

MARK I ASSEMBLY, CARE AND MAINTENANCE

CLASSIC, EXPEDITION

Thank you for choosing the Long Haul Mark I folding kayak. This kayak is the result of years of paddling, repairing and producing quality accessories for the folding kayaks industry.

We utilize the finest materials available in the production of our kayak. Reading and observing these care instructions will help keep your Mark I in excellent condition for years to come. Your Mark I will always bring you joyful paddling and a sense of satisfaction that you own the finest folding kayak in the world.

ASSEMBLY

Please read the entire instruction booklet before beginning assembly to familiarize yourself with part names and terminology. Follow the detailed instructions step by step. Your Mark I requires no tools for assembly and no physical force. If the sections are assembled in the prescribed order, they will always fit together perfectly.

PARTS LIST! (Photos of parts may be found on the last two pages of instructions)

- 1-Complete hull with sponsons
- 1-Comfort Seat with cushions
- 1-Bow Keel
- 1-Stern Keel
- 2-Bow Gunwales
- 2-Stern Gunwales
- 1-Bow Piece
- 1-Stern Piece
- 1-Bow Deck Bar
- 1-Stern Deck Bar
- 2-Bow Rods with hooks (Red Caps)
- 2-Stern Rods with hooks (Blue Caps)
- 2-Center Rods with sliding sleeves
- 2-Center Rods without sliding sleeves
- 1-Coaming
- 1-Rear Coaming (Boomerang)
- 7-Cross Ribs marked 1 thru 7
- 1-Standard Rudder Blade with head
- 1-Rudder pedal foot control assembly
- 1-Rudder Yoke
- 1-Rudder Pin
- 2-Rudder Cables
- 1-Rudder Lift Line
- 1-Velcro Tuckunder Spraycover (Optional Mast Sleeve)
- 3-Standard Packing Bags (Hull, longren, rib)
- 1-Longren Packing Sleeve
- 1-SPREADER BAR

Long Haul Folding Kayaks, 16869 Ward Creek Road, Cedaredge, CO. 81413, USA

Phone: 970-856-3662, Fax: 970-856-3663

Page 1 of 9

MARK I ASSEMBLY, CARE AND MAINTENANCE

CLASSIC, EXPEDITION

KAYAK ASSEMBLY LOCATION

When choosing your assembly location, always choose a flat smooth area. Assembly on the grass is always nice, but when you are on the beach, lay the hull on the ground and assemble the frame pieces on top of the hull.

ASSEMBLY OF THE BOW AND STERN FRAME HALVES

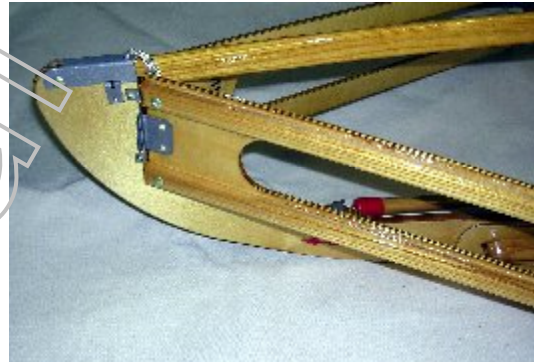
The bow and stern pieces are marked respectively with the words "bow" and "stern". They are also color-coded, red for Bow and blue for stern.



1. Slide the bow piece onto the end of the bow keel. Make sure the bow piece is tight against the keel and remains in that position during entire assembly process. If you find any ribs that do not line up, first check to see that bow & stern pieces are still tight against the keel. (Shown left)
2. Attach the two rods with red caps and hooks to bow piece with hooks facing up. (Shown below right)
3. Note: Each rib is stamped with a number. Ribs

must be installed with this number facing the center of the boat. Attach rib # 1 to bow keel by allowing the fittings on the bottom of the rib to drop through the oval cut outs in the keel. (Shown below left)

4. Snap rods into black plastic rod holders on rib # 1.
5. Attach bow deck bar to bow piece by raising the deck bar cap on the bow piece and sliding the deck bar into the slot from the side of the bow piece. Then push down on the deck bar cap.
6. Attach rib # 2 to bow keel in the same manner as rib # 1.
7. Snap rods onto black plastic rod holders on rib # 2.
8. Affix first bow gunwale to bow piece by attaching to frame fitting LHM-400.
9. Connect bow gunwale to ribs 1 and 2 by



9. Connect bow gunwale to ribs 1 and 2 by inserting gunwale tungs into gunwale locks on ribs. Attach cotter pins to Tungs. Repeat this step for second gunwale.
10. Repeat steps 1 through 11 with stern pieces.
11. Attach two center rods with sliding sleeves onto stern rods. The long rod ferrule goes onto the stern rod.
12. Lay out hull on ground to prepare for frame insertion.
13. Insert the bow frame half into the forward end of the hull. **DO NOT FORCE IT.** If you meet any



resistance, pull the frame out, re-align it and try again.

14. Insert the stern frame half into the aft end of the hull in the same way.

Long Haul Folding Kayaks, 16869 Ward Creek Road, Cedaredge, CO. 81413, USA

Phone: 970-856-3662, Fax: 970-856-3663

MARK I ASSEMBLY, CARE AND MAINTENANCE CLASSIC, EXPEDITION



15. Be sure the frame halves are properly aligned. The wooden keel tongue on the stern end will fit into the keel lock on the bow end. Make sure the gunwales are out of the way and push down on the center of the keel until it locks into place. (Shown above far left)
16. Pull sponson fill tubes through corresponding cutouts in gunwales. (Shown above center left)
17. Engage both center gunwale locks in the same manner as the keel lock, keeping locks properly aligned to avoid damage to locks. Due to the MK1 kayak having rocker you will need to pull the bow & stern gunwales together, so that the metal horseshoe locks lock securely over the wooden tung. (Shown above center right)
18. There are two metal hooks sewn to the underside of the deck on the bow ends. Hook these into the corresponding holes in the gunwales. These need to be securely fastened at all times. (Shown above far right)
19. Connect the rods at the center of the boat by sliding the rod sleeve over the end of the adjacent rod. Rotate the sliding sleeve so that the screw is away from the hull rubber.
20. Place the spreader bar to the rear of the horseshoe gunwale locks. The spreader bar allows for easy insertion of ribs # 3, # 5 and # 4 in that order. Remove spreader bar before installing rib # 4. Hold the rib with one hand and place the gunwale locks on the rib into the rectangular cutouts in the gunwales. Insert the keel locks into the oval cutouts on the keel and push the bottom of the rib into place. (Shown right) Connect the rib to the gunwale tungs and insert the cotter pins. Over time, *once your gunwales have taken on their normal, slightly bowed shape, you may not need to use the*



spreader bar while installing the ribs.

21. Slide bow and stern deck bar fittings into gunwale locks on top of ribs # 3 and # 5 and lock with cotter pins.



22. Snap the rods into the rod holders on ribs 3, 4 and 5.

ATTACHING THE COAMING

1. Hold the coaming at a right angle to the kayak and drop the “T” fitting, located on the bottom of the mast bracket, into the grommet at the front of the hull cockpit opening, and through the rectangular slot on the bow deck bar fitting. (Shown next page)
2. Lock the mast bracket to the frame by pushing down on the mast bracket and rotating the coaming into a position parallel with the cockpit opening.
3. Insert the coaming T-fittings adjacent to rib # 4 into the corresponding grommets on the deck.

Long Haul Folding Kayaks, 16869 Ward Creek Road, Cedaredge, CO. 81413, USA
Phone: 970-856-3662, Fax: 970-856-3663

MARK I ASSEMBLY, CARE AND MAINTENANCE

CLASSIC, EXPEDITION

4. Insert T-fittings into rib locks (LHM-110D) on rib # 4, first by opening the lock, then place the T-fitting into lock and then close the lock by locking the T-fitting into place.
5. Bend the coaming around to insert coaming receivers (LHM-230 and 240) onto coaming studs (LHM-360 and 370).



6. The rear coaming piece, or boomerang, attaches to the similar shaped rubber piece at the rear of the cockpit opening. With the **Hull Identification Number (HIN)** on the rear coaming facing the rear of the boat, fit the four screws on the forward side of the rear coaming piece into the grommets on the rubber piece. The boomerang then drops into the slot in the coaming receiver. (LHM-230 and 240) and the coaming receiver hooks onto the coaming studs (LHM-360 and 370) on rib # 5.
7. Tuck the coaming rubber, sewn along the edge of the cockpit opening, into the groove in the top edge of the coaming. The O-rings sewn under the rubber at the rear of the cockpit opening are used to pull the coaming rubber out of the groove when disassembling your kayak. (Shown left)



INFLATING YOUR SPONSONS

1. Proper alignment of your hull depends on properly inflating your sponsons. Partially inflate one side and then the other, alternating two or three times until sponsons are fully inflated. **DO NOT** fully inflate one side and then the other. This will pull the hull off center and your keelstrips will not protect their intended areas. Proper alignment is accomplished when the bow deck seam runs down the center of the bow deck bar. **NOTE: If you inflate your sponsons by mouth, inflate as fully as possible. When using a pump, be careful not to over inflate as this could cause damage to your sponsons.**



RUDDER ASSEMBLY

1. Attach the blade head with yoke onto the rudder bracket, and push the rudder pin down through the entire assembly. (Shown right)
2. Using the carabiners on the ends of the rudder cables, attach the cables to the yoke.
3. Feed the rudder cables through the holes in the rear coaming piece.
4. Connect the chains attached at the ends of the cables to the carabiners on the foot control pedals. (Shown previous page)



5. Your rudder lift line is factory installed. Simply unclip the carabiner, attached to the end of the lift line, feed it through the eye

Kayaks, 16869 Ward Creek Road, Cedaredge, CO. 81413, USA
Phone: 970-856-3662, Fax: 970-856-3663

MARK I ASSEMBLY, CARE AND MAINTENANCE

CLASSIC, EXPEDITION

in the rudder pin and clip it into the hole near the top edge of the rudder blade.

6. To operate your rudder lift line, pull the wooden cord lock toward the rear of the boat. (Shown left)

SPRAYCOVERS

We manufacture two styles of spraycovers; the Velcro tuck-under and Expedition tuck-under. Both are installed in the same manner. Installation of the Velcro style will be easier with the skirts open.

1. Air sponsons should be inflated about half way. Locate the flat lace, which is sewn to the inside of the rubber piece on the front end of your spraycover. Tuck this lace under the front edge of the mast bracket.
2. Pull the spraycover to the rear of the cockpit and hook the grommets over the screws on the rear coaming piece. (Shown right)
3. The expedition spraycover has two metal hooks sewn onto the rear rubber piece. Hook these under the rear coaming piece.
4. Tuck one long edge of the spraycover between the coaming and the deck so that the rope in the edge of the spraycover fits snugly into the shallow groove on the inside of the coaming.
5. Repeat for the other side.
6. Fully inflate your sponsons.



OVAL DECK HATCHES (OPTIONAL)

1. The hatch cover and inner roll down closure must be closed during the operation of the kayak. To close the inner closure, seal the Velcro and then roll the edge over three times and secure the side release buckle.
2. Stretch the hatch cover over the oval ring. These procedures will insure that the hatch is secure. (Shown below)



ZIPPERED DECK HATCH (OPTIONAL)

Proper use and maintenance of the zippered flaps is very important to insure your safety and a long life for the zippers. The zippered hatch consists of a system of three flaps. The inner flap zips along both sides. A second flap folds over this zippered flap and a third flap folds from the other side and zips shut. This system provides double protection for the interior flap and provides an adequate back-up system in case of a zipper failure. We use # 10 YKK zippers. They are strong and durable but can be damaged with improper use. **NEVER FORCE THE ZIPPER.**

1. Be sure that your sponsons are deflated or are less than 50% inflated. Attempting to operate the zippers with the sponsons fully inflated will stress the zippers and the surrounding deck fabric and will eventually cause the zippers to fail.
2. Be sure that the inner flap is in the “closed” position before trying to slide the zippers.

Long Haul Folding Kayaks, 16869 Ward Creek Road, Cedaredge, CO. 81413, USA

Phone: 970-856-3662, Fax: 970-856-3663

MARK I ASSEMBLY, CARE AND MAINTENANCE CLASSIC, EXPEDITION

3. If possible, slide both zippers at the same time.
4. Fold the second flap over the zippered flap. Smooth out any wrinkles.
5. Fold the third flap over the second. Zip it shut. Tuck the wide end of the third flap under the rubber flap that is sewn to the deck and secure this edge with the 1" webbing strap and buckle that are attached to the deck for this purpose.
6. If the zipper on the top flap ever fails this flap can be secured by running shock cord or rope through the D-rings on the deck, in an "X" configuration over the flap.



PREPARING YOUR HULL FOR STORAGE

Proper folding of your hull is essential to reduce stress on the hull, keel strips, deck hatches and bumpers.

1. **ALWAYS**, rinse all parts of your kayak, including zippers (where applicable) with fresh water after saltwater use.
2. **ALWAYS**, be sure your hull is completely dry before folding and storing it. Any options you have added to your deck, such as hatches or Quattro sponsons, will increase the time needed for the hull to dry completely.
3. When laying your hull with zippered hatches out to dry, always unzip the zippers. Hulls with zippers should always be folded with the zippers unzipped.
4. **NEVER STORE YOUR KAYAK OUTSIDE. IT WILL BE DESTROYED.** If you must temporarily store you boat outside or transport it on top of your vehicle, you should strongly consider purchasing a Long Haul Kayak Cover.
5. We recommend treating the deck with 303-fabric guard and the hull with 303-rubber protector, inside and out at the very start of your kayaking season, and once at the end of your kayaking season. This recommendation is for a 3-4 month kayaking season. If you have a longer season, we recommend every 3 months, depending on usage.

FOLDING HULLS WITHOUT KEELSTRIPS

The methods for folding your hull are different if the hull has keelstrips.

1. Lay the hull out flat on its side, folded in half lengthwise. Tuck the cotton deck between the two rubber layers.
2. Do not make folds through bumpers or oval hatches.
3. Fold one end in toward the center 18 to 30 inches depending on desired final storage place.
4. Continue folding towards center and fold the other end in same manner.

FOLDING HULLS WITH KEELSTRIPS

There are two methods of folding your hull with keelstrips. It is important to remember that folding the hull along the length of, or across the keelstrips, puts stress on the keelstrips, so put as few folds as possible in the keelstrip and never fold the keelstrip in both directions. It is also important not to fold any part of the bumpers.

A. Method One

1. Lay the hull on the ground with the deck facing up.

Long Haul Folding Kayaks, 16869 Ward Creek Road, Cedaredge, CO. 81413, USA

Phone: 970-856-3662, Fax: 970-856-3663

MARK I ASSEMBLY, CARE AND MAINTENANCE

CLASSIC, EXPEDITION

2. Grasp the edge of the hull where the deck is sewn to the hull at the mid-point.
3. Fold this edge in toward the center. This fold should be one inch or more from the edge of the 2.5" keelstrip. **DO NOT FOLD** on the keelstrip.
4. Fold the other side edge in the same way.
5. Protect your hull by wrapping your rudder bracket up to avoid deck abrasion.
6. Fold the ends of the hull toward the middle. (See step # 3 in folding hulls without keelstrips).

B. Method Two

1. Lay the hull on the ground with the deck facing up.
2. Follow instructions # 2 and 3 above.
3. Grasp the other edge of the hull and fold toward the center having the fold fall between the 9" keelstrip and the 2.5" keelstrip. The fold on this side will be wider than the fold on the other side.
4. Same as above step #5 & 6.

The advantage of the second method with keelstrips is that the bumpers tend to lay more flat which creates less stress on them. When folding your hull always strive to keep the keelstrips and bumpers as stress free as possible. It is recommended that you change the placement of the folds each time so that your hull will not develop creases. Always avoid putting double folds in the keelstrips.

Ideally, you should have as few folds as possible in your hull.

Always store your hull in a cool, dry, dark place.

Make sure that the area that you have chosen to store your kayak and accessories is not already a home to mice, and check it frequently for any signs of rodent invasion. Mice enjoy your kayak like you, but for very different reasons. They like to build colorful nests!