Performance Touring Rudder

Instructions for final attachment of touring rudder.

To ensure your kayak arrives with you in perfect condition it has been shipped without the rudder head fitted. All the hard work of fitting your touring rudder has been completed which just leaves you to mount it and connect up the control lines and up-haul. If you have any queries please contact us or one of our dealers for advice.

The rudder package should contain the following:

1x rudder assembly with up-haul rope & split ring
1x plastic rudder pin sleeve (required for some models)
2x control line swivel connectors (fitted to control lines)
2x rubber washers
2x small split rings
2x oval toggles
1x length of 4mm shock cord
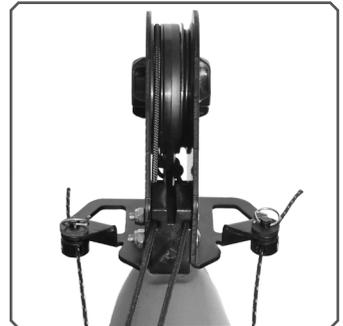1x allen key 3/32" imperial (supplied)

Please read these instructions carefully before fitting!

Step 1 - Attaching rudder assembly

Fit the rudder assembly at the back of your kayak by sliding the rudder pin into the appropriate hole. Then secure in place by attaching the split ring through the small hole at the bottom of the rudder pin to stop the pin lifting out. NB - on a Vista and some older models, you will need to first slide the plastic sleeve over the rudder pin before fitting. This helps the rudder move more freely and should be used if it fits.

Step 2 - Attach control lines to rudder

The rudder head has wings on either side with mounting points to hold the swivel connectors (currently attached to the control lines). Do not loosen the lines in the swivel connectors as these have been pre-set for you. Pull each swivel connector back in line to its mounting point on the underside of the rudder head wing. Push each connector up though a hole in the wing and then place a rubber washer on the top of the wing. Secure in place with the small split rings as shown in the image opposite.

Step 3 – Adjust rudder angle

To prevent the rudder blade from hitting the kayak every time it is lifted up and onto the kayak, adjust the rear most screw on the side of the rudder head. You will need a screwdriver and small adjustable spanner. This changes the angle of the rudder and should be set with the rudder blade up across the back deck of your kayak and so that the blade is held just off the kayak.

Step 4 – Routing rudder up-haul lines

Take the two up-haul lines from the middle of the rudder head and thread them forward through the empty deck fittings along the right hand side of the kayak. Make sure the rope on the right hand side of the kayak is fed through the bottom half of the deck fittings and the left hand rope through the top half. The two ropes should not cross over each other and should not be threaded though the front most fitting adjacent to the seat.

Step 5 – Fitting the rudder up-haul controllers

Pull on the bottom rope (down-haul) to make the rudder go into it's active down position. Slide one of the oval toggles onto this rope and whilst pulling the rope towards the front deck fitting, tie a knot 7cm before the front deck fitting and slide the oval toggle over the knot.

Now pull the top rope (up-haul) so that the rudder lifts up onto the rear deck of the kayak. Slide the remaining toggle onto this rope and whilst pulling the rope towards the front deck fitting, tie a knot 7cm before the front deck fitting and slide the oval toggle on this rope over the knot. You should now have a toggle on each rope that when pulled forward, will lift and lower the rudder. The knots on the ropes should stop the toggles from reaching the front deck fitting.

Take the loose piece of shock cord and tie a knot in one end. Thread the shock cord through one of the toggles, through and round the front deck fitting and back to the other toggle. Tie the shock cord off to the second toggle leaving the line under tension.

Finally cut away any remaining rope and cord and seal the ends carefully with a lighter.

Step 6 – Using the rudder park

When transporting and storing the kayak - use the fitted rudder park to hold the rudder blade securly in place.

Please check all fittings before first use and on a regular basis!