



EDISTO

OWNER'S GUIDE



UNFOLD NEW ADVENTURES.™

www.folbot.com

FOLBOT OWNER'S TIPS

ADDING YEARS TO YOUR FOLBOT'S LIFE

- 1. As you become familiar with the assembly of the boat, pieces will fall into place naturally. Allow plenty of time for the first assembly and enjoy the process. Avoid forcing any parts as you are learning.**
- 2. Should you experience any difficulty in assembly, please check with us at the factory: 800/533-5099, 8:30-4:30 Eastern Time, M-F.**
- 3. If using the boat extensively in salt water, there are several things you can do ahead of time to eliminate maintenance later: sliding parts that are shock-corded together should be sprayed occasionally with silicone spray. After use in salt water, disassemble the boat, rinse all parts with fresh water, allow to dry, and reapply silicone. This will prevent oxidation and sticking of these parts.**
- 4. Sand should always be rinsed out of the boat thoroughly when disassembled. Sand can hinder the operation of the lower shock-corded joints and the tensioning mechanism, so care should be taken to ensure that they are rinsed free of sand after use.**
- 5. While the fabrics used on both the deck and hull are very ultra-violet resistant, protect the boat from sunlight when not in use.**

USING YOUR FOLBOT

- 1. Take a little extra care when launching your kayak. Though the hull fabric is tough, you should not drag a boat from the shore into the water. Launch from a bank or dock if possible. If not, carry the kayak into the water until the bottom clears and it floats. Use this procedure when landing also. It will add years to the life of the hull.**
- 2. You may step on the tubing or the fabric when entering the boat. Stay low and grasp the washboards as soon as possible and lower yourself into the seat. This is a learned skill and you will become very adept at this with a little practice.**
- 3. It is possible to enter the boat from the water, but this requires some practice. A wet entry should be practiced in shallow water to determine your ability to re-enter the boat. Entering the boat from the bow or stern requires a bit of dexterity as you slide across the bow or stern deck into the cockpit. Using a paddle float properly will enable you to enter the boat more easily, but lessons in this procedure should be taken.**
- 4. The proper paddle length for a kayak is determined more by the beam (width) of the boat than any other factor.**
- 5. The basic kayak paddle stroke is unlike that used to paddle a canoe. Rather than reaching straight down into the water, the kayak paddle enters the water at about a 45-degree angle. Rather than pulling the blade through the water with the arm closest to the submerged paddle blade, that arm remains straight and stiff and becomes a fulcrum while the other arm pushes, much like a boxer's motion.**
- 6. A gradual turn can be accomplished by paddling only on one side of the kayak. A sharper turn is made trailing the paddle at an angle, just like a rudder. An abrupt turn can be achieved paddling forward on one side of the kayak and then quickly backwards on the opposite side.**

7. If the boat has capsized, it is best to stay with it and swim it to shore before attempting to empty it of water. Emptying the boat should be done by gently rocking it back and forth toward a position where the boat is on its side, and then rolling it completely upside down. If it is impossible to get a capsized boat to shore, it can be bailed with an open container or bilge pump, but this is quite time consuming. Safety bladders or float storage bags are a must. The larger the safety bladders, the better, as less water can enter the boat.

8. A foot rudder is best used when paddling in large, open bodies of water, particularly when it is necessary to counter a cross wind or cross tide. You can usually make a sharper turn with the paddles than with a rudder.

9. Avoid towing the FOLBOT behind a powerboat. Because of its light weight when empty, it is quite easy to flip the boat at high speeds. In an emergency, tow it at an idle, and leave some small amount of weight in the boat.

AFTERCARE OF YOUR FOLBOT

1. *It is very important that your boat be completely dry when it is packed away for longer than a day or two.* As soon as convenient after using, allow all parts to dry thoroughly before storing in the bag.

2. The hull fabric is easily repaired using a service kit available from our factory. Detailed instructions are included with the service kit. Generally a small nick in the bottom layer of the hull that does not penetrate the fabric is best ignored or touched up with clear Aqua Seal or Shoe Goo, a material sold at sporting good stores for mending tennis shoes. Any hole that goes completely through the fabric should be patched following the instructions included with the service kit.

3. The hull and deck can be cleaned with soap and warm water as needed.

4. The deck is made of urethane-coated polyester and is quite UV resistant. The deck fabric can be patched from the underside if it is ever damaged using a fabric patch and contact adhesive.

MISCELLANEOUS TIPS

1. Car-topping a setup boat is fine, but the boat should be secured across the body of the boat rather than from the bow and stern. A light line can be run from the bow of the boat to the front bumper or other attachment point on the front of the vehicle to prevent weathervaning. Use V-shaped foam pads under the hull of the Cooper or kayak cradles that are available for most racks.

2. When paddling in very cold water, your legs will stay warmer if a thin foam pad, such as used under sleeping bags, is spread out on the bottom of the boat.

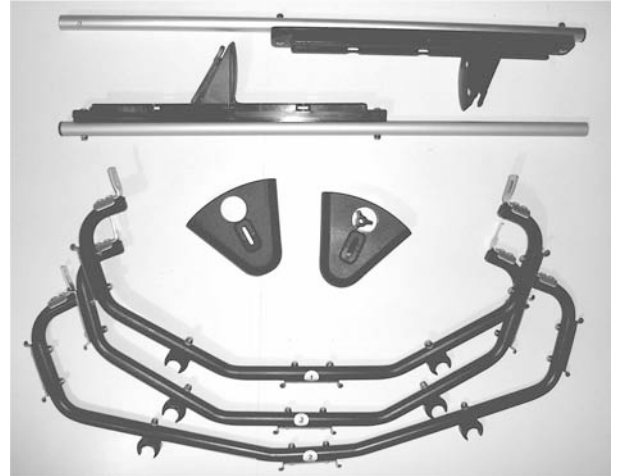
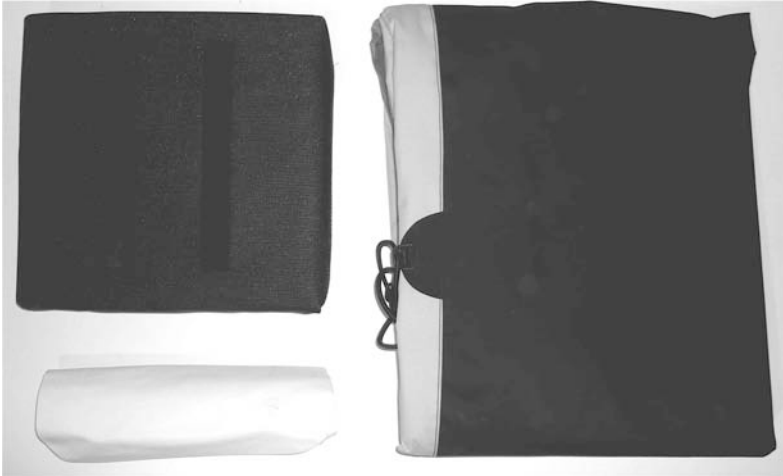
3. When carrying your boat as baggage aboard a commercial airline, no additional protection should be needed. A small lock should be used to lock the zipper pulls or at least the zipper pulls tied together.

4. While we are happy to make repairs or solve problems you may have with your boat, items can often be cured by the owner without having to send the boat back to us. Call us before shipping a boat back to be sure we don't have an easy solution.

Remember: we are here to help if you need us!
Call 800/533-5099, 8:30-4:30 M-F Eastern Time, or visit
www.FOLBOT.com

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Before assembling your Folbot, take time to familiarize yourself with all the parts and the terminology used. You should find the following contents when you unpack your boat for the first time.



SHORT BAG CONTENTS (pictured above)

1 seat – Made of closed-cell mini-foam.

2 inflatable safety bladders

1 boatskin – Note how the boatskin is folded so you can put it back correctly when disassembled.

2 foot pegs – Black pedals mounted onto aluminum tubes.

3 crossframes – Anodized black and numbered 1 through 3.

2 cockpit nose – Made of black urethane; black star-shaped knobs are also included.

LONG BAG CONTENTS (pictured right, listed left to right)

4 sections of side frame – Identified by the words *right bow*, *right stern*, *left bow* and *left stern*.

2 sections of bottom keel – The bow (front) section has the number 1 printed on a black nylon plate. The stern (back) section has the numbers 2 and 3.

2 keel ends, including lower longerons and deck struts – Identified by the words *bow* and *stern*. There are two sets of longerons (two parts each, shockcorded together) and a deck strut attached to each black keel end.

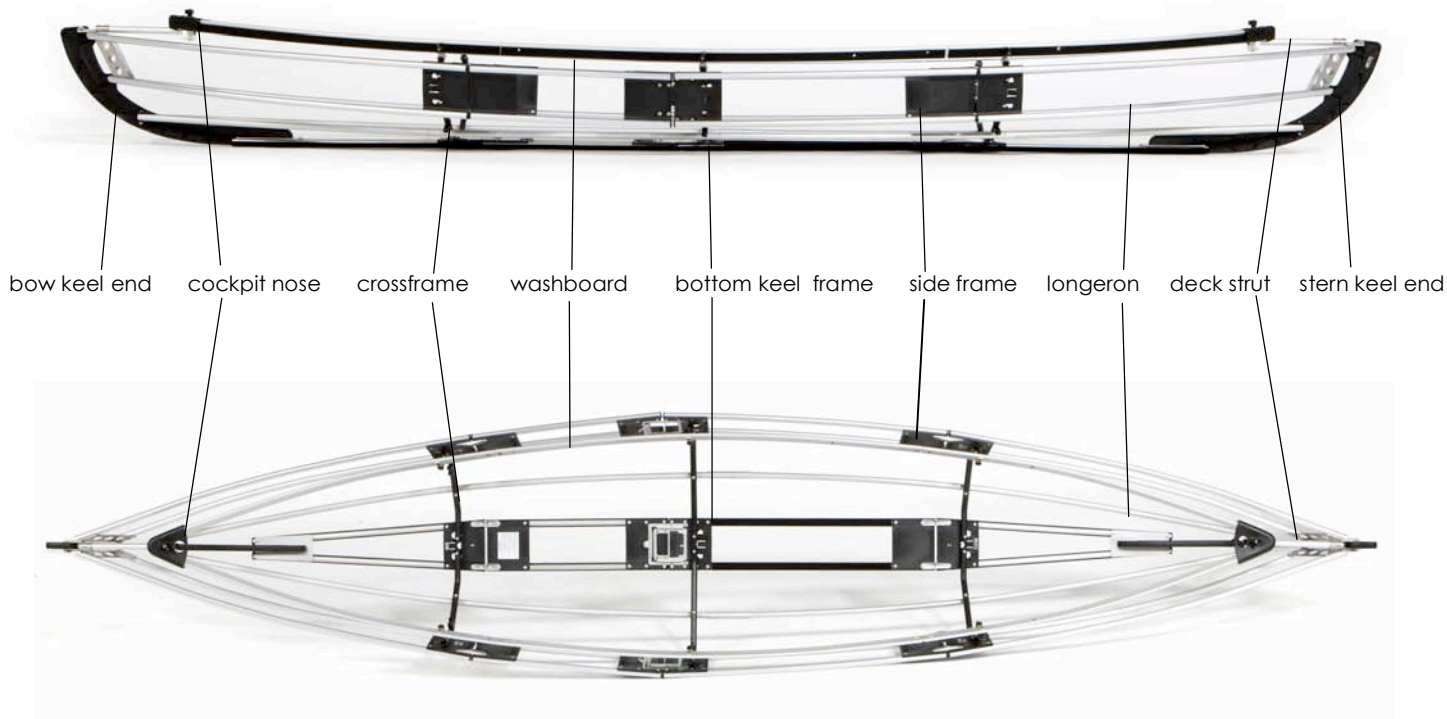
6 washboard pieces – Each piece (three left, three right) has black knobs and seat support straps attached.



These are the assembly instructions for the basic Edisto boat. The mini deck and *Fish 'n Photo* package assemblies follow these instructions.

The general assembly procedure is to complete both halves of the frame, which are then inserted into each end of the skin. The frames are then joined together and expanded until the skin is tight lengthwise. The remaining crossframe is then installed, followed by the washboard set and finally the seat. Please read all the instructions, assemble slowly, and pay attention to all the details.

It may take an hour to assemble the Edisto for the first time, but with a little practice you should be able to put the boat together in under 20 minutes. Enjoy!



1. Begin by checking the contents of the bag to be sure all parts are present.

2. Locate both the bow keel end and the bottom keel section (marked with the word *bow* and the number 1). At the end of this bottom keel section is a slotted aluminum plate. Slide the black keel end into the slotted aluminum plate. Next, assemble the lower longerons by folding them out and clicking them together.



3. Fold the deck strut back so it is out of the way. Locate the two side frames marked *right bow* (starboard) and *left bow* (port). Beginning with one side frame, engage the metal keyhole bracket onto the two screws mounted in the keel end (see photo at left). Do not tighten these screws! Repeat with the other side.

Tip: You may find it easier to attach the side frames while they are folded.

4. Now fold back down the deck strut and unfold the side frames.

5. Locate crossframe #1 and position it at the black nylon plate marked #1. Begin by inserting the crossframe into one of the side frames (see photo, below left). As with all crossframes, it must be oriented so that the metal brackets engage the keyhole plates at the proper angle (see photo, below right). If not, simply reverse the frame. The #1 sticker on the crossframe should face toward the cockpit.

The metal fixture must completely engage in the keyhole slots of the black plate. Adjust the crossframe so that the tab on the black plate clicks up and holds the frame securely in place. Repeat at the other side frame.



6. Now install the crossframe into the bottom keel frame (see photo at left). Don't be afraid to use some force to ensure the crossframe is properly engaged! You may find it helpful to grasp the black plate from behind, using its flexibility to persuade the crossframe into place.

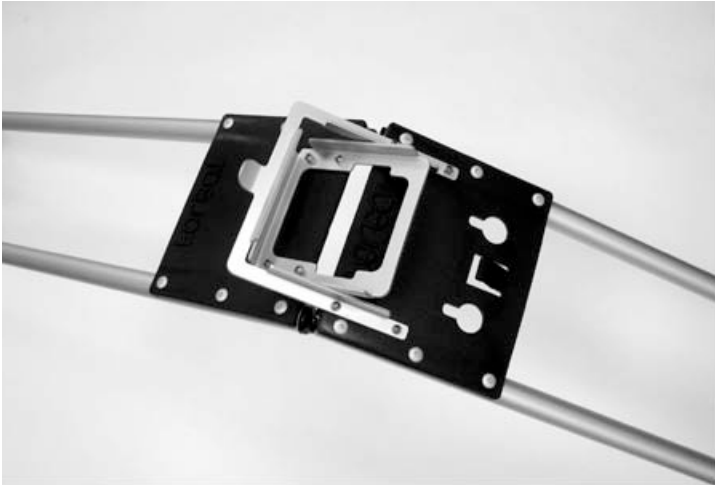
7. Finally, click the lower longerons into the crossframe's crescent-shaped clips.

8. Assemble the stern in the same way you assembled the bow, using the stern keel end, the bottom stern keel section marked with numbers 2 and 3, and the two side frames marked *right stern* (starboard) and *left stern* (port). Complete the assembly with crossframe #3, positioning it so the sticker faces the cockpit.

At this point you should have both halves of the frame assembled. Well done! Now it is time to insert the frame halves into the boatskin.

9. Unfold the boatskin and open it up as much as possible with the hull side down. Note that the stern (back) end of the skin has a black molded casting on the end with two tabs projecting from it, and the Folbot patch is sewn into the left (port) side of the deck fabric.

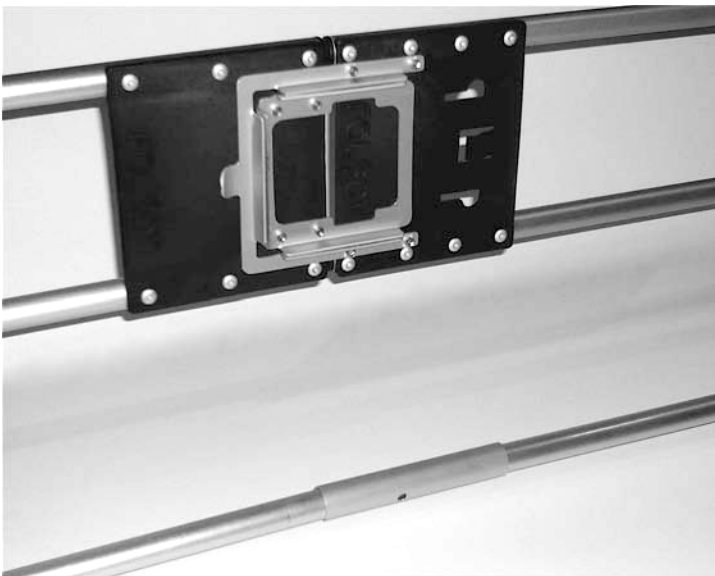
10. Now insert each frame half into the skin. There are aluminum tracks on the inside of the skin that align with each keel end of the frame. Move the frame into the skin as far as possible, keeping everything on center. Make sure all the aluminum tubing ends are tucked into the skin, and that the keel ends are properly set in the aluminum tracks.



11. You should now have three frame latches in the middle of the boat not yet engaged, and two sets of lower longerons not yet connected.

Assemble the bottom keel latch by inserting the smaller bow end into the larger stern end of the latch (see photo at left). Slowly press it down toward the bottom of the boat to stretch out the boatskin. Don't worry—nothing will break! The latch may pop back up when you relieve it, but this is okay for now.

Check that the keel ends are within the aluminum tracks on the inside of the skin by feeling the alignment on the outside of the skin.



12. Join the side frame latches in the same way as the bottom keel latch. You will need to push downward slightly as you close each latch. Avoid trapping the clear sponson inflation tubes in the latches—they should run underneath the black plates and exit into the cockpit from behind the sideframes.

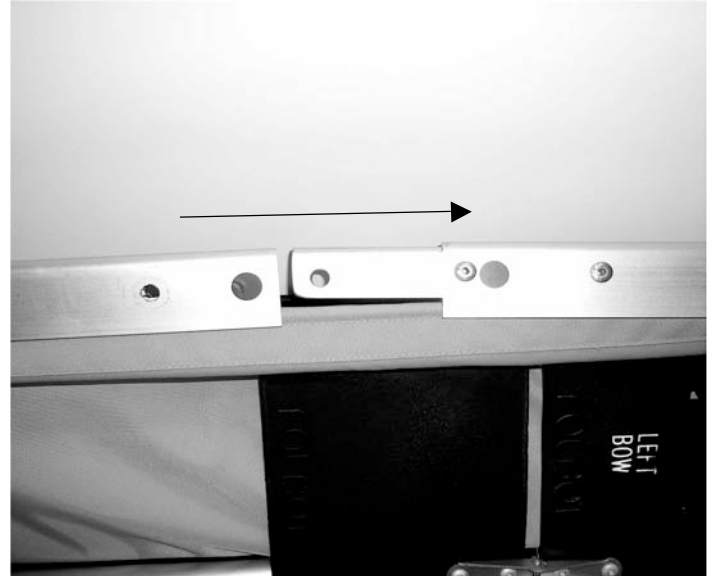
13. Now join the two sets of lower longerons. From the opposite side of the boat, reach in and grab the longeron with the external tube slider. Slide the tube out of the way (you may need to disengage the snap button first), and line up the two ends of the longeron. The tubing must be straight so that you can now slide the external tube back over the joint. Engage the snap button by twisting the pieces until the button pops up into the hole provided (see photo at left).

Don't worry if you cannot engage the button in the hole, as this is not mandatory. Just make sure the sliding tube is positioned directly over the point where the two longerons meet. The tube will not move when the longeron is in its natural curved position.

14. To complete the frame, install crossframe #2 into position across the middle of the boat. The front/back orientation of this frame does not matter. Tip: You may find it easier to attach the crossframe to the sideframe from the opposite side of the boat.

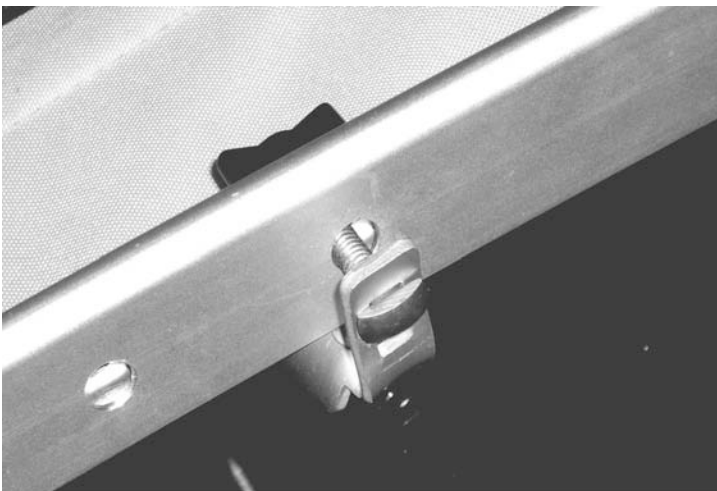
15. Locate the six washboard pieces. The left washboard (port) consists of three pieces, which are marked with red and/or blue dots and have black star-knobs attached to the outside. Layout the pieces so that red matches red and blue matches blue, but do not assemble the washboard just yet. Temporarily remove the star knobs located near the ends of the washboard pieces.

Beginning with the front piece identified by the red dot, slide it onto the deck by threading it onto the rope protruding from the fabric toward the stern (rear) of the boat (see photo, below left). Push this piece along the edge of the deck until its entire length is threaded onto the boat.



16. Now install the next port piece, connecting it to the first piece by sliding the two together as you would insert a knife into a sheath (see photo, above right). Replace the star knob at this join. Do the same with the third piece, sliding the entire assembly toward the bow of the boat while making sure the brass T-bolts line up with the brackets attached to the crossframes.

17. Repeat with the right (starboard) pieces, which are marked with green and yellow dots. The front piece is identified by the green dot.



18. When all washboards are in place, engage the T-bolts into the crossframe brackets by pushing them through the slots and turning them 90 degrees so they don't pull back through (see photo at left). You may find it helpful to unscrew the black knobs a little, but don't remove them completely. Finally, go back and tighten all the knobs.

19. Locate the cockpit noses. The cockpit nose with the silver eyelet does in the stern (back) of the boat. Install each one by squeezing the ends of the side washboards together and dropping the nose over the threaded stud sticking out from the top of the deck strut. Secure it in place with the black star-knob. Complete the washboard assembly by tucking the loose rope ends under the cockpit nose.

20. Almost done! Inflate the sponsons by blowing into the clear tubes. This should take about eight breaths each, and you should hear the frame tightening as you blow. Hold the tube with one hand while you inflate so that you can fold it over and twist the valve closed without letting any air escape.

21. Position the seat by engaging the Velcro on the seat bottom to the Velcro on the bottom keel. Insert the washboard straps through the loops on the seat back, and secure by snapping the clasp together. Adjust as needed to vary seat position.

22. Now locate the foot pegs. They are left and a right, so hold them in position to be sure they are mounted on the correct side. Install each one by sliding the end of the aluminum tube into the black fixture mounted to the black plate toward the bow of the boat. Be sure the snap button engages the hole at the fixture. Snap the aluminum tube into the black half-moon clip on the inside of crossframe #1. The position of the foot rests can be changed by squeezing the trigger on the back and moving it backward and forward.

23. Finally, hook the trailing deck bungees across the boat at each end.

Disassembly of your Folbot is the exact reverse of this procedure, but here are some helpful tips:

To disengage the crossframes from the black nylon plates, first depress the center tab to allow the metal fixture to move into the free position.

Fold the boatskin up as follows:

- 1. Tuck the deck fabric into the hull fabric.**
- 2. Fold the keel ends in toward the cockpit so the black urethane castings almost touch at the center of the skin.**
- 3. Make the next folds the same way you did the previous folds, so the castings are hidden.**
- 4. Finally fold the skin in half and place it in the short bag.**

Always make sure the fabric is dry before folding it up! If this is not possible, reassemble the boat at the next available opportunity and allow it to dry out.

When packing your Folbot back into its bag, generally speaking the crossframes are stacked so that the smaller frames are placed within the larger frames. Some trial and error may be needed to determine the best fit and nesting arrangements.

It should be noted that you can get more in the bag than it first appears. Don't give up until you've tried to zip up—you will be surprised at what can fit in!

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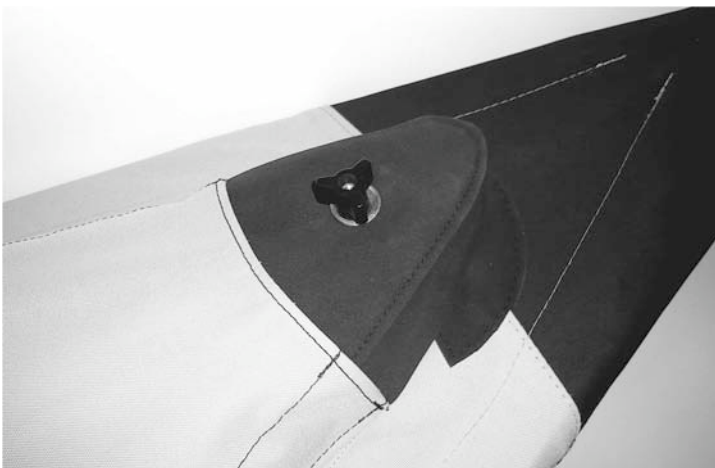
INSTALLATION OF OPTIONAL MINI DECK

The mini deck is an option that converts the Edisto into a river boat that you can also take on bays, estuaries and other bigger water.

- 1. Begin with your Edisto fully assembled, but unclip the bungees stretched across each end of the boat.**
- 2. Locate the black spanner brackets. They are about 18" long with aluminum brackets on each end, and a crescent-shaped clip in the middle. The bow end bracket has a single bend in it, whereas the stern end bracket has two bends.**
- 3. The bow end bracket is attached to the washboard just behind the red and green dots. Begin by removing the washboard's star-knobs at this location and their bolts, and positioning the spanner bracket so the crescent-shaped clip faces up and the aluminum brackets face toward the cockpit (see photo, below left).**
- 4. Pass each bolt through the aluminum bracket and the washboard from the outside, securing it in place with the black star-knob on the inside.**



- 5. Locate the deck struts. They are the same length; so they can be used at either end. Remove the star knob that holds the black cockpit nose in position on the boat, but do not remove the nose piece. Position the mounting hole at the end of the deck strut over the threaded stud (see photo, above right). Snap the other end of the deck strut into the crescent-shaped clip attached to the spanner bracket. The black clip mounted permanently to the deck strut should be directly bow side of the spanner bracket's clip, and must face down.**



- 6. Locate the front mini deck, which has four cutouts along its edge (the rear mini deck has two), and place its rubber nose over the boat's cockpit nose. Stretch the deck into place, and press the Velcro along the edges of the decks to the Velcro on the washboards. Replace the black star-knob over the stud at the cockpit nose.**

- 7. Now repeat this process with the rear deck. The spanner bracket locates just in front of the yellow and blue dots on the washboard.**

- 8. Finally, replace the deck bungees across the skirts.**

INSTALLATION OF OPTIONAL FULL DECK AND SPRAY SKIRT

With the fully enclosed spray deck and skirt option, you're ready for the ocean or an extended trip or expedition into conditions that could get exciting.

- 1. Begin with your Edisto fully assembled, except with no air in the side sponsons.**
- 2. Locate the black spanner brackets. They are about 18" long with aluminum brackets on each end, and a crescent-shaped clip in the middle. The bow end bracket has a single bend in it, whereas the stern end bracket has two bends.**
- 3. The bow end bracket is attached to the washboard just behind the red and green dots. Begin by removing the washboard's star-knobs at this location and their bolts, and positioning the spanner bracket so the crescent-shaped clip faces up and the aluminum brackets face toward the cockpit (see photo, below left).**
- 4. Pass each bolt through the aluminum bracket and the washboard from the outside, securing it in place with the black star-knob on the inside.**



- 5. Locate the bow deck strut, which is the longer of the two struts included. Remove the star knob that holds the black cockpit nose in position on the boat, but do not remove the nose piece. Position the mounting hole at the end of the deck strut over the threaded stud (see photo, above right). Snap the other end of the deck strut into the crescent-shaped clip attached to the spanner bracket. The black clip mounted permanently to the deck strut should be directly bow side of the spanner bracket's clip, and must face down. Now do the same with the stern deck strut.**
- 6. Place the rubber nose of each end of the deck over the boat's cockpit nose, and replace both star knobs.**
- 7. Remove the star knob from the brass T-bolt that holds crossframe #1 in place. Place the grommet in the edge of the full deck over the threaded end of the T-bolt.**
- 8. This next part can be tricky, but you'll quickly get accustomed to the process. Place one hand under the edge of the deck just aft of the location you are working on and feel around inside the cockpit until you locate the T-bolt from the inside of the cockpit. Make sure that the T-bolt head remains oriented so that the head can't pull through the aluminum frame bracket where it fastens to the washboard (The reason for fastening the two grommets toward the bow first is that you can't reach the brass T-bolt through the cockpit opening and it is essential that the T-bolt remain oriented so that it can't slip through the frame bracket). Fasten the two grommets in place on both sides and replace and tighten the star knobs.**

7. Move to the grommets in the middle of the deck that fasten to the T-bolt location corresponding to crossframe #2. Fasten these in position as in the step above, except that you can easily feel the T-bolt for proper orientation by reaching in through the cockpit opening.

8. Finish by attaching the grommets that correspond to the T-bolts for crossframe #3. These also can be reached through the cockpit opening.

9. Once all of the grommets are fastened in place, realign the edge of the deck and mate the two Velcro surfaces together.

10. The included spray skirt should be worn around the paddler's waist before entering the boat. Once seated, the edge of the spray skirt with the tied-off bungee should be placed around the cockpit coaming. The bungee at this location should not be adjusted as it is set at the factory so that it will release in the event of a wet exit. The suspender built into the sprayskirt should run diagonally as it crosses the paddler's shoulders.

INSTALLING THE OPTIONAL FISH 'N PHOTO PACKAGE

The Edisto Fish 'n Photo package is your ticket to successful kayak fishing or beautiful wildlife photography. Cast your line with confidence. Snap away with stability.

You should find the following contents in your Fish 'n Photo package:

1 Floor deck — For holding your gear or cooler. Includes Velcro strips for attaching to the bottom of the boat.

1 Sit-on-top seat — For easier casting and greater visibility.

1 Fluke Style Lightweight Anchor

1 Scotty Baitmaster Rod Holder

1 Mini Deck (see previous instructions)

Outrigger pontoon system consisting of:

1 horizontal bar — in three parts, made of aluminum. The longest section has two J-bolts with black star-knobs attached.

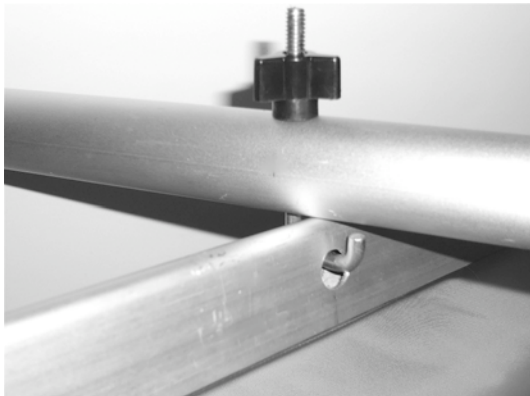
2 black nylon pontoon mounts — these have aluminum tubes attached.

2 inflatable pontoons — with straps for attaching to the pontoon mounts.

INSTALLING THE OUTRIGGER PONTOON SYSTEM

1. Begin with the basic Edisto fully assembled.

2. Locate the long aluminum tube, and temporarily remove the black star-knobs and J-bolts.

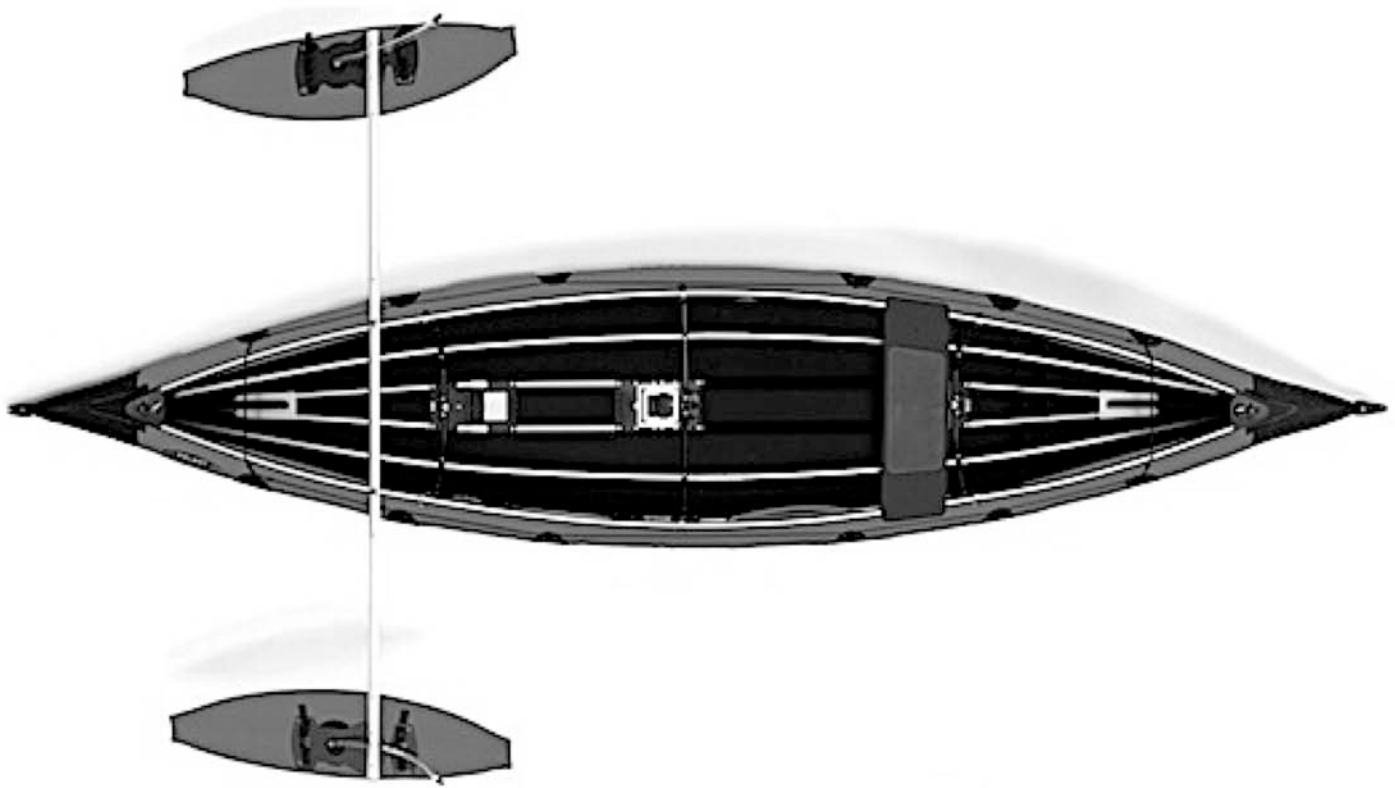


3. Locate the set of holes in the washboard that are closest to the bow of the boat (about 8" in front of crossframe #1). From the outside of the washboard, insert the curved end of a J-bolt into each of the holes, so that the threaded ends point upward and the shaft of the bolt is on the outside of the washboard. Install the aluminum tube by inserting the threaded shafts into the holes of the tube and replacing the star knobs (see photo at left).

4. Now slide the shorter aluminum extenders into each open end of the horizontal tube, ensuring that the buttons pop into the holes.

5. Attach the pontoons to the black nylon mounts by threading the straps through the holes provided and clicking together the latch. The clear inflating tube should easily pass through the large round hole in the nylon mount.

6. Install the pontoon mounts onto the outrigger system by sliding them onto the open ends of the horizontal aluminum tube. They should be positioned so that the inflating tubes protrude out at the bow (front) end of the nylon mounts (see photo below).



7. Inflate the pontoons by blowing into the clear tubes. This should take about 15 breaths each. Hold the tube with one hand while you inflate so that you can fold it over and twist the valve closed without letting any air escape.

8. Finally, go back and tighten the star knobs holding the horizontal tube to the boat.

INSTALLING THE SIT-ON-TOP SEAT AND FLOOR BOARD

The sit-on-top seat(s) can be installed anywhere along the washboards between the bow and stern. The aluminum tubes on the bottom of the seat should be positioned on the outside edge of the washboards. See photo below. If you have used a spray deck with your boat, you should have Velcro attached along the outside of the washboards and this will mate with the Velcro on the tube to prevent the seat from moving once in position. If you do not have Velcro on the outside of your washboards, a quantity has been included with your seat(s) to be installed on the washboards in the areas along the cockpit that you would like to use the high seat. The position of the tubes can be adjusted by loosening the star knobs on top of the seat, moving as needed, and retightening the knobs.



To install the floor deck(s), remove the four pieces of Velcro that are attached at the corners. Remove the plastic backing and apply to the lower longerons at points that correspond to each corner of the floor board of the boat.

