

Balmoral paddlesurf

BOARD CARE

The most important thing you need to know about your epoxy SUP!

Here are some tips to keep your board in one piece and live a long and happy life together.

DONT COOK IT!

You've got your new board, you love it! The last thing you are thinking is that it can potentially be a hot air balloon waiting to POP! Yep, your board is basically a big container of air. Heat it up and POP - its all over! The Styrofoam in the core of your board is largely air. Even though these boards are designed for the ocean and the beach, they don't like extended exposure to heat.

Your board is not covered under warranty if you overheat, it so here are some tips to avoid ruining your board.

Things to avoid:

Leaving your board on the roof of the car for extended periods in direct sunlight or on hot days.

Board bags can actually make things worse over long periods when parked. The board will take longer to heat up but the heat is trapped. Leaving your board in the car exposed to sunlight and heat will 'cook' it.

Radiant heat through windows is your worst enemy.

Bubble wrap is like a thousand magnifying lasses trying to destroy your board.

If you have a **black strip or dark grip** - flip the board over on the beach or put it in the shade.

The lighter the construction, the weaker the skin, the more likely your board can be heat damaged.

The darker the colour (Red, Blue etc) the quicker your board will heat up.

The simplest rule is treat your board like you would your favorite pet or small child and you will have a long and happy life together!

VENT PLUGS

Don't be fooled, vent plugs only work if you release them before the damage is done! Then, if you don't seal them up, you risk taking in water! Vent plugs are best left alone and stick by the rules above.

ONE WAY VENT PLUGS, do let air out of the board if it overheats, BUT they are not fool-proof and if the board heats up too quickly the vent cannot cope. So, again stick by the rules above.

YOUR BOARD HATES WATER!

OK, It loves being on top of the ocean and gliding along waves, but put the smallest crack in it and the board can suck water into the core of your board, increasing its weight and making it quite difficult to repair. Always check your board if you think it has hit something. If there is a crack or ding - suck on it. If you can suck air out of the crack, your board can suck water into its core.

If you think your board can take in water, you need to go straight into the beach and seal it.

There are 3 ways you can do this and you need to be a bit of a McQuiver and carry some sealers. Here are the 3 we recommend.

1. **Clear Ding Tape** - clear adhesive tape specifically for board dings. Available from most surf shops. These tapes are designed to seal up small cracks only. PRO's: easy and not messy to use. CONS: surface needs to be very clean to stick and it is not suitable for large dings.

2. **Epoxy Marine Putty** - a malleable epoxy putty available from most hardware, auto or marine stores. PRO's: sticks like 'you know what' and can be forced into cavities. Great for larger dings, Goes hard in 15-20 mins and you are back out on the water. CONS: Mess, mess, mess! It also does not look good as it is grey in colour, BUT it does the job admirably! Recommended!

2. **SOLACURE Epoxy** - epoxy resin that sets under sunlight. Available from most surf shops. Solacure works, but it is messy as it is in liquid form and it can be hard to contain it around the ding before it sets.

A combination of Ding Tape for smaller dings and Marine Putty for larger dings will see you back out on the water in most situations.

GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR GEAR.



Ding Tape Roll
42mm x 4m



PADDLE CARE

Getting the best out of your Carbon paddle.

Without a doubt one of the nicest pieces of equipment, and one worth investing \$'s in, is your paddle. It as after all an extension of your body and a good paddle is something you become very attached to. Here are some tips to keep your paddle in one piece and live a long and happy life together.

DONT COOK IT!

It is a little known fact that you can 'cook' a Carbon paddle. By their very nature (being black), they absorb a lot of heat. As your paddle was made with heat you can well and truly 'deconstruct' it if you allow it to over heat.

Your paddle is not covered under warranty if you overheat it, so here are some tips to avoid ruining your paddle.

The blade is the most susceptible part to over heating as they often have a foam core. The air inside, if hot enough, can expand and deform the blade.

The main culprit is leaving your paddle in your car with the sun beating down on it through your windscreen or window.

Avoid constant exposure to direct heat and you will get a long life out of your paddle.

IT'S NOT A GONDOLA POLE

Simple enough, but push off sand or a solid object and you risk creasing the blade.

Your paddle is made for paddling in water, nothing else.

CARBON IS FICKLE

Just like a high performance short board or Mal, carbon paddles are a compromise between durability, strength and weight. Carbon has a habit of hiding a weakness for a few weeks and then catching you out when you least expect it. More than 50% of all breakages happen when you are just 'cruising' along.

If you get rolled in a wipe out with your board and paddle, any part of the board can hit the paddle shaft and weaken it.

Often it wont break at the time. The weakness will sit there, constantly being weakened over time, until one day it just gives way.

Even the best carbon paddles can snap.

By their very nature, mixing a light, strong carbon paddle with mother natures most powerful force, can have its risks.

To make a paddle 'unbreakable' would mean that it would be so stiff and heavy, it would be very unpleasant to use.

Buy a good paddle and the risks are lower. But like your high performance surfboard, there are forces that will break or damage any paddle.

WARRANTY

The Warranty is against manufacturers faults only.

Warranty does not cover accidental damage or accidents where equipment is placed in situations out of the control of the manufacturer.

Surfing places huge demands on equipment; even small waves can create sufficient hydraulic pressure to snap a board or a paddle.

The ocean is a formidable adversary. If you play in the ocean you take the risk of breaking your equipment.

If you have any questions on any of the info above, dont hesitate to contact us.

So now you are armed with some good info, get out there and enjoy the ocean or your favourite waterway!