If You Only Had 1 Lure

If you could only choose one lure type, it would have to be a crankbait. The crankbait can be fished anywhere. You can fish it near the top, everywhere in between and all the way to the bottom. You can also use ones that suspend. If you're fishing heavy cover with a crankbait with a large bill, the bill will act as a guard for the hooks. This is especially true if you'll cut off the bottom hook on the treble, which also makes it snag free.

When fishing a deep-diver, use one that actually goes deeper than the water your fishing. If fishing in 10 to 12 feet then use a crankbait that will run 15 feet. The lure bouncing off the bottom will trigger strikes. Crankbaits also result in good catches trolling. When trolling you may have to use weights to get the depth bass are holding at.

The lighter your line, the deeper your lure will go and if you'll run your rod tip down into the water, it will run about a foot or more deeper than if your line is on the surface. Learn the characteristics of the different kinds of crankbaits that you use. Plastic ones will be easier to throw than wooden ones, but by and large wooden ones have better action and more buoyancy than plastic ones.

Think about the action of the lures in reference to the application. Flat-sided cranks have a tighter wobble and will work better in cooler water. A stop-and-go retrieve will out produce a steady one every time. In off-colored water, no matter what your lure color might be use one with rattles. In clear water, go with smaller baits and subdued / natural colors.

If you find a crankbait that seems to really catch fish then use it a lot. It might only be confidence in that lure that makes it so good because you fish it with confidence. You will fish them harder and longer and in better areas than other baits.

Probably the foremost reason to choose crankbaits is that you can cover a lot more water than with other lures. The bad part is that we sometimes get stuck on one method and get in a rut. If you want to be successful in everyday fishing, you must be versatile in lure selection. But you must also excel in at least one of them. Whatever that is, for you, keep confidence in the bait. Don't forget that crankbaits also come lipless and are great search baits.