're not using the two-save-slots trick, you'll need to save the level before. The chance of its appearing is random, so if it's not there, you'll just have to reload that level. Using the Cursed Rod takes up an incredible amount of stamina and fatigue. You will only get a few uses out of it before you pass out. You need this level Rod or higher in order to catch Pirate Treasure, Ancient Fossils, or the six Kingfish.

The Cursed Rod looks like a black Fishing Rod and once equipped, will NOT leave your hand. You will have to go the Church and have Carter remove it for you. Otherwise you won't be able to use any other tools. Removal costs 1,000 G and the service is only available on Mondays, Wednesdays, and rainy days between 1pm and 4pm, in the confessional. There. You have been warned.

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02. The Goddess Loves My Rod  
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No one wants a Cursed Rod forever. Luckily, there is a way to get your Rod uncursed and reduce most of the penalties for using it. Uncursed Rods are called Blessed Rods and they are considered to be a Level 7 tool. It looks like a pinkish-gold Fishing Rod and can be unequipped just like a regular tool.

To uncure your Fishing Rod, you have to use it 255 times. The best way to way to do this is to go to a festival. During festivals, time is stopped. Your stamina and fatigue won't decrease no matter what you do. You don't even have to charge the tool. So, find the closest festival, go there, and have fun tapping that 'B' button. You'll have a Blessed Rod in no time. ^\_^

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03. There Are Fanfics About My Rod  
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When \*all\* of your Tools are Blessed, only then are you able to collect Mythic Stones for the final upgrade. Mythic Stones look like black Branches. You can find them in the rocks in the Spring Mine. They appear on the 60th

level and below, but their appearance is incredibly random, making them very rare. However, they become slightly more frequent the lower you go.

Give the Mythic Stone to Saibara, along with your Mystrile or Blessed Rod, and he will upgrade it for 50,000G. It should take him about 2 days. The Mythic Rod has a greenish-yellow color to it. When you're finished upgrading your Tools to Mythic Tools, mine some extra Stones and ship them for 20,000G a piece. At least you can get your money back, huh? ^\_^

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V. Types Of Fish  
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There are four main categories of fish: Small Fish or Fish (S), Medium Fish or Fish (M), Large Fish or Fish (L), and the Legendary Kingfish. There are many different types of fish and you can't catch them all in the same areas.

It's not necessary for the game itself, but if you want to marry the Harvest Goddess, you'll need to have caught one of every species of fish. They are Bighead, Bitterling, Black Bass, Blowfish, Bluegill, Bonito, Brown Hakeling, Cherry Salmon, Cod, Crucian Carp, Dorado, Eel, Fatminnow, Filefish, Flounder, Fluke, Golden Carp, Greenling, Herring, Kelp Bass, L. Salmon, Lake Smelt, Lionfish, Mackerel, Mountain Trout, Needlefish, Ocean Sunfish, Pigfish, Rainbow Trout, Red Snapper, Roach, Rockfish, Rock Trout, Salmon, Sandfish, Sardines, Saury Pike, Scad, Silver Carp (1), Silver Carp (2), Snakehead, Sp. Mackerel (a.k.a Spanish Mackerel), Tuna, Whitefish, Yellowtail, and each of the six Kingfish. You can check your shipping progress under ::Start > Memo > Number Shipped::, and your fishing progress under ::Start > Memo > Fishing::. Fish can be stored in the refrigerator, or stored in the watering hole on your farm (MoFo only).

It's important to know that there are two kinds of Silver Carp. I've labeled them in this guide with (1) and (2) for ease. Silver Carp (1) are Small and Medium Fish. Silver Carp (2) are Large Fish. They will show up twice on ::Start > Memo > Fishing:: as Silver Carp if you have caught both. My guess is that one of the types of Silver Carp was supposed to be a named after a different fish altogether. Let's hear it for more Harvest Moon errors!

Fish can be eaten straight out of the water, used as a cooking ingredient, or shipped. Small Fish sell for 50G, Medium Fish sell for 120G, and Large Fish sell for 200G. You can also give Fish as gifts. Fish (S) are loved or liked by Carter, The Doctor, Doug, Elli, Harris, Jeff, Kai, Manna, and Zack... and are disliked or hated by Basil, Sasha, and Stu. Fish (M) are loved or liked by Carter, The Doctor, Doug, Elli, Gotz, Jeff, Kai, Manna, Rick, Stu, Zack... and are disliked or hated by Basil and Sasha. Fish (L) are loved or liked by Ann, Carter, The Doctor, Doug, Duke, Ellen, Elli, Gotz, Gray, Jeff, Kai, Lillia, Manna, May, Rick, Saibara, Stu, and Zack... and are disliked or hated by Anna, Basil, and Sasha.

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01. In The River  
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The River, which has two parts, Upstream and Downstream, is one area where you can fish. Upstream is considered to be the part of the river that is around the Lake and Mother's Hill. Downstream is considered to be the part of the river that is on your Farm, the Poultry Farm, and Yodel Farm. In the River, the kind of Fish you can catch will be:

BIGHEAD - Downstream; All Seasons; Mystrile Rod or higher  
BITTERLING - Downstream; All Seasons; Level 1 Rod or higher  
BLACK BASS - Upstream, Downstream; Spring, Summer, Autumn; Gold Rod or higher  
BLUEGILL - Upstream, Downstream; Spring, Summer, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
BROWN HAKELING - Downstream; Spring, Summer, Winter; Level 1 Rod or higher  
CHERRY SALMON - Upstream; Spring, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
EEL - Downstream; Summer, Autumn; Mystrile Rod or higher  
FATMINNOW - Upstream; All Seasons; Level 1 Rod or higher  
GOLDEN CARP - Downstream; Spring, Summer, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
L. SALMON - Upstream; Spring, Autumn; Copper Rod or higher  
LAKE SMELT - Downstream; Winter; Level 1 Rod or higher  
MOUNTAIN TROUT - Upstream; Spring, Summer, Autumn; Gold Rod or higher  
RAINBOW TROUT - Upstream; All Seasons; Mystrile Rod or higher  
ROACH - Downstream; Spring, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
SALMON - Downstream; Summer, Autumn; Gold Rod or higher  
SILVER CARP (1)- Downstream; All Seasons; Copper Rod or higher  
SILVER CARP (2)- Downstream; All Seasons; Gold Rod or higher  
SNAKEHEAD - Downstream; Summer, Autumn; Mystrile Rod or higher  
WHITEFISH - Downstream; All Seasons; Copper Rod or higher

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02. In The Lake  
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Another major fishing spot is the Lake, or often called Kappa's Lake.  
Here the kind of Fish you can catch will be...

BLACK BASS - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Gold Rod or higher  
BLUEGILL - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
CHERRY SALMON - Spring, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
CRUCIAN CARP - All Seasons; Gold Rod or higher  
FATMINNOW - All Seasons; Level 1 Rod or higher  
RAINBOW TROUT - All Seasons; Mystrile Rod or higher

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03. In The Sea  
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The Sea, or better known as Mineral Beach, is another place where you can fish. In the Sea, the kind of Fish you can catch will be:

BLOWFISH - Winter; Gold Rod or higher  
BONITO - Summer, Autumn; Mystrile Rod or higher  
COD - Winter; Gold Rod or higher  
DORADO - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Mystrile Rod or higher  
FILEFISH - Winter; Copper Rod or higher  
FLOUNDER - All Seasons; Mystrile Rod or higher  
FLUKE - Autumn, Winter; Gold Rod or higher  
GREENLING - Spring; Silver Rod or higher  
HERRING - Spring, Summer, Winter; Level 1 Rod or higher  
KELP BASS - Autumn, Winter; Gold Rod or higher  
LIONFISH - All Seasons; Copper Rod or higher  
MACKEREL -Autumn, Winter; Gold Rod or higher  
NEEDLEFISH - Spring; Silver Rod or higher  
OCEAN SUNFISH - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Mystrile Rod or higher  
PIGFISH - Spring, Summer; Silver Rod or higher  
RED SNAPPER - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Mystrile Rod or higher  
ROCKFISH - Spring, Autumn; Copper Rod or higher

ROCK TROUT - Spring, Winter; Silver Rod or higher  
SANDFISH - Winter; Level 1 Rod or higher  
SARDINES - All Seasons; Level 1 Rod or higher  
SAURY PIKE - Autumn; Silver Rod or higher  
SCAD - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Silver Rod or higher  
SP. MACKEREL - Spring, Winter; Mystrile Rod or higher  
TUNA - All Seasons; Mystrile Rod or higher  
YELLOWTAIL - Summer, Winter; Mystrile Rod or higher

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04. The Harvest Goddess's Pond  
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Just next to the Hot Springs, there is a waterfall which flows into a small pool. This area is known as the Harvest Goddess's Pond/Pool. And while you can throw items into the pool to make an offering to the Goddess, you can fish here as well. In the Goddess's Pond, the kind of Fish you can catch will be:

BLACK BASS - Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter; Gold Rod or higher  
BLUEGILL - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
CRUCIAN CARP - All Seasons; Gold Rod or higher  
GOLDEN CARP - Spring, Summer, Autumn; Level 1 Rod or higher  
LAKE SMELT - Winter; Level 1 Rod or higher  
SILVER CARP (1)- Downstream; All Seasons; Copper Rod or higher  
SNAKEHEAD - Summer, Autumn; Mystrile Rod or higher  
WHITEFISH - All Seasons; Copper Rod or higher

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05. The Six Legendary Kingfish  
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The six Legendary Kingfish (also known as The River Kings) are special Fish that you must catch if you wish to marry the Harvest Goddess. They are very difficult to find and can only be caught with a Cursed or higher Fishing Rod. You cannot ship Kingfish. After you catch one, it will jump back into the water.

CATFISH - Fish in the Hot Springs (the actual spring that you bathe in), but only during the Winter.  
CARP - Fish in the Lake during any season, except Winter. You must have shipped over 200 Fish first.  
COELACANTH - Fish in the pool on the 9th level of the Winter Mine. You can only do this after you have caught the other 5 Kingfish.  
JP. HUCHEN (a.k.a. Japanese Huchen)- Fish in the River Downstream. You can only do this after you have learned how to make Sushi, Sashimi, and Grilled Fish, and those recipes have been recorded in your recipe book.  
MONKFISH - Fish in the Sea between 10pm and 8am. You can only do this in the Spring and Winter.  
SQUID - Fish in the Sea during any season, except Winter. You must toss a Small Fish into the water first (once for the day is enough).

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VI. And Now, A Word From Our Sponsor...  
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Are the mosquitoes biting more than the fish? Tired of making Boot Soup

for dinner? Does your Rod sit in the corner? Dusty? Lifeless? Then tune in to "Fishing Hour"! From the simple, sleek Silver Carp of Spring to the well-known, wet Whitefish of Winter, our renowned fishing expert Angler Jake covers it all! "Fishing Hour"! Your one-stop-shop of fishing knowledge! Mondays on TV Channel LEFT (button on the Directional Pad). And now, back to the guide...

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VII. Wait A Minute... That's Not A Fish!!!  
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You can catch more than just Fish in Harvest Moon, and I'm not referring to the girls. ^\_~ Take a look at these hookable items.

BRANCHES

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Branches look like junk at first glance, but they are really very useful. You can place them on your field as a make-shift fence. Chop them up and they add to the count in your Lumber bin. During the winter, and ONLY the winter, throw them into your fireplace for a stamina boost.

Loved or Liked By: Carter, Gray, Saibara

Disliked or Hated By: Everyone Else

EMPTY CANS

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Empty Cans are just that-- beat-up old cans that a litterbug tossed into the water. They are pretty useless, but May seems to like them...

Loved or Liked By: May

Disliked or Hated By: Everyone Else

FISH SCALES/BONES

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These are the remains of a fish that's been gone for a long time. It's pretty much useless and no one likes them at all.

Loved or Liked By: None

Disliked or Hated By: Everyone in Mineral Town

FOSSILS OF ANCIENT FISH

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These are the remains of a fish that's been gone for an \*extremely\* long time. Ancient Fossils are very hard to find. Fish for them in the Sea. They are only available in Autumn and you need a Cursed or higher Fishing Rod in order to find one. You can get one by guessing correctly in the Harvest Goddess's New Year's Game 60 to 69 times. Also, you may come across one while playing Frisbee with your dog on the Beach. They ship for 5,000G and it is also an ingredient in the Summer Sun recipe.

Loved or Liked By: Won

Disliked or Hated By: Everyone Else

KAPPA

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Sometimes, if you fish in the Lake, you might just hook Kappa! You can't keep him, though. He just looks at you blankly and spins away.



MESSAGE BOTTLE/RECIPE

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In the Spring, fish off the Docks of Mineral Beach with your Mystrile Rod. You can catch a Message Bottle in the Sea. It contains a recipe for Ketchup. Make the meal to permanently add it to your cookbook.

Loved or Liked By: Ann, Carter, Elli, Mary, May  
Disliked or Hated By: Anna, Basil, Cliff, Gotz, Gray, Harris, The Harvest Goddess, Jeff, Kai, Lillia, Popuri, Rick, Saibara, Sasha, Stu, Thomas, Won, Zack

NOTHING

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Sometimes when you fish, you'll get a bite, but come up with nothing. That sucks.

OLD BOOTS

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The Litterbug strikes again, this time with a pair of dirty Old Boots. What are we paying Harris for?! The Boots are useless, but May seems to like them... The poor girl...

Loved or Liked By: May  
Disliked or Hated By: Everyone Else

PIRATE TREASURE/FORTUNE

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With a Cursed Rod or higher, you can catch Ancient Pirate Treasure in the Sea. It's not easy at all, and it's only during the Summer. You can get one by guessing correctly in the Harvest Goddess's New Year's Game 70 to 79 times. Also, you may come across one while playing Frisbee with your dog on the Beach. Pirate Treasure ships for a whopping 10,000G. It is also an ingredient in the Summer Sun recipe.

Loved or Liked By: Won  
Disliked or Hated By: Everyone Else

POWER BERRY

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In the Winter, fish off the Docks of Mineral Beach with your Mystrile Rod and you might catch a Power Berry. This can only be done once.

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VIII. Fish-Essential Recipes  
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You can eat a fish straight out of the water, or you can try your hand at cooking. There are certain recipes that can only be made using fish. Also, the Sushi, Sashimi, and Grilled Fish recipes are needed in order to catch one of the six Kingfish. These are:

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SUSHI

Utensils: Vinegar  
Ingredients: Rice Balls, Sashimi  
Loved or Liked By: Ann, Barley, Cliff, Doug, Duke, Gotz, The Gourmet, Harris, Kai, Manna, Zack

Disliked or Hated By: Basil, The Harvest Goddess, Sasha, Thomas

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SASHIMI

Utensils: Knife

Ingredients: Fish (M or L)

Loved or Liked By: Ann, Anna, Barley, Cliff, Doug, Duke, Elli, The  
Gourmet, Kai, Karen

Disliked or Hated By: Basil, Harris, The Harvest Goddess, May,  
Sasha, Stu, Thomas

GRILLED FISH

Utensils: Frying Pan, Salt, Soy Sauce

Ingredients: Fish (M), Oil

Loved or Liked By: Anna, Barley, Cliff, Doug, Duke, Elli, The  
Gourmet, Jeff, Kai, Karen, Saibara, Zack

Disliked or Hated By: Basil, The Harvest Goddess, May, Sasha, Stu

CHIRASHI SUSHI

Utensils: Knife, Vinegar

Ingredients: Rice Balls, Scrambled Eggs, Sashimi

Loved or Liked By: Barley, Carter, Cliff, The Doctor, Doug, Duke,  
The Gourmet

Disliked or Hated By: Basil, The Harvest Goddess, Kai, Sasha, Stu,  
Thomas

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FISH STICKS

Utensils: Mixer, Salt

Ingredients: Fish (M)

Loved or Liked By: Carter, The Doctor, Doug, Elli, Gotz, The  
Gourmet, Jeff, Kai, Manna, Rick, Stu, Zack

Disliked or Hated By: Basil, The Harvest Goddess, Sasha

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SUMMER SUN

Utensils: None

Ingredients: Fish (S), Fish (M), Fish (L), Ancient Fossil, Pirate  
Treasure

Loved or Liked By: None

Disliked or Hated By: None

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IX. It Just Tastes Better With Fish  
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Many recipes don't require Fish, but will taste better and garnish a  
higher rating if Fish is added as an optional ingredient. Here is a list:

PAGE 2: Curry Rice, Stew, Miso Soup, Stir Fry

PAGE 3: Fried Rice, Savory Pancakes, Sandwich

PAGE 6: Omelet, Omelet Rice

PAGE 7: Cheese Fondue

PAGE 9: Pizza, Noodles, Curry Noodles, Tempura Noodles

PAGE 10: Fried Noodles, Buckwheat Noodles, Noodles w/ Tempura, Fried

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X. ...And When We Party, We Party Hearty!  
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Festivals are a lot of fun. They are also very helpful when you need to uncurse your Cursed Rod or fish for special items and certain Kingfish. Time is paused and your stamina and fatigue levels will not decrease. Here is a list of the festivals and events that will help you do just that.

SPRING 01: The New Year's Festival, Rose Square, Uncurse  
SPRING 18: The Spring Horse Races, Rose Square, Uncurse  
SPRING 22: The Cooking Festival, Rose Square, Uncurse

SUMMER 01: Beach Day, Mineral Beach, Uncurse or Fish  
SUMMER 07: The Chicken Festival, Rose Square, Uncurse  
SUMMER 20: The Cow Festival, Rose Square, Uncurse  
SUMMER 24: The Fireworks Festival, Mineral Beach, Uncurse or Fish

AUTUMN 09: The Harvest Festival, Rose Square, Uncurse  
AUTUMN 13: The Full Moon Festival, Mother's Hill, Uncurse  
AUTUMN 18: The Fall Horse Races, Rose Square, Uncurse  
AUTUMN 21: The Sheep Festival, Rose Square, Uncurse

WINTER 30: The New Year's Eve Festival (Noodles), Rose Square, Uncurse  
The New Year's Eve Festival (Sunrise), Mother's Hill, Uncurse

\*\*\*And here's a special little bonus for you. Time is also paused during the Black, Blue, and Green heart events for Popuri and Kai, and during the Orange heart event for Elli and the Doctor. If you know that you're going to trigger one, bring your Rod with you for a chance to both uncurse your Rod and fish in the sea. Remember, in most cases you can't trigger heart events if you are carrying something (i.e. your basket) over your head. Leave the basket on the beach beforehand and then come back to trigger the event.

Fishing at festivals and events can be a little troublesome. Your rucksack can't carry more than a max of nine items (with the final rucksack upgrade), your basket can only hold 30 automatically-to-ship-only items, and you may catch a lot of junk instead of fish. Since you can't get into your bag through the start menu during the event, you may be forced to take drastic measures to ensure your full haul of fish. Don't. Littering at a festival has an even higher penalty than during a non-festival day. But have no fear! Simply press the 'A' and 'B' buttons at the same time. This feature allows you to access your rucksack at any time... without going through the start menu! Then you'll be able to throw away unwanted items using the trick in Section III. You have been paying attention, right? ^\_^

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XI. Final Info That's Not Interesting...  
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01. Email Policy  
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Harvest Moon-related mail only, please. Use this subject: HM Fishing

Guide. E-mails with no subjects WILL be deleted. Also, please don't e-mail me before using the spell-checker. It's very painful. :-)

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02. Special Thanks To...  
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ALLIE C. for bringing FoMT home and spreading the addiction around.  
ANDREW P. for noting that the different sizes of the Silver Carp could be the distinguishing factor. I tested out your theory and you were right! Thanks again! ^\_^  
EVERYONE else out there for being just as obsessed as I am with this game, and most especially for reading my guide.  
GAMEFAQS.COM for being what it is and having what it has. You can't describe it better than that.  
GARY L. for telling me to post this walkthrough, finished or not.  
GOOGLE for helping me find a lot of the information I was missing and confirming my theories.  
FANFICTION.NET for renewing my interest in the game each time I start to get bored with it.  
JONATHAN G. for starting the chain reaction of the FoMT obsession.  
MARVELOUS, NATSUME, NINTENDO, and VICTOR INTERACTIVE for all of Harvest Moon!  
SARAH P. for reminding me about the rucksack tip, the information on the Message Bottle/Recipe, and for being my partner in crime. We'll never get sent to Thomas's house, but maybe that's a good thing...  
SPAM-BOTS for ruining my previously spam-free account. I hate you.  
USHI NO TANE for the farm degree information.

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03. Version History  
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Version 1.0

Posted on 08/02/05. Satisfied with walkthrough enough to put it up on GameFAQs.com.

Version 2.0

Posted on 10/03/05. Changed e-mail address. Added info about the Library's fishing shelf. Reading is FUNdamental! Fixed some small stuff here and there. Added info on the Silver Carp. Added likes and dislikes info to different sized Fish, Ancient Treasure, Message Bottle, Pirate Treasure, and recipes. Added new section, Sect. VI. Added basket tip and rucksack tip to Sect. X. Added thanks to Sect. XI, Part B. Made a 'D' lowercase. Yes, I know! I'm obsessive like that. Added Neoseeker to list of authorized hosters. Made the Stinger its own section.

Version 3.0

Posted on 12/07/07. Changed e-mail address. Changed title and content of Sect. I. Changed sub-sections to numbers. Fixed more small stuff here and there. Added info to include MoFo. Added the Gourmet's likes. Added last initials and thanks to Sect. XI.02. Now they're not just "thanks", they're "special thanks". Edited copyright info.

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04. Copyright Info & Disclaimer  
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<http://www.gamefaqs.com>  
<https://www.neoseeker.com>

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XII. Stinger  
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"Be sure to wash your hands after touching these things! Oh... you mean... It's... for me...?"

-- The Doctor, after being given Fish Scales.