

RIOT KAYAKS

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MY KAYAK SERIAL NUMBER:

FLATWATER OWNER MANUAL

Kayaking lets you experience the outdoors in a very unique way, with the world taking on a different perspective viewed from the water. But like any activity, there is no substitute for experience. Get out there and paddle, explore, discover and learn, but make sure to follow the guidelines outlined in this owner's manual, and enroll in a course from a certified instructor before taking to the water.

One of the beautiful things about kayaks is their ease of use, but it's always a good idea to get professional instruction when starting.

This owner's manual is a great way to get an overview of kayaking, but it is not a substitute for lessons from a qualified instructor. Certified instruction will give you a strong base of skills and the knowledge to safely enjoy your time on the water. Across the world there are organizations devoted to educating paddlers and after you've taken a basic course your learning doesn't have to stop. Once you've got the proper foundation, there's a wealth of information from which to learn. Kayak specific magazines, DVD's, books and websites exist as well as a host of advanced courses.



RIOT
kayaks

Congratulations on your purchase of one of the finest crafts available today!

The kayak you just purchased has been built with the soundest materials and meets the industry's highest standards of quality. Kayaks are wonderful tools for recreation, exploration and fitness. We've included this Owner's Manual with your kayak to help answer any initial questions you may have and to help you insure years of trouble-free use. Although this Owner's Manual is a great way to get an overview of kayaking, it's not a substitute for lessons from a qualified instructor. As with many activities the more you know, the more fun you have. So take the time to read through this manual and hang on to it for referral later on.

Register your kayak Fill out and mail your Warranty Registration form. Make a note of your serial number (engraved at the back of your kayak) on your original receipt, as you will need this information in the unlikely event of a warranty or insurance claim.

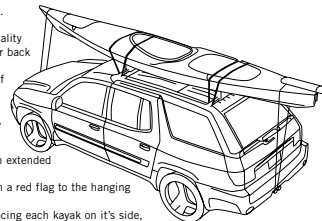
Maintenance

We've put a lot of time and thought into providing you with a quality kayak and we stand behind our product 100%. By reading your kayak's warranty agreement and following these few simple maintenance steps, you should have years of problem-free fun.

- Be careful when setting your kayak down on rough or hard surfaces.
- Always try to slide in and off a sandy beach. Never place your kayak on a surface that may cut or push inward the hull during entry.
- Regularly inspect the hull and outfitting (seat, thigh braces, backband, footbrace) of your kayak to insure their condition and tighten screws if necessary.
- Pay specific attention to the grab handles of your kayak, making sure they do not become loose or damaged.
- Take care to protect your kayak from long term exposure to the sun or extreme heat, which can contribute to weakening of the plastic/composite and cause hull deformations. Ask your dealer about products designed specifically to protect your kayak against the sun.
- Rinse your kayak well with fresh water to help get rid of sand or salt that can effect the performance of movable parts and gradually wear the hull.
- Never leave salt water inside a composite kayak as it will not dry out. The kayak may absorb the water and become heavier.
- To maintain your dual density hatch covers, clean them regularly and apply a bit of silicone lube on the rim, so they remain easy to take off and put back on.
- For hatches with neoprene seals, make sure you rinse the neoprene seal and hatch rim from any sand or salt and inspect seal regularly to detect any damage.

Transportation When transporting your kayak, take care to avoid potential damage or distortion to the hull. A good rack system allows you to transport your kayak on the top of your vehicle safely and securely. Especially if your kayak is constructed out of a composite material you will want to add some foam padding to your roof rack or invest in a padded kayak cradle. Remember... damage caused by kayaks flying off car roof tops or deformations caused during transport are not covered by the warranty.

- To avoid loss or damage, remove all accessories before transporting the kayak.
- For your safety and to avoid unnecessary scratches on your car, all but the shortest boats should be car-topped by two people, placing the kayak on a quality roof rack. Practice common sense lifting techniques, using your legs, not your back to raise the kayak onto the rack.
- Once the kayak is on the roof rack, hull side down or on it's side, use a pair of straps or ropes to secure the midsection of the kayak to the roof rack, taking care not to overtighten.
- Each end of the kayak should be tied to the bumpers of the vehicle. However, be careful not to cinch down these bow and stern lines too tightly as that will increase the likelihood of hull warpage.
- Also to avoid hull deformation, do not leave the boat tied to the vehicle for an extended period or in the hot sun.
- If your kayak extends more than 3.5 feet (1 meter) behind your vehicle attach a red flag to the hanging extremities to alert fellow motorists and pedestrians.
- To transport multiple kayaks, use a stacking bar and appropriate padding, placing each kayak on it's side, with hull against hull to prevent deformation.
- After a long day on the water, DON'T FORGET YOUR KAYAK IS STRAPPED ON THE ROOF. You do not want to drive into the garage with it still on the rack. It may sound strange... but it happens.



Repair Your kayak's hull and outfitting are built to withstand the strains of kayaking, but occasionally the stresses of the paddling environment may necessitate a repair. In the case of a break or a defect in your kayak on the water, you should carry in your dry bag a roll of duct tape. Afterwards, for everything from simple repairs to hull replacement contact your retailer. With their knowledge of techniques and access to replacement parts your kayak will be as good as new in no time.

Storage For long term storage and to prevent hull deformation, your kayak should be kept on it's side, preferably on a padded rack. Take care to protect it from long term exposure to the sun or extreme heat, which can contribute to degrade hull material and cause permanent deformation. You may also want to cover the cockpit to guard against dust and debris. Always make sure that your kayak is dry before winter storage, and leaving the drain plug open will provide better ventilation.

Adjusting your kayak Your position and comfort in the kayak play a huge role in the enjoyment of your time on the water. The three main contact points between you and your kayak are your buttocks, thighs and feet. Proper kayak outfitting maximizes contact with all three of these points, allowing you to sit upright with good posture, and letting you paddle more efficiently, for a longer period of time. Always adjust your outfitting while your kayak sits stable on a soft, non-abrasive surface. If the surrounding land is unsuitable, simply place the kayak in some calm, shallow water and make your adjustments there. Regardless of where you complete your adjustments, remember that the goal is to maximize comfort and control.

Backrest To sit up straight, add tension in the backrest strap. For a more relaxed, laid back paddling position, release some tension in the backrest strap. There are two different backrest strap tension systems, depending on the kayak model you own:

Kayaks with **Contour Fit** outfittings use a cam buckle located in a well at the front of the seat. To add tension, grab the strap and pull it towards you; to release tension press the tab on top of the cam buckle.

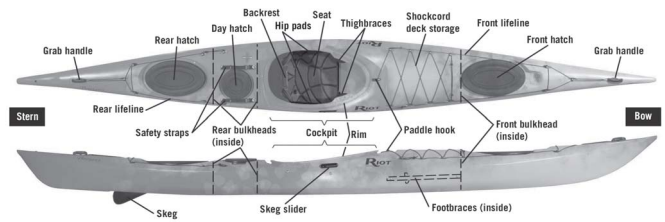


Kayaks with **Advanced Contour Fit** and **High Performance Contour Fit** outfittings use a ratchet system located at the front of the seat, doubled with a cam buckle located behind the right hip pad. First, set the ladder strap in the ratchet to the last notch towards its free extremity; in that position, the backrest should be pulled all the way back. Then pull on the strap at the cam buckle to eliminate any slack in the strap. Sit in the kayak and crank the ratchet until you obtain the desired tension in the backrest. If the adjustment range provided by the ladder strap and ratchet is not enough, loosen the ratchet and pull the strap through the cam buckle a little more to gain more tension.



Backrest height adjustment Why and when? Generally speaking, a higher backrest setup provides more comfort for casual or long paddling sessions on calm waters, and a lower backrest makes rolling easier and allows more range of motion for performance paddling, or for rough conditions. To adjust your backrest's height: slack both knobs behind the backrest a couple turns, then pull up or push down the backrest to the desired height. Then tighten the knobs again to finish the setup. If the knob appears to turn loose, just push against the seat cover with your other hand as you tighten. If it still doesn't tighten, try twisting the knob clockwise...

Hip pads Models with Advanced Contour Fit and High Performance Contour Fit outfittings come with adjustable hip pads. By slacking the support plate screws using a standard Phillips screw driver, these hip pads can be moved forward and back. You can also customize your hip pad settings by inserting foam shims between the support plate and the cushioning.



Footbraces Adjustable via a rail or webbing system, properly adjusted footbraces increase your control, letting you put the kayak on edge for turning or for bracing in an oncoming wave. Certain models of footbraces also control the kayak's rudder. A properly adjusted footbrace should allow your knees and thighs a snug fit under the cockpit and thighbraces.

Quicklock footbrace system (kayaks without rudder) Simply pinch the trigger on the rear of the foot pedal to release the locking mechanism. Once released you can move the foot pedal forwards or backwards along the track to customize your fit. You can even tighten the footbraces while seated by using your feet to pull them closer to you.

Rudder footbrace system Designed so you can fit your footbraces without affecting your rudder control system. Pull the straps to move the foot pedals closer to you. To move the pedals further away from you simply release the ladder lock on each strap and the pedals will slide forward. **IMPORTANT:** After all your adjustments are complete and you are seated in your kayak, you will want to verify that you can still easily exit your kayak. If your kayak is equipped with a rudder, also confirm its proper function. Then, time spent in your kayak will be your best teacher as to which areas of your body may require additional padding.

Skeg and Rudder

A skeg lowers into the water along the axis of the kayak, improving the straight line tracking of your kayak in certain conditions, but has no ability to control directional changes.

A rudder helps in straight line tracking, but being orientable it also aids turning. Useful for larger kayaks such as tandems, the rudder is not a replacement for proper kayak steering techniques, but with good technique can help you better control your boat.

Both skeg and rudder can be deployed and retracted while seated in your kayak by using the control system positioned to the right side of the cockpit.

Skeg To control your skeg you will find a slider system on the right side of your cockpit. Push the slider forward to lift the skeg, slide it backwards to lower the skeg in the water. Note that there are ten positions on this ratchet-like system, so you can fine-tune the amount of skeg surface you will use, which is useful in stabilizing course in windy conditions.



Pilot Rudder System To lower the Pilot System rudder blade in the water, pull the rope's lower knot to the front. To store the blade on deck, first make sure the rudder is in neutral position so the blade is properly aligned with the rubberized V-block on rear deck, and pull the higher knot to the front.

To improve your kayaking technique and control don't use the skeg or rudder unless necessary and then only in water deep enough that the skeg or rudder will not touch bottom.



Sea kayaking essentials Rules and regulations vary from country to country. Consult the local Coast Guard or similar organization as it is up to you to educate yourself regarding the navigation rules and requirements of your specific region.

Important factors to keep in mind regarding marine navigation and right of way include:

- **Visibility** Kayaks can be difficult to see from a distance, especially in marginal conditions. To help your visibility choose brightly colored clothing and always carry signaling equipment.
- **Right of way** When crossing, vessels should defer to the right (starboard) side. Remember this and you'll be better able to understand the behavior of other vessels on the water.
- **Other users** On certain waterways you may find yourself paddling, your kayak may be the smallest vessel on the water. The U.S. Coast Guard does not mention kayaks specifically in its regulations regarding right of way, but common sense dictates that the law of tonnage applies: If a vessel is bigger than you, stay out of its way.
- **Buoys** All regularly traveled waterways have buoys to aid navigation. Often times they mark a channel or an area of restricted navigation. Most authorities will be happy to explain what each buoy indicates.

Recommended accessories

- **Personal Flotation Device (PFD) or Swim Vest** Easily the most important safety gear you will ever own as a kayaker. Choose it wisely. Regardless of the style of PFD you end up selecting, you'll want to make sure that it is designed specifically for kayaking. Look for a comfortable, customizable fit which allows maximum movement of your shoulders and torso, and which stays in place without moving around. Make sure to select a PFD with flotation that corresponds to your weight and that is designed with a highly visible color. We recommend you wear your PFD at all times. Not only will it add buoyancy in case of a swim, but it will also help you stay warm and can protect you in case of a fall on slippery shoreline rocks. Be sure to select a PFD that complies with the safety regulations of your area.
- **Skirt** Keeping you and your kayak warm and dry, the skirt is worn around your waist and attaches around the cockpit of your kayak, preventing splashes from waves or your paddle from entering. Designed of either nylon or neoprene, different models offer varying degrees of warmth and water tightness. Regardless of the type you choose, make sure that the grab loop located at the front of your skirt is always accessible in case of a wet exit.
- **Paddle** Your means of propulsion, the kayak paddle is perhaps the most personal piece of equipment a kayaker uses. With models existing for all paddling styles and budgets, you'll want to try out several different types and lengths before deciding on the right paddle for you. Factors to consider when choosing your paddle include length, blade size, and material.
- **Paddle float** An invaluable tool allowing you to "self rescue" in case of a capsize. The paddle float slips over the blade of your paddle, giving the blade flotation and allowing it to be used as an outrigger, stabilizing your kayak and permitting you to get back in from the water. Although a straightforward technique, every paddler venturing any significant distance away from shore should get proper instruction on how to get back into their kayak using the paddle float.
- **Sound signal** You are required to have an easily accessible sound signaling device, such as a whistle or fog horn, to help in navigation and to alert larger watercrafts of your presence in low visibility conditions.

Recommended accessories (continued)

- **Marine chart and shoreline topographical map** If venturing on open water, it's important to be aware of your position at all times. Keeping an accurate marine and shoreline topographical map with you in a waterproof sleeve will help prevent against getting lost and energy depleting navigational errors.
- **First aid kit** A simple first aid kit should contain materials for treating blisters, minor wounds, burns and trauma. There are many companies that offer outdoor -specific first aid kits. Regardless of what type you choose, make sure you keep your first aid kit safely inside a dry bag and that you update it's contents regularly.
- **Sun protection** Water reflects much of the sun's rays, amplifying their effect. Wearing proper sun protection while out on the water is critical. sunglasses, a hat, and of course sunscreen all help you protect yourself from the sun. Don't forget to reapply sunscreen frequently.
- **Drinkable water and a snack** Dehydration can cause fatigue and misjudgment. Keep things fun by making sure to carry along enough drinkable water and appropriate snacks to keep energy levels high throughout your trip.
- **Distress signal** All kayaks used on Coastal waters, large lakes or bodies of water more than 2 miles (3 km) wide must be equipped with approved distress signals. There are many types of distress signals, each with it's own advantages and disadvantages. Choose your distress signal(s) according to Coast Guard requirements.

Mandatory Accessories, United States of America

In the United States boating regulations vary from state to state but on a national level the US Coast Guard requires that:

- All recreational boats must carry one wearable PFD for each person aboard. The USCG divides PFD's into 3 categories: type I: off shore type II: Near shore type III: flotation aid
- Your kayak must include a system to signal your presence such as flares, signal mirror or flashlight
- All recreational vessels, including kayaks, are required to display navigational lights between sunset and sunrise and during other periods of reduced visibility like fog, rain or haze.
- The USCG, working with affiliated local organizations, offers all small craft owners a free, annual Vessel Safety Check (VSC). An educational procedure, rather than an enforcement of the law, the VSC helps increase everyone's safety in small craft boating.

For more information on the United States Coast Guard Regulations visit: <http://www.uscgboating.org>

Mandatory Accessories, Canada

The Small Vessel Regulations enforced by the Canadian Coast Guard establishes a minimum of safety equipment that you must carry with you in your kayak (or any boat under 6 meters in length):

- **Personal flotation device (PFD)** When selecting your PFD you'll want to make sure that it is certified by the Canadian Coast Guard and that it is designed specifically for paddling, and preferably equipped with some kind of reflective device.
- **Spare paddle** Usually a 2 or 4 piece "break-apart" design, every group should carry one. Often times it can be secured on the deck of your kayak via shock-cord deck rigging, easily accessed in case of an emergency.
- **Throw bag** Make sure you carry with you a throw bag with at least 45 feet (15 meters) of cord. In an emergency situation it can literally be a lifeline between you and your paddling partners. If need be, your cord can also function as a towline between kayaks and around camp it can serve double duty as an excellent way to hang clothes up to dry.
- **Blige pump or bailing scoop** For emptying water from your kayak while out on the water nothing beats the efficiency and ease of a hand pump (especially double action models.) If you don't have a pump, a bailing cup or scoop is required to help get rid of excess water. The addition of a sponge lets you soak up the last remaining drops of water keeping you kayak warm and dry.
- **Sound signal** You are required to have an easily accessible sound signaling device, such as a whistle or fog horn, to help in navigation and to alert larger watercraft to your presence in low visibility conditions.
- **Signal/running light** Between sunset and sunrise, or during times of reduced visibility such as fog, you must remain visible with the use of a running light (a waterproof flashlight will do).

For more information on the Canadian Coast Guard Regulations visit: <http://www.ccg.gcc.gc.ca/>

Choosing your Clothing

When selecting what to wear, remember that your choice should be made on a combination of air AND water temperature. As with many outdoor activities you'll want to use the layer system, wearing distinct layers of clothing rather than one or two thick layers. In all but the warmest conditions you'll want your outermost layer to be made of a water and wind proof material. For your under layers, avoid clothes made out of cotton. Although comfortable off the water, when wet cotton offers no insulating value and is very slow to dry. Instead choose insulating clothing made of synthetic fibers. As well as wicking moisture away from your body, this system allows you to easily adapt to changing weather conditions. You may also want to choose paddling clothes equipped with reflective strips, especially if your paddling involves long crossings and potential very early departures.

If you are venturing offshore or may encounter turbulent water keep in mind the following rule of thumb: If the combined total of the air and the water temperature is under 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37 degrees Celsius) you will want to wear a wet suit or drysuit.

Wet suit Available in full suit, shorty and "farmer john" styles, a wet suit is composed of flexible 3 or 4mm neoprene that works by allowing a thin layer of water between your skin and the neoprene. This layer of water is warmed by your body and helps fend off hypothermia. A wet suit should be neither so tight that it causes restrictions of your movement, nor too loose that it allows water to run freely into and out of the suit.

Dry suit/dry top Available in one or two piece versions, a dry suit uses water tight gaskets at the neck, wrist and ankles to keep you dry. A dry suit's impermeable outer fabric does little to help insulation, instead allowing you to wear insulating layer underneath.

Adapt to changing weather conditions by carrying extra clothes in a dry bag and don't forget a good hat to reduce your exposure to the sun.

Excursion planning

Safety precautions

Your personal safety, and the safety of your group, begins with you. Never paddle alone or stand up in a kayak. Be over cautious with children. Never allow children to kayak without adult supervision. You'll have the most enjoyable time possible if you choose a destination suitable for the abilities of your group. Make sure that even the least experienced paddler in your group is able to cover the distance you have chosen to paddle and always keep in mind that changing weather conditions, winds or currents can greatly alter the characteristics of your trip. Even the shortest excursion on the water can benefit from a minimal amount of planning so whether you're headed out for a half hour or a couple of days take the time to ask yourself the following questions:
What are the water conditions and are they likely to change?

- What is the weather forecast?
- Are there currents or winds we need to take into account?
- What is our exposure to the elements?
- Is there other vessel traffic on the waterway we should be aware of?
- Is our planned trip reasonable considering our group's experience and abilities?
- Have we brought with us all of the essential equipment and accessories?
- Have we brought along enough water and energy rich food?
- Have we included warmer clothing in case the weather changes?
- Do I have a method to signal/communicate?
- And perhaps most importantly: **HAVE I FILED A FLOAT PLAN?**

When setting out, even if it's just for a quick afternoon paddle, take a few minutes to file a float plan. Leave information on departure/arrival times, # of people in your group, planned destination and the color of your kayaks with a responsible friend. If setting out alone, leave an envelope with this information labeled FLOAT PLAN on the dashboard of your car. Play it safe, respect yourself and respect the water.

Warning: failure to follow the above safety precautions may lead to serious injury or death. The use of alcohol or drugs will affect your judgment and coordination and impair your capacity to safely operate a kayak.

Kayaker's Code of Ethics Kayaks allow us to experience the beauty of the water and explore areas virtually untouched by man. It is our responsibility to keep these areas pristine during and after our visit insuring our enjoyment, and that of others, for generations to come. This kayaker's code of ethics can serve as a general set of guidelines to help limit your impact on the paddling environment:

- Try to remain courteous at all times and respect fellow kayakers as well as other vessels
- Offer your help to those in difficulty
- Respect private property
- Never camp on an island less than 60 meters wide or that serves as the home for a colony of birds or seals
- Wash should always be done away from the water, with a biodegradable soap. Do not wash anything (dishes, clothing or yourself) directly in the water.
- Use a stove rather than a fire for cooking your food
- Pack out all of your trash and verify that there is no trace of your visit before leaving your campsite.
- For their safety and yours, stay at least 200 meters away from wildlife. Reduce your noise level and speed when observing wild animals

Check List

	For a coastal or seafaring trip ADD	For an expedition of several days ADD	
EQUIPMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Whistle attached to your PFD <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Signal/Running light <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Bilge pump or bailing scoop <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Throw bag (15m) <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Additional break-apart paddle <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Paddle float <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Cockpit skirt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A kayak with a minimum length of 13' (4m) <input type="checkbox"/> Fog horn <input type="checkbox"/> VHF or weather radio <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Distress flares <input type="checkbox"/> Compass or GPS <input type="checkbox"/> Nautical weather forecast <input type="checkbox"/> Survival knife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tent and groundcloth <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag <input type="checkbox"/> Stove <input type="checkbox"/> Small shovel <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter tarp <input type="checkbox"/> Kayak Repair Kit <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing Kit <input type="checkbox"/> Water purification method <input type="checkbox"/> Small cord 3mm x 20 m <input type="checkbox"/> Spare batteries and candles <input type="checkbox"/> Dry bags for all the material <input type="checkbox"/> Signal mirror <input type="checkbox"/> Radar reflector
ACCESSORIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Map of your route in waterproof cover <input type="checkbox"/> Sponge <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses with strap <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen <input type="checkbox"/> Water and food <input type="checkbox"/> Topo map in waterproof cover <input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent <input type="checkbox"/> Knife <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-bag <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Marine chart <input type="checkbox"/> Tidal table <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars <input type="checkbox"/> Flash light <input type="checkbox"/> Duct tape <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Bar <input type="checkbox"/> Fresh water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Personal medications (if any) <input type="checkbox"/> Spare glasses or contact lenses <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency food <input type="checkbox"/> Spare maps <input type="checkbox"/> Cookware <input type="checkbox"/> Plates, cups and utensils <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate food <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper <input type="checkbox"/> Rigid storage container
CLOTHING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hat <input type="checkbox"/> Watershoes or sandals <input type="checkbox"/> Wool socks <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts or pants <input type="checkbox"/> Polyester T-shirts <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve synthetic shirt <input type="checkbox"/> Water/wind proof shell <input type="checkbox"/> A spare set of clothes in the dry bag <input type="checkbox"/> For cold weather or cold water <input type="checkbox"/> Dry or wet suit <input type="checkbox"/> Fleece or woolen shirt <input type="checkbox"/> Wool beanie 	<p>The basics listed, plus clothing for cold water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dry/wet suit <input type="checkbox"/> Neoprene gloves and booties <input type="checkbox"/> Beanie or head warmer <p>Keep in mind that even in summer the water is almost always colder than the air temperature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Spare Clothing <input type="checkbox"/> Synthetic underwear <input type="checkbox"/> Warm socks <input type="checkbox"/> Pants <input type="checkbox"/> T-shirt <input type="checkbox"/> Fleece or other synthetic shirt <input type="checkbox"/> Extra shoes <input type="checkbox"/> Extra beanie <input type="checkbox"/> Towel <input type="checkbox"/> Waterproof pants

Riot kayaks Warranty agreement

The kayak you have purchased has met Riot kayaks quality standards inspection requirements. However, as every kayak is subject to wear and tear, should you need any technical assistance or replacement parts we invite you to communicate with your dealer of origin or to consult www.riotkayaks.com where you will find most of the information you may require BEFORE returning the kayak.

1. The warranty agreement is applicable to the original retail consumer only, it is not transferable, nor does it cover any commercial use such as: pro-deals, rentals, educational, training, or those kayaks identified as demo, seconds, blimps, institutional or K2. The warranty does not cover kayaks damaged during transport. The determination of exclusion of warranty coverage is at the discretion of the manufacturer.
2. The warranty agreement requires that the manufacturer receives the Warranty Registration Form within 30 days from the original date of purchase. For a claim to be processed it MUST be accompanied by the original proof-of-purchase including the model and serial number of the kayak, relevant photos of the problem area, and the completed claim form (available on the website describing the mishap. Only upon receipt of these completed documents will an authorization number be issued by the manufacturer. Please note: no other number or process will be accepted by the manufacturer.
3. The warranty agreement excludes products which have been damaged by negligence, misuse or accident, or wear due to owner's failure to provide reasonable and necessary maintenance. Products which have been modified or repaired by unauthorized persons, structurally altered in any way (notwithstanding sanding, cutting walls and outfit components, drilling holes and altering original hull shape or modifying seat attachment to the hull) or have been subjected to stress beyond the physical limit of the material are also excluded from the warranty agreement. The following are not covered at any time by this warranty: scratches and perforation due to rocks or hard surfaces such as concrete and asphalt; warping (deformation of the hull) caused by extended exposure to the sun or heat, or by having tied the kayak too tightly or nesting it in an improper position; change in appearance of the kayak due to wear, over-exposure to sun, heat, or any other environmental condition.
4. The warranty agreement excludes all shipping costs to and from the appointed place of repair/replacement. The manufacturer will not accept merchandise without the manufacturers authorization return number clearly identified on the outer packaging and proof of pre-paid freight in and out of the factory. The manufacturer reserves the right to return merchandise to its owner, at the owner's expense (COD) if the above conditions have not been met. The manufacturer is not responsible for any damages incurred in transport, storing fees, or inconvenience or loss of time/money while the claim is being processed and repairs or restoration are being effected.
5. The warranty agreement obliges the manufacturer only during the period of coverage (begins on the date of the original warranty activation and expires at the end of the original warranty period specified on the warranty registration form) to repair or replace, at its discretion, the defective parts at either its manufacturing plant or through a designated, authorized dealer's store. The manufacturer reserves the right to change the product or design without incurring any obligation to incorporate such changes in previously available products.

This warranty applies only in the United States and Canada. In all other countries, the appointed distributor is solely responsible to administer the warranty according to governing by-laws and corporate policies. The enclosed warranty registration form and the present document are the sole and exclusive warranty recognized by the manufacturer in connection with the purchase and use of one of its products. Riot kayaks makes no warranties or representations expressed or implied (including warranties of merchantability and of fitness for a particular purpose) in such connection except as specifically set forth in this warranty. The company is not liable for any injury or damage to persons or property sustained as a result of the use of kayaks manufactured by Riot kayaks. The user of any kayak manufactured by Riot kayaks acknowledges and assumes any and all risks associated with the use of kayaks and waives any and all claims against Riot kayaks, its agents and assignees. By filling out and submitting the warranty registration form, the owner of the product acknowledges that he has read and understood the Owner's Manual and warranty agreement, and that he recognizes that due to the nature of the activity the product is intended for, Riot kayaks, its owners, employees, and associates can not be held liable for any injuries or mishaps sustained in the use of a kayak manufactured by Riot kayaks. All incidental and/or consequential damages are excluded from this warranty agreement. Implied warranties are limited to the life of the warranty (as specified in the warranty registration form). Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights which may vary from state to state.