



Dagger
Outperform



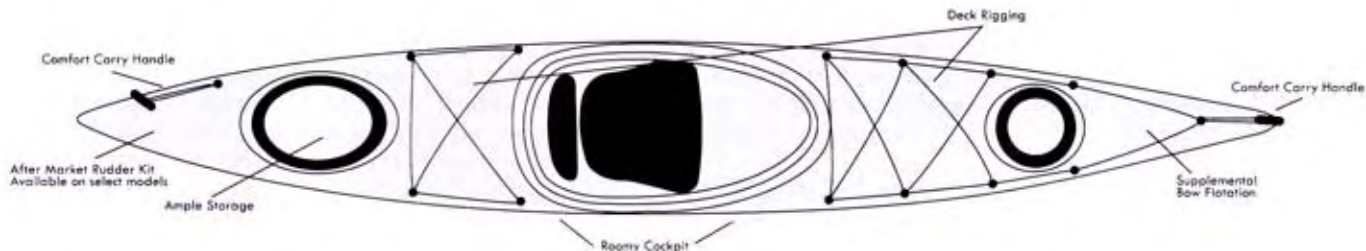
OWNER'S MANUAL



Founded in 1988, Dagger Kayaks has been the leader in paddlesports for nearly 20 years. With a focus on performance, comfort, and quality and with the help of our worldwide team Dagger Kayaks has set the standard for today's paddlers. From the exhilaration of river running, to the beauty of touring, or the fun of an afternoon in a recreational kayak, we are dedicated to making your paddling experience exceptional.

Team Tested, Paddler Proven. Dagger Kayaks. Outperform

KNOW YOUR KAYAK



CARE & MAINTENANCE

Rotomolded Kayaks

Our "roto" kayaks are molded of high density linear polyethylene, engineered to provide resilience, resistance to impact and abrasion, and to provide the stiffness necessary for efficient paddling.

Polyethylene is basically maintenance free. It is quite impervious to ultraviolet degradation and temperature variation. It can be stored out doors with little concern for damage, however over time and exposure, the color can fade if the boat is stored out of doors. This inevitable process can be slowed or halted with the use of an ultraviolet protectant such as 303, available from your local dealer.

Polyethylene is by nature a flexible material. That is what makes it so suitable for use in kayaks, whether it be white water or deep water. It shrugs off impact and is resistant to abrasion. A minimal amount of care in storage and transport will maintain the kayak in a like new condition.

Polyethylene will become more flexible when warm, such as on a hot sunny day. It is possible for a kayak strapped tightly to a roof rack or setting on a storage rack for a series of hot days to take a temporary deformation at weight bearing points. In most cases, releasing the pressure on the hull and leaving the hull out in the sunlight will allow the boat to regain its' original shape.

There are a couple easy steps to take to avoid this potential. When transporting your kayak the use of a rigid bar sport rack is best for security and the addition of "kayak

cradles" is highly recommended to disperse the pressure point over a wider portion of the hull. When storing your kayak, widen the rack surface by attaching a 1x4" top to the rack frame. Again this will disperse rather than concentrate the load and stress on the hull.

Usually, a quick rinse of fresh water is all that is necessary to keep your hull clean and functioning in good order. This is particularly recommended after paddling in salt water, especially if your boat is outfitted with a rudder system. Thoroughly rinse the rudder, rudder cables, and footbraces with fresh water to remove salt residue.

Continual exposure to abrasion can roughen the hull surface. This does not usually result in any structural damage but can lessen the hull's efficiency as a rough hull doesn't slide through the water as easily as a smooth hull. Raised nubbins on the hull can often be removed with a sharp knife or sand paper.

Use of your kayak will inevitably result in scratching. Most of the time this will be cosmetic or superficial damage, requiring no repair to maintain your hull's integrity.

It is important to be able to determine when damage is cosmetic or extends to impacting the structure of the hull. Impacts are much more likely than scratches to result in structural damage. Inspect your hull after suffering a collision.

As durable as it is, polyethylene is not indestructible. However, should the worse happen, it is repairable. Contact your local Dagger dealer.

CARE & MAINTENANCE

Airalite™ Kayaks

Airalite™ kayaks are co-extruded high-impact acrylic over premium impact ABS. Airalite™ is the same materials as used in whirlpools, spas, and some marine parts -- strong proof that it's a long-lasting material that will stand up to any type of water. This material creates a kayak that's light and stiff like fiberglass with the durability and price of plastic. Airalite™ Technology perfectly meets the unique demands put upon the hull and deck. Airalite™ is also formulated with adhesives for additional flexibility and UV resistance.

Airalite kayaks can be repaired much in the same way as fiberglass or Kevlar boats. Large cracks or holes can be patched with a fiberglass patch kit, available from most paddling or marine stores. And since Airalite has an acrylic top layer, gouges and deep scratches can be filled with any cyanoacrylate-type adhesive, such as SuperGlue Gel. Such adhesives dry clear, and with light surface work after the glue dries, become almost invisible. It cleans up easily with mild soap. For tougher spots, try rubbing alcohol.

TRANSPORT & STORAGE

STORAGE

Inside storage is preferred if available. UV exposure can shorten the lifespan of any kayak and will often cosmetically degrade the finish of a kayak.

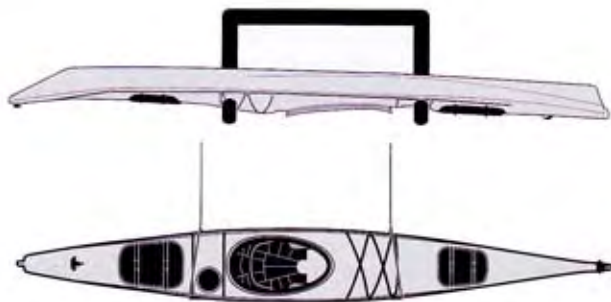
Store your boat, hull up, on parallel bars, evenly spaced about $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of the way from bow and stern. For large cockpit "recreational" boats position bars so that the cockpit coaming rests on the bars. For smaller cockpit kayaks, position bars so that they contact hull between the cockpit and any hatches.

For rotomolded polyethylene kayaks, it is recommended that you broaden the surface on which the kayak rests to disperse the load and lessen the chance of temporary or permanent distortion. A simple way of doing this is to nail or screw a 1 x 4" board to the top of a 2 x 4" cross bar.

Kayaks can be stored slung on their sides via web straps, positioned $1/3$ of the way along the hull.

It is not recommended that your kayak be suspended by clipping into the grabloops at either end of the boat. Over time such suspension can cause the hull to bow slightly from end to end. It is best to support your hull evenly throughout its length.

Storing your kayak resting on its' side on the floor can cause a flattening or deformation of the side of the hull. In most cases, this is a temporary situation but long term storage in that position can make the deformation more serious and permanent. Avoid this potential by storing your boat hull up on cross bar racks.

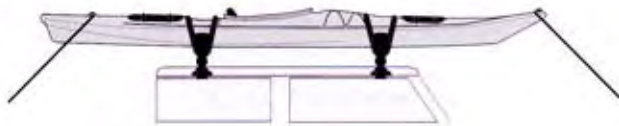


TRANSPORT & STORAGE

TRANSPORTING

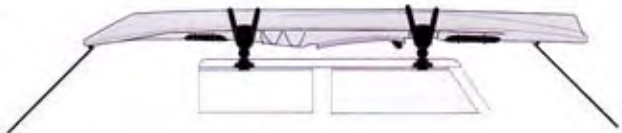
Kayaks are best transported on top of your car resting on a sturdy cross bar roof rack, lashed down to each cross bar and also at bow and stern to vehicle. Kayak cradles are recommended for boats transported "flat," as this will lessen the chances of deformation by being lashed tightly to the bars. Another way to minimize potential deformation is to position the cross bars as close to the kayak's bulkheads when possible. Rotomolded kayaks can also be successfully transported on their edge by the use of kayak stackers.

It is recommended that your boat be positioned hull up when possible but especially when inclement weather is threatening. A kayak being transported deck up is susceptible to filling with water when it rains. It takes a surprisingly short time for a kayak to become quite full of water. Even a partial water load is heavy, hard to handle, and dangerous to both your vehicle and to you. If a hull down position is unavoidable, you will need a portage cover to seal the cockpit. Make sure the cover has a means of being tied off to the hull of the kayak so it can't be blown off by high winds.



Foam block racks can be used successfully for short distances or lower speed transportation. Foam blocks should be wide enough for adequate support and it is recommended that you use those foam rack kits with straps or replace any ropes you have in a kit with straps. Use and installation of foam block racks needs to be done with an extra measure of care and attention as they are not as secure as cross bar racks. With foam blocks racks it is essential to tie off bow and stern of kayak directly to the vehicle.

Regardless of which rack system is used, you should always stop shortly after you start your trip to make sure all fittings and connections are tight and secure. In the event of rain, you should also periodically check your straps to make sure they have not stretched while wet.



RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES

Sprayskirt

A sprayskirt is an essential when you want to venture farther from shore or get caught out in rough conditions. It needs to go on fairly easily and "pop" off quickly when you tug on the grab loop at front of skirt. Every time you put on your spray skirt, double check to make sure the grab loop extends outside of the skirt and is visible on the deck.



Cockpit Cover

A cockpit cover can keep the inside of your kayak dry, clean, and free of bugs and other less friendly intruders.



Mini-Skirt

A Mini-skirt is a viable option to a full sprayskirt. The Mini Skirt is basically the deck of a spray skirt without the body tunnel.



PFD

A comfortable and secure fitting PFD (Personal Flotation Device) is an absolute essential paddling accessory and should be worn at all times. A shorter PFD works better with kayaks as it won't ride up around your ears. Your highest priorities should be security of fit and comfort.



Paddle

The choice of a paddle is just as personal as the choice of your boat. Factors to consider in selecting your paddle include blade shape, length, weight, and material. Synthetic paddles are the most care free. A take-apart paddle offers the ability to change blade angle or feather and is easy to store and transport. A spare paddle is good to have as well. It can be an inexpensive breakdown paddle that can be stowed easily on deck.



Safety Equipment

It is recommended that all paddlers carry a bilge pump, paddle float, and whistle (attached to your PFD is best). It is highly recommended that you obtain qualified instruction and practice under controlled, comfortable conditions. USCG regulations require an audible signal device (horn or whistle) on all watercraft.



Personal Gear

Items you should keep with you on every trip include sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, insect repellent, compass, waterproof flashlight, matches or lighter, and a first aid kit. Don't forget drinking water, you'll be surprised how dehydrated you can get when on the water.

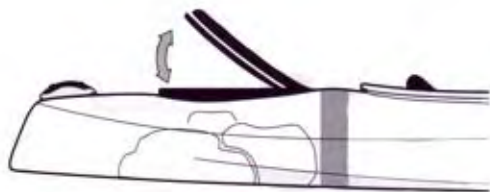


STOWING YOUR GEAR

Access to gear storage areas behind your seat and in front of your foot pedals is via the center cockpit or through one or more hatches. To stow gear in end of boat with hatch, pop open hatch and slide gear in place. Place heavier gear towards bottom of kayak and place lighter equipment on top. To stow gear in bow compartments without hatch, slide equipment forward from cockpit. Keep items in center of boat so they don't get tangled on your foot pedals.

Some models are equipped with stern bulkheads located between the hatch and the seat. These bulkheads improve hull rigidity and help keep the storage compartments dry. Regardless, it is recommended that any gear stowed inside the hull be stored in a waterproof bag unless it can get wet without harm.

Any gear stored inside the hull without a bulkhead should be stowed in such a way that it won't shift or slide while underway and possibly impede safe operation of your kayak. It is also wise to tether gear to the hull so that in event of a capsize and flooding of the hull your gear will remain with the boat and not float off.



WARNING

Kayaking can be hazardous with potential risk of serious injury and even death. Any person using kayaks built and/or sold by Dagger is personally responsible for determining that their abilities are equal or superior to the conditions encountered and exercising proper judgment in choice of where and when to paddle. Any person using Dagger kayaks assumes all risks and takes complete responsibility for any and all damages or injuries, including death, which may result from use or participation.

It is strongly recommended that all paddlers obtain qualified instruction in paddling basics and rescue. Instruction will make your paddling more efficient and pleasurable as well as safer. Information on local paddling instruction can be obtained from your local Dagger dealer or from the American Canoe Association at www.aca.org.

Do not paddle alone. Solo paddling significantly increases the hazards inherent to the sport.

Always leave your paddling location and agenda with someone at home before departing. It is also encouraged that all paddlers become certified in CPR and first aid.

When you adjust existing outfitting or install additional outfitting Dagger (seat, thigh braces, foot braces, backband, padding, etc.) to best suit your personal preferences, always keep "escapability" (the ability to separate from your boat in event of capsize or other hazardous situation) in mind. You want a secure paddling position that has good contact with your boat (experienced paddlers refer to "wearing your kayak") but not one that will impede or slow your ability to separate from the boat should conditions dictate. Avoid bracing yourself in the boat in such a way that you first have to release one or more of your outfitting components to achieve escape. You should be able to "float" free merely by relaxing your position, bringing your feet off the foot pedals and pushing yourself free of the kayak. It is recommended that you consult and compare your outfitting with experienced paddlers or instructors and practice wet exits from your kayak in calm controlled conditions before venturing into more exposed or hazardous conditions.

Fig. 1
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Fig. 2
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LIMITED WARRANTY

Dagger Kayaks are sold to the original purchaser with a Dagger 3-Year Limited Warranty.

This Dagger® boat is warranted against defects in materials and workmanship, to the original retail consumer, as follows: During the first twelve months, Dagger will repair or replace, at our option, any defective part. During the second year, if the hull is defective, Dagger will repair or replace the hull for 25 percent of the current suggested retail price of this model of boat. During the third year, if the hull is defective, Dagger will repair or replace the hull for 50 percent of the current suggested retail price of this model of boat. The customer is responsible for the transportation cost to and from the Dagger factory at Easley, South Carolina. This warranty does not cover normal wear, nor damage resulting from abuse, alteration, or unauthorized repair.

The warranty registration form must be completed on-line at www.dagger.com and within 30 days of purchase for the warranty to be effective. Dagger program boats are not covered by this warranty and are subject to specific limitations. No return boats or parts will be accepted at Dagger that are not preauthorized and freight prepaid.

THIS WARRANTY EXCLUDES CLAIMS FOR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCIDENTAL DAMAGES AND INCIDENTAL EXPENSES. ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE LIMITED TO THREE YEARS FROM THE DATE OF RETAIL PURCHASE. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, nor how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations may not apply to you. To the extent that any provision of this warranty is prohibited by federal, state, or municipal law cannot be preempted, it shall not be applicable. This warranty gives you specific legal rights

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