

# ENGLISH

## User's guide Adhesive Ski Skin

We appreciate the trust you have placed in us by purchasing these self-adhesive Kästle skins. They were developed according to the quality criteria of Kästle.

This manual has been specially designed to allow you to discover the functions and features of your skins.

## Read before use

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- Please read these instructions before using your skins, in order to use them properly and safely.
- The illustrations in this manual may differ from the actual display.
- The content of this manual may differ depending on the product and may be subject to changes without notice. To obtain the latest version of this manual, please visit the website: [www.kaestle.com/manuals](http://www.kaestle.com/manuals)
- Please keep this manual for future reference.

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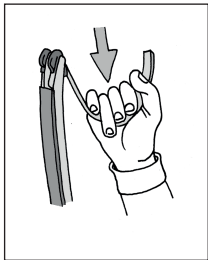
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## 1. Instructions for Back Fix bindings

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Your ski skin is ready for use. Attach the Back Fix binding as follows:



- Place the skin on your ski, starting from the ski tip.
- Make sure the skin is securely centered on the ski and both edges are visible.
- Place the tail hook on the ski tail. If necessary, slide it towards the outside to ensure an easy application onto the ski tail.
- Once the tail hook is secured, adjust the tension using the flap.



- To release your tail hook, simply pull the flap up (pull the flap over the ski tail). It will keep its exact size and can thereby be reapplied easily.
- If the tail hook should accidentally move, please repeat the above procedure.

## 2. Important Information

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### Maintenance and storage

After use, please dry your skins in an airy place, at room temperature, away from excessive sun and heat. Avoid direct sunlight, high temperatures, direct heat from stoves, heaters, etc. as they can cause damage to the adhesive coating of the skins.

In general, there is no need to completely unfold skins to leave them to dry. Drying the skins in an open position runs the risk of exposing the adhesive to dirt (dust, falling on the ground, adhesive in contact with plush, etc.). Moreover, if the adhesive is left for a long time in the open air and exposed to light it will be subject to slight oxidation, which will age it more quickly.

It is recommended to check for the presence or absence of water and/or ice on the adhesive in the following cases: an tour of a long duration, refitting the skin numerous times, very wet snow or weather conditions. If there is humidity or ice on the adhesive, leave the skins to dry unfolded for one or two hours before folding them one against the other to finish the drying process.

Use the Kästle bag for storing the skins (never store them wet), especially if they will not be used for a long period.

**Regularly check the adhesive on skins,** especially at the beginning of the season or after prolonged storage. Be sure to check the back end of the skins.

If the adhesive surfaces are in poor condition or very dirty, **re-glue the skin.** You can do this yourself or contact the maintenance service in your specialist store.

**At the end of the season,** store the skins in a clean, cool and dark place, with no excessive humidity or dryness.

It is recommended to fold the skins one on top of another, adhesive against adhesive, or fit the protective film.

### Cleaning

Self-adhesive skins do not require textile cleaning. The friction of the skins on the snow generates an automatic cleaning effect. With the correct maintenance of the skins, adhesive does not require cleaning either. If the adhesive is full of residues (leaves or twigs), it is recommended to remove them with tweezers.

## Use of the protective film

In order to simplify and facilitate use, the Safer Skin technology and the POMOCA adhesive have been designed to avoid the regular application of a protective film. For trimmed skins during an ascent or in adverse conditions, the classic folding (skin folded on itself) is sufficient to guarantee another optimal adhesion on a new ascent. For storage at the end of the day, it is recommended to stick the skin one against another so that the entire glued surface is applied adhesive against adhesive. For storage during long periods, the protective film may sometimes prevent the adhesive from being damaged, especially for skins subjected to considerable temperature changes (above 40°, especially in summer).

## Useful life

The useful life of an Kästle self-adhesive skin depends on the frequency of use and the quality of the skin. Nylon skins have greater resistance to wear and tear than mohair skins, which are much more sensitive to abrasion. RACE skins are designed to optimize gliding, therefore they are the more sensitive to abrasion.

The quality of the snow also greatly influences the useful life of the skin: powdery and dry snow is preferable to hard or icy snow. On hard snow, short descents can also damage the edges of the skins.

## Disposing of the self-adhesive skins

Kästle self-adhesive skins can be disposed as normal waste and thrown in the bin. Protective films can be disposed as plastic waste.

## Warning

Within a specific manufacturing process, Kästle skins are subject to a strict quality control. It is recommended to use only POMOCA products for treating Kästle self-adhesive skins. These products guarantee easy maintenance and present no compatibility problem with the surfaces of Kästle skins. The use of products of other brands may damage the quality of the Kästle skins and/or considerably reduce their useful life and efficiency.

## Recommendations for use

There are several variables involved in the adhesion and removal operations of Kästle

skins. These include the condition of the running base of the ski, the wax used, the condition of the adhesive and the external conditions such as temperature and humidity. The main problems arise when gluing the skin to the ski is difficult or impossible, or it keeps coming off. The quality of adhesive used for Kästle skins minimizes these problems.

How to ensure proper adhesion/removal and avoid problems

- The base of the ski must be clean (free from residues of adhesive, mud, grass, etc.) and well-maintained. A highly damaged or poorly maintained ski base can favor the transfer of adhesive onto the ski and the retention of humidity on the ski.
- Waxing the ski is very important for maintaining the base. It contributes to a better glide and improves the ski stability whilst turning. After using hot wax, eliminate the excess wax with a scraper and brush the ski. It is recommended to use hydrocarbon paraffin-based or additive-free ski waxes.
- Ski waxes that contain fluoride, Teflon, graphite, silicon and other similar compounds, or those that are for very cold snows, may impede the adhesion of the skin. Moderate

use is recommended; alternatively, consult a specialist about waxing.

- Carefully clean new skis to prevent the products used in manufacturing and/or protection during transport and storage from damaging the skin and affecting adhesion.
- Never leave skis or skins outside in glacial temperatures. Similar conditions affect the skin's adhesion. If the skins have been exposed to these conditions, reheat them with your body heat before using them again.
- If the skis must be left outdoors (mountain refuge or cabin), don't bring them inside to adhere the skins. The change in temperature causes condensation on the base of the ski and impedes adhesion of the skin. Preferably adhere the skins (at indoor storage temperature) outdoors on cold skis or, if possible, bring the skis inside for 15 minutes before gluing the skins and drying them if necessary.
- Before gluing the skin to the base of the ski, check that it is clean, dry and has no snow residues. If necessary, carefully dry it with a cloth, a glove or a fleece sleeve. Avoid snow, dust, mud, etc. from coming into contact with the adhesive surface of the skin.

- At the end of an ascent, never let the skins dry on the sun on the skis placed vertically if the temperature and/or solar radiation are high. UV rays and high temperatures diminish the quality of the adhesive.

- During a descent take care of the skin. The snow can damage the skin especially on the edges of the skin. Powdery snow may hide stones or chips likely to considerably damage the skin.

- At low temperatures (below  $-2^{\circ}$ ), it is recommended to keep skins close to the body (under the jacket or polar vest) to heat them up. The same applies when descending a summit to begin a new ascent. A skin with an adhesive maintained at a certain temperature is easier to fit. To fit the skin, carefully clean and dry the base of the ski, remove the skin and immediately adhere it to the ski to prevent it from cooling. Ensure the skins are correctly stored before skiing downhill so as not to lose them during the descent.

- When refitting the skins, do not remove them from your body or take the ski before being ready to fit the skins. The higher the temperature of the skin and the ski, the easier it will be to adhere it. Leave the ski in contact

with the snow. The skis will remain the same temperature as the snow (always around  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), which is usually higher than the air temperature. Inside jacket, the skins will have a temperature of around  $5^{\circ}\text{C}$ , which is usually higher than the air temperature. Remove the skin from the jacket only when it will be opened to fit it to the ski. Take the ski only when the skin is ready to be adhered to the base.

- Kästle self-adhesive skins are subjected to an Ever Dry treatment that prevents the formation of snow clumps on the skis. If the skin is already damaged (e.g. because it has lost hairs) and the conditions are susceptible for forming snow clumps (powdery snow on the summit and damp or wet on the flat) the water resistance capability of the skin can be increased by applying an appropriate wax in the direction of the hair. For example, a gliding hydrocarbon-based wax for Alpine skiing or skating for temperatures varying between  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-4^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $32^{\circ}\text{F}$  to  $25^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) or POMOCA liquid wax.

- A skin repeatedly coming off may cause a fall. For this reason, proper care of skins is essential. Selecting the correct skin type (mohair, mixed or synthetic) and the correct width are also very important. Many falls with

hard snow occur because the skins are too narrow and the separations are too visible in relation to the ski edge (more than 3 mm without skin).

### 3. Warranty

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Kästle guarantees the original retail buyer for one year from the purchase date that the product is in conformity with the specifications listed in the instruction manual. Should the buyer discover a covered defect, he is expected to return the product to the purchase address. The product will be repaired or replaced at our discretion. We reserve the right to require proof of purchase for all warranty claims. We do not warrant products against normal wear and tear, unauthorized modifications and alterations, improper use, inappropriate maintenance, accidents or if the product is used for a purpose for which it was not designed.

### WARNING

Skiing is inherently dangerous and can result in severe injury, even death. You must understand and accept the risks involved prior to start practicing ski sports. You are responsible for your own actions and decisions. Before using this product, please read all related instructions and warnings, familiarize yourself with its proper use, capabilities and limits.