

MARVEL OWNER'S MANUAL

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UNDERSTANDING YOUR MARVEL

Hull Materials

Polyethylene

Rotationally molded boats are engineered to have sturdy hulls with maximum impact and abrasion resistance. Polyethylene can endure extended exposure to both ultraviolet light and temperature variation, enabling boats to be stored outdoors.

FEATURES

First Class Seating™ (patent pending)

This unique seating system supports you for hours of paddling, fishing, or simply soaking up the sun. You can install or adjust your seat to 'trim' the boat (achieve a horizontal water line) when you carry heavy gear or are joined by your dog for a day of paddling.

Despite its structural integrity and adjustability it weighs only seven pounds. The seat can be removed quickly, making the boat lighter and loading so much easier than with other kayaks. Given the comfort and adjustability of its suspended seat design, it may become your favorite beach or campground chair!

Materials

~The anodized aluminum seat back reclines and the seat bottom can be raised to provide extra under-thigh support. The slightly raised position of the seat allows you to get a good look at where you're paddling, and the seat's base serves as a tray to store items that you want to access quickly.

~ 3-D Mesh Spacer Fabric

This unique mesh breathes and drains easily, so you don't have to sit in a water puddle or on a soggy cushion. It is 100% recyclable and produced using an environmentally-friendly process. Ozone-depleting cfcs (chlorofluorocarbons) that are generally used in foam manufacturing have been eliminated from the process.

~Textilene® Solar Screen Fabric

The fabric used to construct First Class Seats™ will withstand five years of daily sun exposure before it begins to break down. The light colored fabric stays much cooler than traditional black seats or compression molded seats.

Easy Foot™ Footbrace System

The Easy Foot™ Footbrace System makes it easy to adjust your foot pad position while seated. The foot pads are sized to specifically suit your boat.

Deck Rigging

Elastic 'bungee' cord on the deck of your kayak is installed to hold items you want to reach easily while you're paddling. Your stored items will be exposed to the elements and splashes from paddling, so choose items that are water resistant or waterproof. Store items on the deck that are fairly light: heavy items may make the boat feel unstable while you paddle.

When you are on the water, check items stored under the bungee deck rigging periodically to make sure they are snug and secure.

Additional sections of your kayak are available for stowing gear while you paddle. Dry storage areas are available in the stern and open storage areas will hold waterproof storage bags in the bow and behind the seat.

Hatch Storage

The rear hatch is accessible by a specially - molded hatch cover. It

- allows you to get to your gear quickly and easily,
- tethers to the boat so they won't get lost, and
- creates a waterproof seal.

A bulkhead is located between the hatch and the sitting area. It improves hull rigidity and helps keep the storage compartment dry by blocking water from center cockpit area.

To open the hatch:

1. Find the tab molded to the hatch cover.
2. Insert fingers under that tab, and then work them around the entire edge of the hatch cover, gently lifting pulling it up and away from the boat.
3. Once you've lifted the entire hatch edge from the boat, pull it free.

To seal the hatch:

1. Place the hatch cover over the hatch rim and engage an inch or two of the hatch by pressing down with your thumbs, or the heel of one of your hands.
2. Use the heel of each hand to press down their respective sides of the hatch around to the far end of the hatch.
3. When you've made your way around you'll feel the hatch cover drop down and lock onto the hatch rim.

Gear should be stowed in such a way that it won't shift or slide while underway, possibly impeding the safe operation of your kayak. Heavier items should be

stored toward the bottom of the kayak, with lighter items on top. We recommend stowing gear in waterproof bags unless it can get wet without harm. It is also wise to tether gear stored to the seat or to other stowed items so that if you capsize, the gear will remain with the boat.

Comfort and Convenience

- **Paddle parks** provide a secure resting place for your paddle whenever you need your hands free.
- **Thigh pads** create greater comfort while you paddle and double as comfortable shoulder pads when carrying your boat solo.

Rudder (optional for the Marvel 12 or 14.5)

The rudder comes secured to the boat with a bungee. When you release this your rudder will be available and your footbraces will be freed to direct the rudder position.

To lower the rudder:

1. Look for the rope on the deck that is used to raise and lower the rudder. It features two barrel knots.
2. Grab the barrel knot that is farthest aft (toward the stern) and pull it forward.
3. Adjust your footbraces so that your knees are comfortably bent and you can exert a reasonable amount of force on the footbraces before your knees are completely straightened / extended.
4. You should now be able to steer to the right or left by applying pressure on the right or left footbrace, respectively.

To retract the rudder:

1. Check to be sure the rudder is centered behind the boat by positioning both your footbraces at the same distance from you.
2. Look again to the rope on the deck that features two barrel knots. Choose the knot that is farthest aft, and pull it forward. Your rudder should exit the water easily and land in the 'vee' notch of the rudder holder.
3. When you're ready to load up your boat, re-secure the rudder with the bungee as it was when you started out.

USING YOUR MARVEL

Initial Set Up:

Your First Class Seat™ comes installed for a solo paddler carrying a light load.

1. Adjust the seat for your comfort.

- a. **Seat Back** -- For a more *erect* position, tighten the side straps by pulling the free strap ends toward the front of the boat. For a more relaxed position, sit up so that the side straps are supporting you, but not stretched tight. Gently pull the rounded end of each strap buckle up and away from the strap. The strap will lengthen and loosen until you've found your desired position.
 - b. **Seat Bottom** -- From your seated position, raise your thighs by drawing your feet in and leaning back a bit. With one hand, lift the front edge of the seat up to take the weight off the adjustment bar underneath you. With your other hand, reposition the adjustment bar in one of its three positions.
2. Adjust your Easy Foot footbrace.
 - a. Unweight the pads.
 - b. Pull or push the adjustment bar until the footpad is in the desired position.
 - c. When you feel the footpad click into place on the track, let go of the adjustment bar.

Removing and Re-installing the Seat:

1. Remove a First Class Seat™:
 - a. push the seat bracket front latch up away from the seat post
 - b. push the seat forward to release it
 - c. lift out
2. Re-install a First Class Seat™:
 - a. lower the seat down into the boat well
 - b. re-insert it to position the seat posts at the desired bracket location
 - c. lift the rim at the cockpit slightly as you slide the seat until you can secure the latch around the seat post

Special Marvel Setups

Marvel 12 Alternate Set Up for a Small Passenger in the Bow (front)

If you'll be paddling with a child or dog (or a large amount of gear) in the bow you can modify the seat easily to accommodate the extra weight.

1. Remove the seat from the boat and reinstall it (as described in the "Removing and Re-installing the Seat" section above) in the rear position behind the seat bracket.
2. Re-adjust your footbraces (as described in step 2 of Initial Setup above)

Marvel 14.5 Solo

The Marvel 14.5 Solo can be converted to a tandem with additional parts purchased through a Native Watercraft retailer. However, if the optional rudder is installed, it will only be controlled from the solo seat position.

Marvel 14.5 Tandem

Paddling from a solo position, you will not have access to the knee pads and foot pads when paddling in a solo position unless you install an accessory bar / foot board, Easy Foot™ footbraces and knee pads to suit a solo paddling position. You can order these from your Native Watercraft dealer. Additionally, if you own a Marvel 14.5 Tandem with rudder, you will be able to control the rudder from the tandem rear seat position only.

Transporting Your Marvel

To transport your kayak securely, we suggest that you install a rigid bar, sport rack system on the roof of your vehicle. Your boat will remain most stable when loaded upside down. If you are unlikely to encounter rain during your road trip, you can also load it with the hull down.

Caring for Your Marvel

A **fresh water rinse** for the hull and all moving parts is all that is necessary to keep your boat clean. It is heartily recommended after paddling in salt water, especially if your boat is outfitted with a rudder system. Thoroughly rinse the rudder, rudder cables, and foot braces with fresh water to remove dirt, sand and salt.

We also recommend that you treat your First Class Seat™ fabric with a **mold retardant cleaner** (found at grocery or home improvement stores) if you use it infrequently or if it will be stored in a moist environment or one with poor air circulation.

You should periodically **lubricate** all moving parts (like the footbraces, or rudder) to keep them in top working order. We recommend using 303 Lubricant, available at outdoor specialty and select home improvement retailers. For polyethylene hulls, 303 Lubricant can also be used to protect the luster of the boat's surface.

Polyethylene

Polyethylene is a tough, resilient material which can withstand a reasonable amount of impact and usage over rough surfaces. However, over time and with continued use, abrasions can reduce the hull's ability to glide smoothly through the water. You can minimize raised texture on the hull by scrapping the polyethylene ridges off with a sharp knife or buffing them out with sand paper. Also, please remember that the hull is tough, not indestructible, but minor damages may be repairable. Contact your local Native Watercraft dealer for additional information and assistance regarding polyethylene repair.

Storage Tips

The ideal environment for storing your kayak is a shaded, dry space. Never store your kayak in direct sunlight. Position it upside down with each end

supported on sturdy, cushioned racks. Wood 2 x 4's covered with carpet or closed-cell foam work nicely (coverings that will either dry quickly or not absorb moisture will keep mildew away).

Polyethylene material softens somewhat when it is exposed to extremely warm conditions. If your kayak is strapped tightly to a roof rack or sitting on a storage rack during a series of hot days, it may deform. You can encourage your boat to "remember" its original shape by unstrapping it and setting it on a flat or padded surface in the sunlight but it may not completely regain its shape if it has been deformed by severely tightened straps or ropes.

Storing the boat with the seat installed also helps encourage it to keep its shape. Also, if you will be storing your boat in a location where the air temperature can remain high for extended periods, it is best to remove your hatch covers.

Basic Gear

When you paddle you should always carry safety equipment, carry appropriate personal gear, use a comfortable paddle, and wear a PFD (personal flotation device).

Paddle

The choice of a paddle is 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 damage resistant. Composite models will generally be lighter and better if you'll be paddling for long periods of time. Most paddlers use paddles between 225 and 240 cm in length: you should try different lengths and types of paddles before you make a purchase, just as you would test paddle your boat.

Take-apart paddles offer the ability to change blade angle ("feather") to suit your preference, and are easy to store and transport. A spare paddle is good to have as well. It can be an inexpensive take-apart paddle that can be stowed easily on deck.

PFD – Personal Flotation Device

A comfortable and securely-fitting PFD is an absolutely essential paddling accessory that should be worn when you're in your kayak. Try your PFD on before you make a purchase, to be sure it fits comfortably. Swing your arms and rotate your torso to make sure you can move your arms freely without feeling restricted. If it does, adjust the outfitting or try another model / size.

If you will be wearing a sprayskirt or have a short torso, wear your pfd while sitting in a boat: it should not ride up more than an inch or two, and someone should be able to pick you up by its shoulders without it lifting up over your head.

Sprayskirt

A sprayskirt is handy to ward off small, infrequent waves or to hide your legs from the merciless sun. It is essential when you want to venture from shore, or when there is even a remote chance that you'll encounter rough conditions. Test your sprayskirt ashore prior to using them afloat. It should go on fairly easily, and release easily.

Boat Cover

A cockpit cover may become your favorite "off water" accessory. Its waterproof fabric attaches around the cockpit rim to keep the inside of the kayak dry, clean and free of critters. In addition, if you transport your kayak on a trailer or roof rack with the cockpit up, using a cockpit cover will allow you to carry items in the boat while you transport it, and will keep rain out of the boat.

Safety Equipment

You should consider carrying a bilge pump to rid the interior of standing water that can destabilize your ride. United States Coast Guard regulations require an audible signal device (horn or whistle) on all watercraft.

Note: Safety equipment is not worth much unless you know how to use it. We recommend that you obtain qualified instruction and practice under controlled, comfortable conditions.

Personal Gear

The following is a list of items that you should keep with you on every trip in a dry storage bag or case:

- drinking water
- sunscreen
- a brimmed hat and sunglasses
- insect repellent
- compass
- waterproof flashlight
- matches or a lighter
- a first aid kit

The following should also be considered:

- A dry set of clothes, if the weather will not dry you quickly after a capsized
- Weather radio
- Global positioning device (GPS)
- Cell phone
- Navigation charts
- Repair kit
 - o Duct tape
 - o Screwdriver
 - o Vise grips

- Spare cord
- Knife

If you have additional questions about your new product from Native Watercraft or would like to learn about any of our suggested accessories, please ask your dealer. They will be happy to help you get to your next day on the water safely, and soon!

Native Watercraft

www.nativewatercraft.com