

Kayak SUP Repair-Rotomolded

Your craft'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 in your HDPE Rotomolded kayak while paddling, you should carry in your dry bag a roll of duct tape for quick repairs.

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.

Tools required-thermoformed ABS and Composite FG

- 4-inch putty knife, basic
- 2-inch masking tape, roll
- Clear packing tape, roll
- Piece of cardboard to use as work platform covered in clear packing tape
- Isopropyl alcohol for clean-up
- Rubber gloves
- Safety glasses

Kayak / SUP Repair-Thermoformed and Composite

Product from marine supplier or home hardware

- Peel Ply - enough to cover the crack and 6 inches around; usually sold by the yard. It is a polypropylene material that does not stick to anything.
- Fiberglass CLOTH (not Mat) - comes in a variety of tape / roll widths.
- Acrylic two-part adhesive meant for Acrylic and ABS - methyl methacrylate also called, DEVCON = Plastic welder, Permatex = Plastic Weld etc. Loctite, Plexus, ASI, 3M all make a form of Acrylic ABS bonding agent.

Method to repair anything thermo

- Completely dry the area.
- Line up the crack and duct tape solid on the outside.
- Tape off area you working on inside to eliminate splatter or glue globs.
- Sand area to be glued lightly with 80 grit so it 's clean.
- Cut FG to size an inch past crack with three layers cut to size.
- Wet out the three layers together. Be quick as there is not much time to get it on depending on temperature.
- When there are no dry spots left on the FG cloth , pick it up and place it flat on the crack. Put the Peel Ply on top.
- Hold one end of the Peel Ply and squeegee the area smooth with the putty knife.
- Be careful not to squeegee more than 3 times... unless necessary.
- Leave overnight, then peel off Peel Ply and away you go !

Kayak / SUP Repair - Thermoformed and Composite

Cosmetic finish on outside of kayak

- Sand area smooth using 120 grit, then 200 grit, 400 grit and higher.
- Clean with Isopropyl Alcohol.
- Spray with sandable primer made for Acrylic, used on automobiles; There is also a putty mix available for larger filling jobs.
- Spray with color.
- Spray with Acrylic clear kote several times.
- Wet sand if required to shine any bumps.
- Polish with swirl remover polish buff for finish.
- Polish with best UV wax to complete mission.

Rotomolded HDPE Repair

- Repairing an HDPE kayak you will need a heat gun with focused nozzle, 60 grit sand paper and a knife or dremel.
- The crack should be V'd out clean and warm
- slowly melt into the V your HDPE sliver of repair plastic. (Can be cut from inside cockpit rim if able)
- Ensure you do not overheat area burning plastic. It may be beneficial to your kayak to just bring it to a certified plastic welding business and have it done by a pro.
- once the repair is done for added security place a patch inside the kayaks available on the net or in your local kayak shop.