



## Delta Kayaks Owner's Manual

Welcome and congratulations on your purchase! At Delta Kayaks we are not only accomplished manufacturers, but also passionate paddlers. We have combined our extensive kayaking experience with innovative designs and the most advanced materials and methods to create some of the finest thermoformed kayaks available. Our focus on detail is evident in both our kayaks' appearance and performance and we are confident that you will enjoy our beautiful crafts for many years to come.

Please take some time to read over this owner's manual. It will help familiarize you with the many benefits and features of your kayak to help you get the most out of your paddling experience.

### **Delta Kayaks' Unique Design and Construction**

The shape and designs of our kayaks are created using the latest computer modeling and analysis software ensuring that each boat performs at an optimal level for its intended use in various conditions.

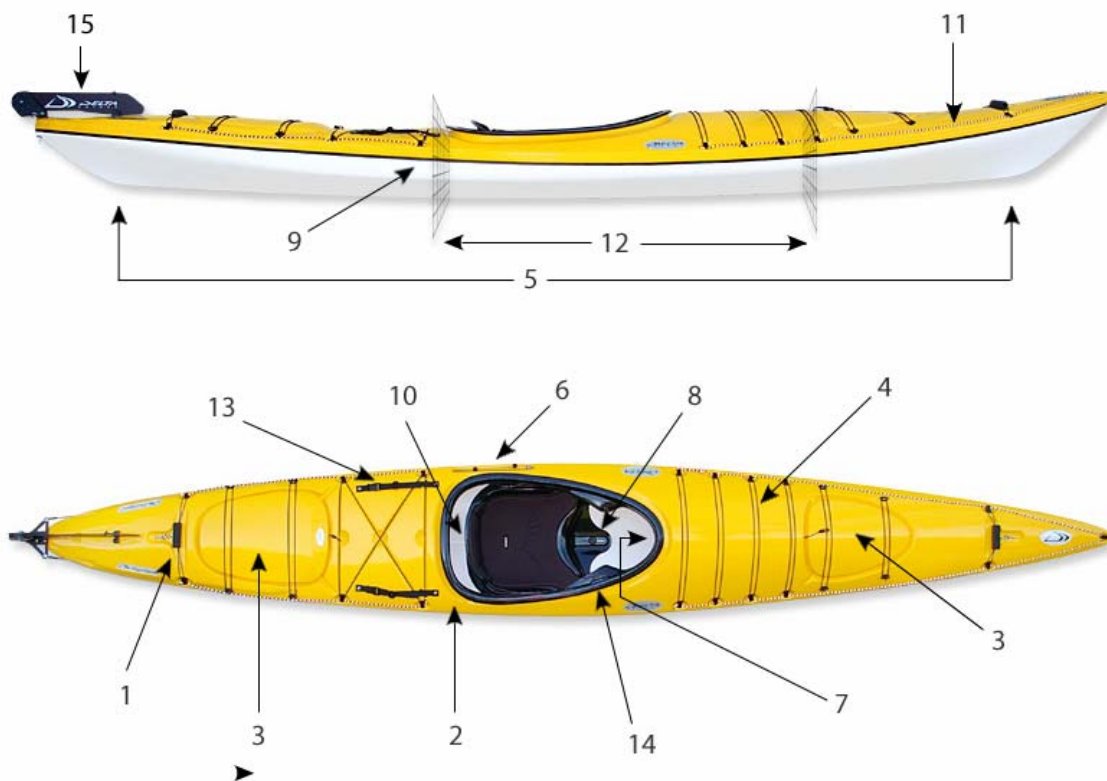
Delta Kayaks are moulded from highly specialized thermoplastic materials. The kayak's hull and deck are a multilayered construction featuring a "Solarkote" exterior layer for the ultimate protection against fading and weathering. This material gives our boats the high lustre finish, vibrant colors, and excellent abrasion resistance that will provide many years of virtually maintenance-free service. The substrate or secondary layer is a very tough high impact ABS thermoplastic providing a rugged backup to the Solarkote surface layer. These materials have a higher impact strength than composite fiberglass and gel coats and are also easily polished or repaired if required. Unlike polyethylene boats, our thermoformed kayaks are far less likely to deform in the sun or on your roof rack because they have a higher heat deflection threshold. You will also find our boats to be among the lightest on the market making lifting and transporting easy to manage.

Consideration for the environment is also a major part of our philosophy at Delta Kayaks.

While you are enjoying your kayak in the outdoors, you can be confident in the knowledge that Delta Kayaks are made from materials and construction methods that tread lightly on our planet. Unlike the construction of composite kayaks which release free styrenes and harmful emissions during processing, the thermoformed materials used to make Delta Kayaks are safe to manufacture and are completely recyclable.

### **Safety**

There are always risks involved in sports and kayaking is no exception. It is very important to be aware of these before you embark on your paddling experience. Although kayaking can be a very safe and fun-filled activity, paddlers at the beginner stage should note that they may be particularly at risk in unfavourable conditions, such as bad weather or rough waters. It is important to learn how these conditions affect kayaks and their operation. In addition, it is crucial to know how to re-enter your kayak in the event of a capsize, particularly if this happens in cold water. It is also advised that you paddle with a partner at all times so that there is someone available to assist you in the event of a capsize or other emergency. Wearing a PFD is vital to your safety while paddling as well as the proper clothing for the appropriate conditions. These are only preliminary guidelines and Delta Kayaks strongly recommends that you take a course from a certified instructor and learn as much as you can about paddling to ensure your experience is as safe as possible.



## Features

**1. Handles** are large, padded grips that remain warm when wet and in colder temperatures.

**2. Security “D” ring** inside the cockpit allows easy and secure cable locking to your roof rack.

**3. Hatches** provide larger than average dry storage to facilitate loading and stowing of gear during long expeditions.

**4. Adaptive deck bungee configuration** allows convenient and easy use for securing gear to the deck.

**5. Long waterline** enhances glide and efficient cruising speed.

**6. Easy Up-Haul** allows you to effortlessly locate and deploy the rudder.

**7. Foot braces** are easy to adjust. In models with a rudder, braces are gas pedal-style which enables you to stay braced while steering with your toes.

**8. TSC (Total Seat Control)** allows you to change the trim of the kayak while you are paddling. TSC gives you the ability to move the seat up to four inches forward or backward to suit your fit and preference.

**9. Unique inside seam construction** creates a stronger, stiffer, leak-proof seam and doubles as an innovative cable tray for the rudder control tubes.

**10. Five position adjustable seatback** allows you to easily raise or lower the seatback to one of five positions. The seat post also pivots keeping the seatback contour to your back and providing optimal comfort and support.

**11. Reflective safety lines** provide high visibility as well as practicality due to the provision for use with gloved hands.

**12. Moulded flanged bulkheads** provide strength and a water-tight seal to the front and rear storage areas for added buoyancy and safety, and to ensure that stored items stay dry.

**13. Self-rescue straps** on rear deck are a standard feature that allow a paddle-float self-rescue.

**14. Built-in thigh braces** are padded for comfort and added grip while bracing.

**15. Rudder** facilitates course corrections in wind and wave conditions (See next page for rudder system).

## Rudder System

The Delta Kayaks rudder system has been made specifically for our kayaks. The Up-haul and Down-haul are located directly underneath your left elbow (See Image 1). To lower the rudder blade into the water, locate and grasp the ball furthest to the back of your kayak and slide it forward. To bring the rudder blade back to its holder on the deck, once again grab the ball that is furthest back and pull it forward. When beaching your kayak or pulling into shore, be sure to retract the rudder blade to avoid damage. Do not carry your kayak by its rudder.

We use a gas pedal-style pedal system which allows a constant brace and the ability to steer the kayak with only a slight push of your toes. Adjusting the distance between the seat and pedal is a simple procedure. Lift up the flap in front of the foot pedal track so that it is pointing to the middle of the kayak (See Image 2). This frees the locking lugs from the actual pedal. To move the pedal forward or backward simply push or pull the pedal until it is in the desired position. Once in place, simply flip the flag lever to the down position to lock (See Image 3). To keep a free-sliding pedal, regularly flush out the track and pedal system to eliminate sand and gravel.



**Image 1**



**Image 2**



**Image 3**

## Care and Maintenance

Your Delta Kayak is designed to be as durable and maintenance-free as possible. However, there are some simple measures you can take to ensure that your kayak stays in the best condition possible giving you many years of use and enjoyment. The built-in Solarkote finish resists against abrasion and harmful UV rays. All that is required is washing with a soft cloth or sponge and warm soapy water.

Whenever possible, avoid dragging your kayak on rough or rocky surfaces. If minor scuffs and abrasions do occur, we recommend the use of Novus or similar polishing products. **Note: Never use strong solvents, such as acetone lacquer thinners on your kayak as these can seriously damage the finish of your boat.** The outside of the kayak *can* be waxed but this is not necessary. For extra protection of exposed areas of your kayak's interior, Protectant 303, which is a UV inhibitor, can be applied.

After use in saltwater it is very important to ensure that you thoroughly rinse your kayak with clean freshwater to prevent salt and grime buildup. Pay particular attention to the rudder system. It is a good idea to flush out the holes where the rudder cables enter the deck of the kayak.

Routinely check all deck lines and rudder cables for abrasion or wear. Replace these as required. Contact the retailer where you purchased your kayak for information on replacement parts.

## Storage

Your kayak can be stored either right-side-up or upside-down. Ensure that you have supports on or near the bulkheads. Before you store your kayak, it is important that both knobs securing the seat front and seatback have lubrication, and that you have inspected and cleaned out sand and gravel underneath the seat and in the side seat tracks. Make sure all salt water is thoroughly rinsed off. We recommend having the Delta Kayaks cockpit cover in place during storage. Note: Do not cover cockpit or dry storage areas with hatches or seals unless kayak is completely dry as this may result in the formation of mold or mildew. It is best to store your kayak out of direct sunlight whenever possible to further prolong the life of your kayak.

## Transportation

Transportation of your kayak can be made safe and easy with the proper gear. We recommend the use of a sturdy roof rack system. Racks should be positioned as close to the bulkheads as possible. Kayak cradles or foam blocks provide a stable resting platform for the kayak. Use four 1" x 12" straps with a proper cam lock buckle to secure the kayak on the roof rack. Rope may be used as a substitute but is not as convenient. Pay attention that you do not over tighten to the point of distorting the kayak's shape. Use bow and stern lines to secure the front and rear of the kayak so that it does not wiggle or pivot. Again, do not over tighten. Apply the cockpit cover to decrease wind resistance and to keep the cockpit free of debris and from filling with rainwater.

## Repair

Your thermoformed kayak is made with materials that, if required, make repair very simple. Review the following repair methods below to determine the best course of action to take for your kayak's particular damage.

### Abrasions

Scratches and abrasions can be repaired by carefully wet sanding with 400 grit wet-dry sandpaper, followed by 600 grit. Use a cut polishing compound, such as Novus #2 or #3, to bring the finish back to its original high polish.



### Leaks

If a leak is found in a bulkhead or deck seam we recommend sealing the problem area with Devcon Plastic Welder (methyl methacrylate), which is a two-part adhesive that can be purchased at most hardware shops across North America. A urethane marine sealant can also be used.

### Cracks or Perforations

To repair a crack, begin by ensuring that the edges of the fracture are tight and aligned together so there is no gap and the surfaces are flush. If accessible, lightly sand and clean the interior side of the damaged area, extending at least an inch beyond the crack. There are two options for this repair. The first is to cut a piece of fiberglass cloth the appropriate size, which should also extend to at least an inch beyond the damage. Now saturate the cloth with Devcon Plastic Welder (a urethane marine sealant should **not** be used in its place for this type of repair). Follow the mixing directions on the package. Apply the saturated cloth to the interior side of the damage and use a putty knife or flat tool to work out any air trapped in the cloth. Make sure you use enough adhesive to provide good structure behind the damaged area.

The second option is to cover the crack with a piece of ABS plastic sheet that you can acquire from the retailer where you purchased your kayak. For this repair, cover the crack with Devcon Plastic Welder and then apply the plastic piece to the interior of the damaged area.

## **Delta Kayaks Warranty**

Delta Kayaks is pleased to accompany the finest thermoformed kayak with a three-year limited warranty to the original owner of the kayak. You must register your kayak by filling out the registration form below and sending it by mail or fax to Delta Kayaks within 30 days of purchase in order to initiate the warranty.

In the event that you realize a problem exists, please contact the retailer where you purchased your kayak and they will be able to assist you with your claim.

The Delta Kayaks Warranty covers defective materials or workmanship for a period of three years when used as intended and under normal conditions. The original warranty from the original owner cannot be transferred to another person. The Delta Kayaks Warranty does not apply to rental fleets, outfitters, tour operators or other operations of this kind. Tour operators may refer to the Operator Warranty for information concerning their fleets. In addition, Delta Kayaks does not cover kayaks that are altered or modified in any way from the original state of manufacture when purchased. Every claim must be accompanied by the original bill of sale. All warranty claims will be subject to an investigation by Delta Kayaks and they may repair or replace the defective product at their discretion, determining whether the problem is a result of defective materials or workmanship or the result of misuse or accident above and beyond the scope of the warranty. Photos accompanying the damaged part of the kayak may be requested to ensure an accurate evaluation during the investigation.

Delta Kayaks Ltd. is not responsible for injury or accidents sustained during use of their product. Users acknowledge all assumed risks and are solely responsible for all damages or injuries incurred, including death, which may result from the use of Delta Kayaks Ltd. products and waive any and all claims against Delta Kayaks Ltd.

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