



# NORTH WATER CANOE SPRAY DECK INSTALLATION GUIDE

Thank you for your purchase of our custom made canoe Spray Deck. These instructions are designed to show you the necessary steps to install your new deck. With so many hull designs and materials it is nearly impossible to have one instruction manual that covers everything. If you have questions please give us a call, our hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (pacific time) Monday to Friday and the toll free number is 1-800-567-9283.

Your first step to successful deck installation is to read this entire manual before you begin.

## Step 1: Preparation

First check that along with your custom built spray deck, you have received everything correctly in your kit and that you have the proper tools and supplies on hand to complete the installation of your deck.

### If your boat is:

a) Fiberglass, Kevlar, or ABS / Royalex vinyl interior skin

- Drill placement marker
- 26 loop patches
- 1 can of Vinyl -Tec adhesive
- 2 lacing cords (20')
- 2 deflector hoops



b) Roto-Molded Polyethylene, Twintex, Aluminium

- Drill placement marker
- 26 webbing loops
- 28 rivets, 56 washers
- 2 lacing cords (20')
- 2 deflector hoops

c) If you have chosen the optional Web-Ladder-Lock Attachment System

- Drill placement marker
- 40' webbing
- 46 rivets, 92 washers, and a **rivet gun (not included)**
- 2 deflector hoops
- Additional instructions

### You will need for installation:

- Acetone or de-natured alcohol to clean gluing surfaces
- Narrow tip felt pen
- Drill with 3/16" drill bit
- Optional – sandpaper
- Fine gage wire or heavy thread
- About 2.5 – 3.5 hours to complete the installation of the deck

## Step 2: Test the spray deck fit



Lay your spray deck out over your canoe. The bow end of the deck (underside) is marked with a label indicating brand and model of canoe for which the deck was made. Check the direction of the cockpit hook and loop closures; they should face forward. The bow and stern straps should be placed under the bow and stern end caps. Use the adjustable tensioning end straps to snug it up and centre it fore and aft. You do not want to put a lot of tension on the deck with this strap.

Next, check the fit of the spray deck. When you tighten the spray deck across the boat, the gunwale should be in approximately the middle of the 3" webbing rub strip. Check that the cockpits have been positioned correctly atop of the seats. There should be about 1- 1/2" between the back of the seat and the cockpit.

### Step 3: Marking the canoe for drilling

When marking drill positions on your canoe you will need to use the triangular drill placement marker. This marker ensures that all holes will be drilled 5½" below the underside of the gunwale and centered between tie down tabs.

Start marking the drill positions at the bow. The first hole will be marked 5½" below the underside of the gunwale between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tie down tabs on the spray deck. The second hole will be marked 10" from the first hole between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> tie down tabs. The 3<sup>rd</sup> hole will be marked 10" from the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> tie down tabs. Move to the stern and follow the same layout.

Now return to the bow and place a drill mark every 20" between **every other** set of tie down tabs at 5.5" below the underside of the gunwale, beginning where your last mark sits. See image below.

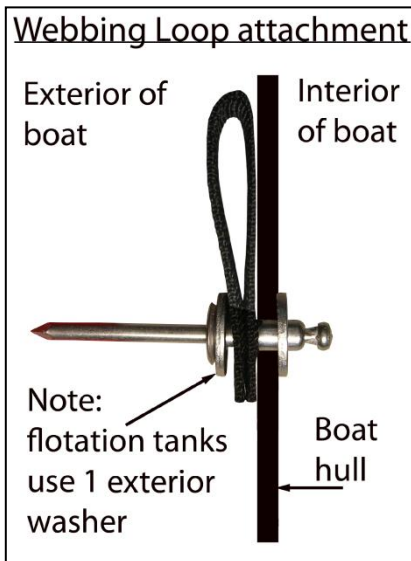


### Step 4: Drilling

Before you start drilling on the marks you have placed, check to make sure you won't be drilling into anything.

If you have float tanks in your boat, only drill the holes which will not penetrate it. If your float tanks are overly large and you must skip more than 2 holes, feel free to contact us for alternative

options. If you need to move a mark slightly to miss a seat support or floatation tank, a 2" variance side to side is fine. Drill holes for the loop patches using a power drill with a 3/16" bit.



If your boat is made from Roto-Molded Polyethylene, Twintex or aluminium it will require Webbing Loops for all contact points, in this case you will use one washer on the inside of the hull and one outside of the Webbing Loop. (see diagram)

### Step 5: Gluing the Loop Patches to the inside of your hull

Before bonding the patches to the canoe you must first clean your canoe and the loop patches thoroughly using acetone or isopropyl alcohol, to make sure you are working on a clean surface. This is best so that the bonding adhesive will adhere and seal completely.

If your boat is made of Kevlar or fibreglass you will have to lightly sand and re-clean the spots where glue will be applied. Regular sandpaper and a bit of elbow grease should do the job. Be sure the surfaces are clean and flat before bonding.

To glue the patches, use the disposable brush and spread adhesive over the patch side with the loop on it and corresponding canoe surface at the same time. Allow 5-10min for the adhesive to become tacky to the touch. Follow the instruction on the glue container for best results.

Use a fine gage wire or heavy thread to pull loop through the hole. Once loop has been pulled through ensure backing is sealed evenly to the canoe surface. Allow the adhesive to set for 8-10 hours to help ensure proper bonding.

### Step 6: Lace up your deck

Start at the bow and secure the lacing cord to the first tab with a bowline or similar knot, then lace loosely through all tabs and loops. To tighten properly, pull from bow to stern 3' or 4' at a time on either side just as tightening a big pair of boots. Fasten at the stern using a knot or hitch such as a Truckers Hitch.

Next place the cockpit deflector hoops inside the webbing pockets on the underside of the deck. Place ends of deflector hoops into each pocket, it may be necessary to trim down the length of the deflector hoop to ensure a good fit. Cut a little off at a time until it fits securely and the cockpit closes properly with the hoop anchored with the Velcro tab.

Congratulations you are now ready to hit the water with your new custom-made spray deck.

Please write or call us with any comments about our program.

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