

Puffin Sport

Assembly and User Information

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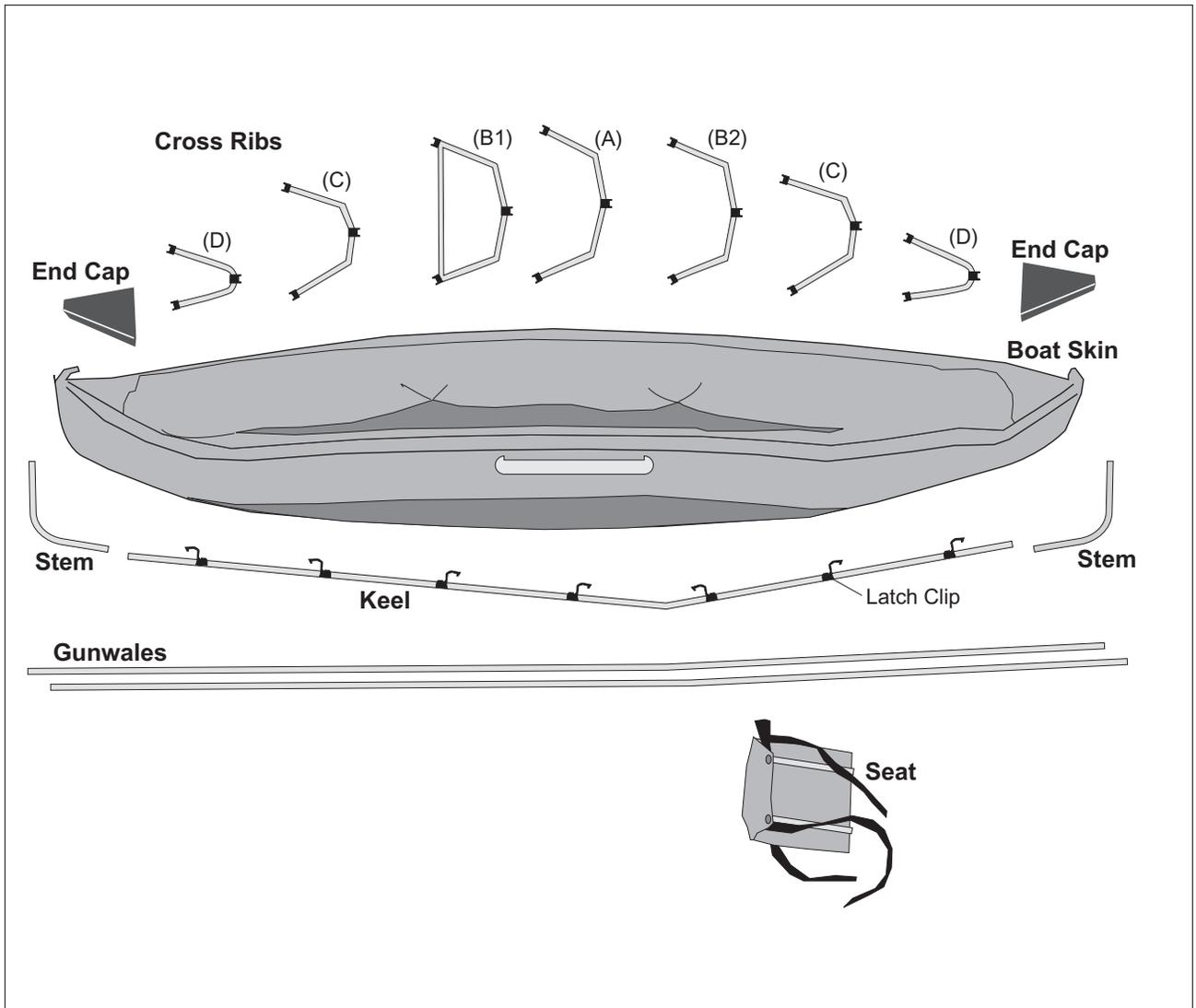


Figure 1, Parts

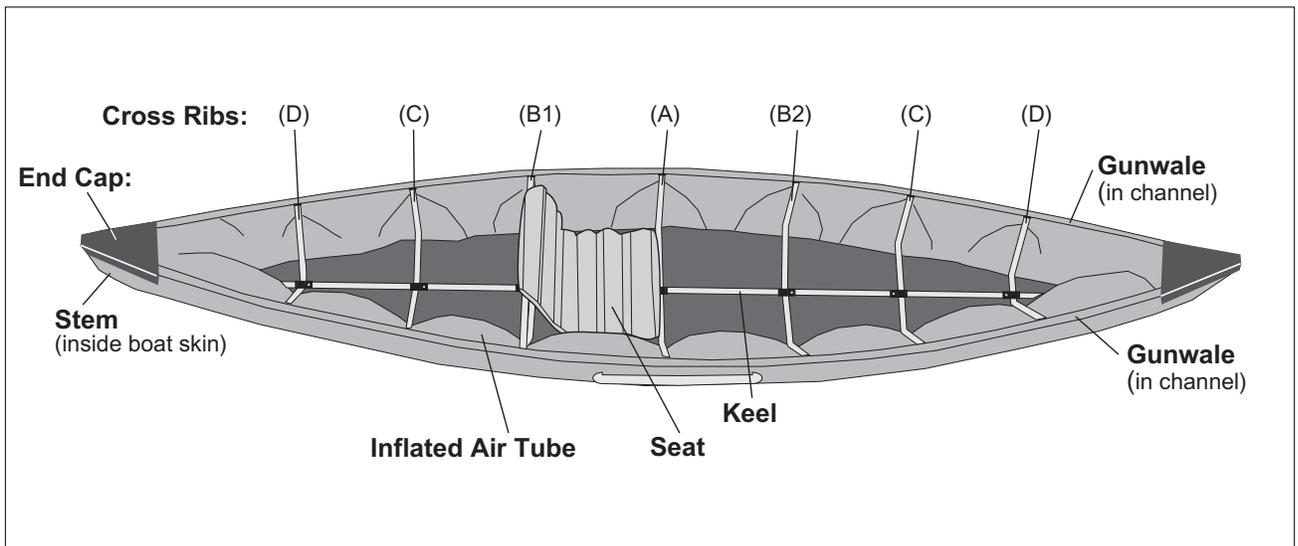


Figure 2, Assembled

Assembling the Puffin Sport

NOTE! We recommend that you study this manual carefully before you start the assembly procedure! When assembling the Puffin Sport, please refer to Figure 1 and Figure 2 of this manual.

1. Roll out the *boat skin* and assemble all the rods.

→ The sections of the long rods are internally connected by elastic cords to ensure correct assembly.

2. Insert both *gunwales* as far as they will go. Close the flaps to cover the ends.

→ The two longest rods are *gunwales*. They are to be inserted in channels along the edges of the *boat skin*. The channel openings are under flaps at one end of the skin.

3. Assemble *keel* and *stems*.

→ The curved pieces without plastic fittings are *stems*. The narrow end of the *stems* fit into the *keel*.

4. Position *keel* and *stems* inside the boat skin.

→ The *keel* will now be at an angle.

→ The top of the *stems* should fit securely under the screws at each end of the boat skin.

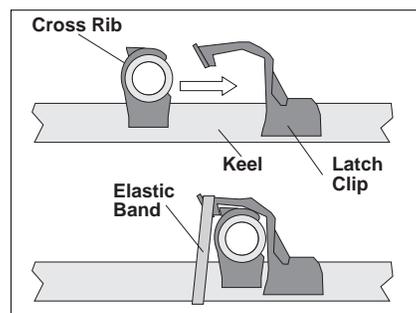


Figure 3, Latch Clip

→ The *cross ribs* are connected to the *keel* by means of *latch clips*. Each *cross rib* has a plastic clip at the center. Position this clip on the keel as shown in Figure 3 and press in the direction of the arrow until the *latch clip* locks. Mount the *elastic band* to secure the locking.

→ The ends of the *cross rib* clip to the *gunwales* at openings in the *gunwale channels*.

5. Mount *cross rib (A)*.

→ *Cross rib (A)* is the widest one and will be installed at the center of the Puffin. To install it the keel angle is moved to the center of the boat.

→ **As the *cross ribs* are installed the keel will gradually straighten.**

NOTE: The hull is symmetrical. It does not matter at which end *cross ribs (B1)* and *(B2)* are installed.

→ Make sure the *stems* are centered in the *boat skin*.

6. Mount *cross ribs (B1)* and *(B2)*.

→ The rear part of the Puffin will now be where *rib (B1)* is installed.

7. Mount the four remaining *crossribs, (C)* and *(D)*.

→ Make sure the *keel* is straight and the *stems* are still centered in the ends of the *boat skin*.

8. **Inflate both *air tubes* alternately until they feel hard (about as much as a fit person could do by mouth).** → Make sure the *keel* is positioned between the lines in the bottom of the *boat skin*.
9. **Install the black fabric *end caps*.** → The *end caps* are installed at both ends of the boat by means of Velcro fasteners.
10. **Inflate the *seat*.**
11. **Mount the *seat*.** → The *seat* is placed with the metal frame against *cross rib (B1)*.
→ Secure to the center *cross rib (A)* with the two short snap straps at each forward corner.

The Puffin Sport is now complete

Note!

- If a *cross rib* becomes disconnected from a *gunwale*, there is not enough pressure in the *air tubes*. You need to get to shore and add more air. Reduced pressure is common if you assemble the boat on a warm, sunny day and go paddling in cold water. Under these conditions you should add some extra pressure during assembly.

Disassembling the Puffin Sport

Disassembling is essentially the assembly process in reverse, but there are a few important details:

→ To remove the *gunwales*:

- Open the flaps and lift the *gunwale ends* free of the *boat skin*.
- Move to the other end of the boat and grip the side fabric on one side just below the *gunwale*, about a foot (30 cm) from the end.
- Push with the other hand against the end of the *gunwale*.
- Straighten the *boat skin*, move your hands, and repeat the process on both sides of the boat until the *gunwales* can easily be pulled out. *It is helpful to make the gunwales curve like in the assembled boat when pulled out.*

NOTE! If some *gunwale* sections disconnect, you can still pull the *gunwales* out, but it is then important to stretch the *boat skin* so the *gunwale channels* are straight.

→ Open the *air tube valves* and roll up the *boat skin* from the end opposite the *valves*.

Some general information about your Puffin Sport

Patches and Reinforcements

Punctures and abrasions to the boat skin are easily repaired with the enclosed repair kit.

- Cut a patch to cover the damaged area plus 3/4" around it.
- Round the corners of the patch.
- Clean the patch and the area to be covered, and apply a thin coat of adhesive to both surfaces.
- Wait until the adhesive feels dry and apply the patch. Make sure the surfaces are pressed together well. *Note: The smooth side of the patch should face out.*
- Apply adhesive to the side that appears embossed.

The Puffin can be used immediately after the repair, but the bond will get stronger for several hours as the adhesive cures.

You can add reinforcement to wear areas. After some use it is easy to see which areas are exposed to wear. Simply install patches of same color fabric.

Punctures of the air tubes can be repaired with the adhesive in the repair kit and a patch. The patch

material in the repair kit can be used on the air tubes as well. Follow the procedure described above. It is important to clean the surfaces well before applying the adhesive.

Note:

Adhesives work best on rough surfaces. We recommend using fine sandpaper before adhesives are applied.

Note:

303 Protectant and other similar products will protect canoe skins and air tubes from harmful UV rays and help extend the life of your Puffin, but we never use protectants on our own boats. Nor do we recommend that you do.

The reason is that you can not apply a patch without completely removing the protectant from the area to be patched, and the protectant has to be removed with a chemical solvent.

Also, the Puffin skin's PVC coating has very good UV resistance without any protection and should last for many years.

We recommend that you store your Puffin Sport in the shade whenever practical.