

Have you ever wondered why certain boats always manage to return to the dock consistently catching their limits of lobster? Chances are they've learned to "think like a lobster." Yes, it really is possible to set aside your landlubber ways and become one with the ocean, without mounting antennae on your head. However, to truly become the King Neptune of lobster diving you must first learn how lobsters live, where they sleep, what they eat, and what marine life they tend to hang out with.

So don your lobster "thinking cap." Here are eight tips sure to help you develop an effective lobster hunting mentality.

HOME SWEET HOME

It's no great secret that lobsters are most commonly found in crevices, limestone holes and under coral heads, ledges and manmade wreckage. This is because during the day they live in constant fear of being eaten by ocean predators like octopus, triggerfish, nurse sharks, sea turtles, grouper and yours truly! Lobsters are highly selective of these reclusive dens, residing most often in crevices that will allow full withdrawal of their body while being small enough to deny access to larger predators.



>LOBSTER MIND-MELD TIP #1: Think like a lobster and always be looking for those Swiss cheese-like honeycomb structures, and ledges that "cast a shadow" large enough to accommodate a bug or two. Hollowed-out brain coral can also hold a condo of antennae-protruding lobsters.



Nearby turtlegrass may serve as nocturnal foraging grounds.

GOTTA EAT

These stilt-legged creatures are nocturnal, always prowling at night in search of any nearby meadows of turtle grass. Here is where they find their favorite munchies consisting of slow-moving mollusks (snails and clams), plus other small crustaceans. A lobster's powerful mandibles will crush or chip away their prey's protective armor for these midnight snacks. Turtlegrass not only serves as their food source habitat, but also gives them a euphoric oxygen high, which is another magnet.

>LOBSTER MIND-MELD TIP #2: Scan the bottom like a lobster would, looking for your next meal. Look specifically for clamshells and other broken bits and pieces of shells and sea urchins. Finding a graveyard of busted up shells will mean just one thing—lobster are close by.



These divers are splashing in for a look at the bottom composition. At left is a bug big enough for two.

