



Owner's Manual

Sobek™ and Enki Relief™ Drysuits

Thank you for purchasing a drysuit from Mythic Gear. In order to get the best service from this quality product, please take a few minutes to read through this user guide. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call or email. We'll be glad to hear from you.



Sobek

Put in On

Watch a video: www.mythicdrysuits.com/pages/using-a-drysuit

1. Your drysuit is designed to keep you dry, but it requires undergarments to insulate you from the cold. If the air and water temperature are moderate, you might be comfortable wearing just one under-layer. For really cold conditions, wear two layers:

- The first or base layer should be full-length underwear of some wicking material like polyester, polypropylene, or silk (never cotton).
- The second, insulating layer should be synthetic fleece or pile.
- Wear warm wool or synthetic knit socks inside the suit's sewn-on socks. Pull them

up *over* the cuffs of the base and insulating layers.

- 2.** Remove jewelry, watches, hair clips: anything that could catch on the gaskets. File your nails smooth. Secure long hair with an elastic. A fleece helmet also works well to keep long hair under control and slides more easily through the neck gasket.
- 3.** Clean exposed skin of chemicals like sunblock and bug dope. Some of these may damage the latex gaskets.
- 4.** Stand on a clean, smooth surface to avoid damage to the drysuit socks.
- 5.** Step into the suit through the entry zipper, working your feet into the socks. Pull the suit up to your waist. Fasten the hook-and-loop straps firmly across your waist.
- 6.** Work one arm into a sleeve. When you reach the gasket,



Enki Relief

stop. Never push your hand through the opening.

7. Use your other hand to stretch open the wrist gasket and work it gently around until the first hand is through. Smooth the gasket so that it lies flat around the wrist. Follow the same procedure for the other hand.

11. Bring the suit up over your shoulders, then over your head.

13. Do not force your head through the neck gasket. Working from the top, use both hands to stretch the gasket and ease it over your head. When it's around your neck, smooth out any creases and folds. Make sure your hair tie is still in place, not lost inside the suit.

14. The waterproof entry zipper requires two hands to close. One hand pulls the slider, and the other keeps the sides straight and aligned. Sometimes you'll pull tight above the slider to straighten the fabric. Sometimes you'll hold the two halves together below the slider. Pull the slider slowly and firmly, but don't force it. If the slider won't move, back up a bit and straighten the two sides before pulling down again.

15. Make sure the zipper is completely closed, with the slider butted against the rubber stop. Fold down the protective flap and secure it with the hook-and-loop tapes.

16. Removing the suit is the opposite of putting it on. Remember to treat the gaskets gently: they must be stretched, rather than pulled, over body parts.

Burp the Suit

After the drysuit is zipped up, it's necessary to remove excess air from the inside. Too much air in the suit will make swimming awkward if you end up in the water.

The process of squeezing the air out is called "burping" the suit. Squat as low as you can. Press your upper arms tight against your chest, and use one or both hands to pull the neck gasket slightly away from your neck. You'll feel the air escaping. When it stops, release the gasket then stand up.

Fitting the Gaskets

When you put on your new drysuit, the latex gaskets (wrist and neck seals) may feel tight. They have to be a bit snug to keep water out, but should not be uncomfortable. Try wearing the suit around the house for a while: you may become accustomed quickly to the snugness. But if wearing the suit makes your fingers go numb or tingly, or if you feel dizzy, your face gets red, or you have difficulty breathing, take it off immediately. You will have to make adjustments.

Trimming is the only recommended way to change the fit. Do not pre-stretch gaskets by placing them over a ball or a bottle, as this will permanently impair their resilience.

Trimming the Gaskets

More detailed instructions and photos: www.mythicdrysuits.com/blogs/the-mytholog/14302337-trim-your-drysuit-gaskets-right

Read these instructions carefully before trimming the neck or wrist gaskets.

Mistakes are costly and time-consuming and are not covered by your warranty. If you have questions, contact us before you cut.

- Turn the drysuit inside-out. The gaskets have concentric rings molded on the inner surface, and these serve as cutting guides.
- Use *sharp* scissors with long blades. Do not use a knife or a razor blade.
- Trim carefully to the first guide ring. Do not cut more than one ring at a time. Be extra careful that the start and the finish of the cut meet perfectly.
- Turn the drysuit rightside-out and try it on. The gasket should feel gently snug, but not uncomfortable.
- If the gasket is too tight, repeat. Cut only one ring at a time and try it on each time.

Wearing the Suit

- Before you begin paddling or boating, test the suit in the water to make sure the gaskets, zippers, fabric and seams are all doing their job to keep you dry.
- Gaskets may not seal well if you have a lot of hair on your wrists or neck. Shave them if necessary.
- Keep sunblock and insect repellent off the latex gaskets.
- There are no special tricks to wearing a drysuit when you're on the water. Just do your thing and keep the gaskets away from sharp edges.
- A bit of extra care is called for when you're off the water. Remember that the gaskets are delicate, so if you have a rough portage ahead of you, take off the suit and put it back on at the other end. Don't dry it over a campfire: the fabric and the gaskets can be damaged by excess heat. Don't walk around without some kind of protective footwear over the drysuit socks or you'll cause leaks.

Zipper Care

- Don't try to operate a zipper that's fouled by dirt. Use a brush to clean it first.
- If the zipper is stiff, rub it with a block of paraffin wax or use drysuit zipper lubricant.
- Avoid folding or over-bending the zipper.
- If you get a little water seeping in at the very bottom of the zipper, a dab of soft wax or petroleum jelly may improve the seal.

Packing for Travel

Watch a video: www.mythicdrysuits.com/pages/caring-for-drysuits

Here's how to protect the zippers and gaskets when traveling with your drysuit:

- Fold the legs up over the top half of the suit.
- Fold the arms in at right angles to one another. The suit is now roughly square.

- Take the two corners of the square opposite the ends of the entry zipper and fold them in so that they meet over the zipper.
- Roll the suit up around a rolled-up towel and secure it with a cord or strap. The towel prevents the zipper from being bent into too-small a radius.
- Now you can stuff the suit safely into a duffel or gear bag.

Cleaning

- Wash your drysuit after every use to remove skin oils, salt residue, sunblock, and insect repellent from the gaskets.
- **Do not:** wash it in a washing machine; dry it in a clothes dryer; dry clean it; iron it.
- Wash by hand in warm or cool water with gentle soap. A bathtub works well. Surface dirt can be removed by wiping with your hands, a sponge, or a soft-bristle brush.
- Wash the outside first, then turn it inside-out and do the inside.
- Open all zippers and use a soft brush to remove any grit from the teeth.
- Don't try to wash off the waxy film on the latex gaskets. This age-resisting agent is designed to slowly leach to the surface to protect the latex.
- Hang the suit inside-out on a coat hanger (not a wire hanger). Hang it indoors, where it will not be exposed to direct sunlight.
- When the inside is completely dry, turn it rightside-out so the outside can air dry.

Storage

Watch a video: www.mythicdrysuits.com/pages/caring-for-drysuits

To maximize the life of the gaskets, protect your drysuit from sunlight and ozone:

- Store it in a cool, dark place.
- Dust the gaskets with unscented talcum powder.
- Hang your drysuit on a wide coat hanger (not a wire hanger). Use a second hanger to lift the feet off the floor.
- If storing for more than a couple weeks, sealing the drysuit in a plastic trash bag will protect the gaskets from ozone. With the suit hanging, bring the bag up from the bottom and cinch it closed with a twist-tie around the hanger hook. The suit must be absolutely dry inside and out before you bag it.
- If a dark closet is not available, fold the suit loosely (don't over-bend the zipper), seal it in a dark plastic trash bag, and put the bag in a large cardboard box.



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- Do not store your drysuit in a concrete room or in a room with machinery or lamps that produce ozone.

Safety

Your Mythic Drysuit is a valuable piece of safety equipment for watersports such as paddling and sailing. Please note these cautions:

- Your drysuit is designed to keep you dry, not warm. For warmth, proper underclothing is required.
- Your drysuit is not designed to provide flotation. Always wear an approved PFD (personal flotation device, i.e., life vest) when you're on the water.
- Your drysuit is for surface-water sports only. It is not to be used for diving.
- Any drysuit may permit a small amount of seepage. But if a significant amount of water enters (i.e., more than can be readily absorbed by your undergarments), something is wrong. Get off the water promptly and resolve the problem before using the suit again. A lot of water in the suit can be dangerous, as it will decrease your buoyancy and make swimming difficult.
- Inspect your suit carefully before each use. Do not use it if any of these problems are found: torn or cracked gaskets; damaged zippers; torn, worn, or delaminated fabric; separating seams. Obtain qualified service as described below.

Service

To obtain **warranty service**, you must first contact us for Return Authorization:

Mythic Gear
530-350-MYTH (6984)
support@mythicdrysuits.com

We will give you instructions for returning your drysuit when you request Return Authorization. Returns made without Return Authorization will delay your service and may result in added shipping charges.

For **non-warranty service**, Express Dry Suit Repair is Mythic Gear's recommended provider. They do great work on all kinds of drysuit repairs, including gasket replacement. Contact them directly:

Express Dry Suit Repair
503-314-5566
info@expressdrysuitrepair.com
www.expressdrysuitrepair.com

Warranty

Mythic Gear drysuits are warranted to the original owner against defects in materials and workmanship for one year from the date of purchase. Proof of purchase is required. Latex gaskets and zippers are not covered by this warranty. Products found to be defective will be repaired or replaced at Mythic Gear's discretion.



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