Thank you for choosing Perception. Now it’s time to embark on your adventures in the most dependable kayak on the market. At Perception, our heritage of quality and innovation is built into every boat.

Kayaking is a fun and exciting way to experience the outdoors, or to enjoy an active means to hang out with friends and family. We hope you make the most out of the opportunities available both close to home and afar.

With proper care, your Perception kayak will provide years of satisfaction. Most importantly, our kayaks are designed to grow with you, and with proper knowledge and training there’s no limit to where you’ll end up.

This owner’s manual and additional information is available at www.perceptionkayaks.com.

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4 Outfitting & Features
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SIT ON TOP
A: Carry handles
B: Tankwell with bungies
C: Seating system
D: Footwells
E: Self-bailing scupper holes
F: Skid Plate

SIT INSIDE
A: Carry handles
B: Cargo hatches
C: Seating system
D: Safety lines
E: Bungie
F: Footbraces
G: Thighbraces
H: Cockpit coaming
I: Rudder*
J: Rudder liftlines*
K: Bulkhead*

*Not available on all models

*Not available on all models
ZONE SEATING: The padded seatback is locked by pulling directly up to a comfortable height, and release to lock into place. Multiple adjustment positions are best for racing or more leisurely paddling. To lower the seatback, release the clip from the groove while pushing down slowly on the seatback until it reaches the desired position. Some Zone seating systems have a forward and back adjustment using the ratchet adjustment mechanism to the right while sitting in the cockpit.

ZONE DLX SEATING: The padded seatback slides forward and back with the adjustment lever. The backrest can be adjusted downward by pulling forward on the nylon strap between the seat or (located right) pulling on the seatback for good rotation while paddling it shouldn't be too tight. The backrest may be also be moved by pulling the toggle strap at the front of the seat forward and the backrest can be lowered by pushing the button down. The leg rests located at the front part of the seat are adjusted with the two straps to the sides of the seat. Pull up to raise or push on the thumb tab to lower.

ZONE EXP: To adjust the backrest, tilt it to loosen or tighten the webbing ladderlocks found on zones touring and expedition kayak models are adjusted by removing the front screw and loosening the back screw. Slide the thigh pad forward or backward and in out to find a comfortable position. Replace the screws and tighten. A good position for the thigh pad is a couple of inches in front of your knee cap or where it's most comfortable. Seating systems vary by model. If you need additional assistance on using the adjustment mechanisms, please visit our website at www.perceptionkayaks.com.

KEEPERS™ FOOTBRACES: The adjustment lever is located on the backside of the footplate. To adjust, squeeze the lever and slide the footplate to the desired location. Release the lever to lock in place.

ROOF RACK: A kayak roof rack (“poles out”), or “J rack” for your vehicle is the best method of transporting a kayak. It should be lashed down on each end of the vehicle, as well as at the box or stern to each end of the vehicle. Kayak carriers are recommended for boats being transported “flat” to lessen chances of deformation from being lashed too tightly to the bars. Rotomolded kayaks can be transported on their edge or upsidedown (pulling out webbing for stability). For AirLite kayaks we recommend that they be transported on their bottom using struts to prevent deformation.

USING FOAM BLOCK RACKS: Foam block racks can be used for transporting kayaks if extreme caution is practiced in rigging the load. They should be wide enough for adequate support. The boats must be securely attached to the top of the vehicle through the doors or windows of the kayak and the length of the vehicle. If these tie down points on the front and back aren't available on your vehicle, foam block racks are recommended.

INCLIMATE WEATHER: If traveling in inclement weather is threatening, please check the video instruction for transportation techniques. Kayak models that are lighter weight can become dangerous. Use a portage cover to seal cockpit if and when necessary. The cockpit should be where it's most comfortable. Seating systems vary by model. If you need additional assistance on using the adjustment mechanisms, please visit our website at www.perceptionkayaks.com.

IMPORTANT: Always check your tie down or rigging often as ropes and straps may loosen in transport.
SHORT TERM STORAGE
Be sure to empty the kayak of all water. The kayak may be stored on its side or in a vertical position temporarily. Storage in these positions for an extended period of time could cause flattening or deformation in the side of the hull.

LONG TERM STORAGE
In addition to emptying all water out, you should clean the kayak by rinsing with freshwater especially if the kayak has been used in salt water or becomes muddy. Store out of direct sunlight and indoors, if possible. UV exposure can shorten the lifespan of your kayak and can cause damage to the finish. Kayaks can be stored slung on their sides via web straps, positioned 1/3 of the way along the hull (as shown). Be sure not to leave straps or ropes tightly wound around the hull for extended periods of time as it may cause deformation.

Your kayak can also be stored hull up (as shown) on parallel bars with weight supported evenly throughout the length. Bars can be parallel to the floor for close to ground storage or at an angle for a low roof rack. 

ROTMOLDED KAYAK CARE
Our “rotomolded” kayaks are made of high-density linear polyethylene, which is virtually maintenance free. A minimal amount of care in storage and transporting will help the kayak maintain a like-new condition for many years.

Polyethylene will become more flexible when in warm conditions such as a hot, sunny day. It is possible for a kayak strapped tightly to a roof rack to temporarily deform at the weight bearing points. Use a padded rigid bar sport rack in addition to a kayak J cradle or saddles to disperse the weight.

AIRALITE™ KAYAK CARE
Our “rotomolded” kayaks are made of high-density linear polyethylene, which is virtually maintenance free. A minimal amount of care in storage and transporting will help the kayak maintain a like-new condition for many years.

Polyethylene will become more flexible when in warm conditions such as a hot, sunny day. It is possible for a kayak strapped tightly to a roof rack to temporarily deform at the weight bearing points. Use a padded rigid bar sport rack in addition to a kayak J cradle or saddles to disperse the weight.

CAUTION:
Do not suspend your kayak by using the grab loops at either end of the boat. This can cause the hull to distort over time.

Cleaning
Usually, a quick rinse of fresh water is all that is necessary to keep your hull clean and functioning in good order. This is very important after paddling in salt water, especially if your boat is outfitted with a rudder system. Be sure to thoroughly rinse the rudder cables, and footbraces, with freshwater to remove salt residue. Superficial scratches may occur, but can be removed or reduced by use of a marine boat polish designed for polyethylene hulls. Sanding or use of an abrasive rubbing compound is not recommended.

To keep your kayak shining and minimize the long-term degradation caused by UV exposure, use an ultraviolet protectant such as 303 Protector. 303 can also be used lightly on the top of the hatches and on the seat outftit and plastic buckles and straps, in addition to the kayak itself. 303 is available at your local Perception dealer or online at www.harmonygear.com.

WARNING:
Avoid dragging kayak across the ground to prolong its life and maintain its look and performance. Two people, utilizing the carrying handles, is the best way to transport the boat. Alternately, you can transport using a kayak cart, available at your dealer.
Any person using kayaks built and/or sold by Perception is personally responsible for determining that their abilities are equal or superior to the conditions encountered and exercising proper judgment in choice of where and when to paddle.

Any person using Perception kayaks assumes all risks and takes complete responsibility for any and all damages, or injuries, including death, which may result from use of or participation in Perception kayaks. Consult your physician prior to beginning your paddlesport training.

DO:
• Wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD).
• Wear a helmet when paddling whitewater or in the ocean.
• Get paddlesports instruction from a licensed or certified instructor.
• Dress appropriately for weather conditions; cold water and/or weather can result in hypothermia.
• Check your equipment prior to each use for signs of wear or failure.
• Scout unfamiliar waters. If necessary, paddle to shore and carry your boat past uncertain areas.
• Stay aware of appropriate river water levels, tidal changes, dangerous currents, and weather changes.
• Follow manufacturer’s recommendations for use and outfitting of your kayak.
• Leave your paddling location and agenda with someone at home before departing.
• Obtain certified first aid and rescue training and carry first aid and rescue equipment.

DON’T:
• Never exceed your ability and assess how far and how long you can paddle or swim.
• Never paddle alone.
• Never consume alcohol, drugs, or any other substance that may affect your coordination, judgment, or ability when paddling.
• Never paddle in flood conditions.
• Never allow minors to use the boat without adult supervision.
• Avoid bracing yourself in the kayak in such a way that you have to release any outfitting to escape.
• Do not impair entry or exit to the kayak when installing additional outfitting.

WARNING: Kayaking can be hazardous with potential risk of serious injury and even death.

ESSENTIALS CHECKLIST:

PERSONAL FLotation DEVICE (PFD)
A USCG approved, comfortable and secure fitting PFD should be worn at all times. Shatter-PPD's are available that are ideal for kayaking paddling.

PADDLE
Choosing a paddle is almost as important as your choice of boat. Blade shape, length, weight, and material all offer different experiences. On longer trips, it is strongly recommended that you have a spare paddle that can be easily stored on your deck.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT
USCG regulations require an audible signal device (a horn or whistle) to be used in all watercraft. In addition, it is recommended that all paddlers carry a bilge pump to drain water from the kayak, and a paddle float. Be sure to secure training in the operation of a paddle float.

PERSONAL GEAR
There are many items that you may wish to take with you on a paddling trip. Your location, length of journey, group size, weather, etc. will all play a part in this “essentials list.”

• Drinking water
• Snacks
• Extra clothes in a drybag
• Map or chart
• Food/Aid
• Matches
• Sun protection

To help you learn about the logistics of a paddling trip and correct paddling technique we strongly recommend a good beginner level paddling course from a certified instructor.

OTHER ACCESSORIES:
There are a wide variety of accessories designed for your kayak to enhance the performance and overall experience. Not all accessories are available for all models.

SPRAY SKIRT
For longer trips or rougher conditions, a spray skirt is worn by the paddler to create a watertight seal, preventing the cockpit from filling up with water.

DRY BAG
Ultra-light and water-resistant storage for an extra level of protection and accessibility for gear.

A complete line of our accessories can be found online at www.harmonygear.com.
3-year limited warranty

This warranty is non-transferable.

1. The Confluence Watersports 3-year limited warranty applies to the Confluence Watersports kayak(s) sold to original purchasers of the kayak(s) for use as their personal, non-commercial vessels. The warranty does not apply to parts, accessories, or other items, unless Confluence Watersports provides a warranty for such parts or accessories.

2. The warranty begins on the date of original purchase of the kayak(s). To register your kayak(s), you will need your Manufacturer’s Statement of Origin (MSO). This serves as the title to your kayak(s), and should have been provided when you took delivery. If not, check with your retailer. If it has been lost, have your dealer contact Confluence Watersports and we will provide a replacement.

3. The warranty is limited to an amount equal to Consumer’s original purchase price paid for the defective product. Some state, country, or provincial laws do not allow the limitation or exclusion of incidental or consequential damages, so the above exclusion may not apply to you.

LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

This limited warranty does not apply to:

• Normal wear and tear and aging of product
• Damages caused by extreme weather or environmental conditions.
• Damages caused while in possession of a freight carrier, a dealer, Consumer, or any party other than the Manufacturer.
• Kayaks damaged by accident, neglect, improper use, or irregular handling.
• Kayaks that have been towed by power or sail boats.
• Kayaks that have been altered.
• Kayaks sold as “demo” or “as is” condition.
• Kayaks that have been used for any activity other than the activity which is customary for the intended purpose.
• Kayaks that have been structurally damaged or modified.
• Kayaks used for commercial or rental purposes.

The limited warranty excludes any other warranties, expressed or implied, including implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights.

FOR CONSUMERS WHO ARE COVERED BY STATE, COUNTRY, OR PROVINCIAL CONSUMER PROTECTION LAWS:

If you have a problem with your kayak that you believe is covered under warranty, contact the nearest authorized Perception dealer. You can find a listing of all dealers on our website.

www.perceptionkayaks.com

If you have additional questions about your kayak or accessories, please visit our online support webpage at www.perceptionkayaks.com for resources or to find information on contacting a customer service representative.

SERVICE AND SUPPORT

If you have a problem with your kayak that you believe is covered under warranty, contact the nearest authorized Perception dealer. You can find a listing of all dealers on our website.

www.perceptionkayaks.com

If you have additional questions about your kayak or accessories, please visit our online support webpage at www.perceptionkayaks.com for resources or to find information on contacting a customer service representative.

CONTACT US

(g) 888-52-KAYAK (888-525-2925)
(f) 888-373-1220

Service and support hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST.

If you are in an area where you do not have an authorized dealer, please contact us to see if there are any other local dealers.

Some states require that all kayaks be registered. To register your kayak, you will need your Manufacturer’s Statement of Origin (MSO). This serves as the title to your kayak(s), and should have been provided when you took delivery. If not, check with your retailer. If it has been lost, have your dealer contact Confluence Watersports and we will provide a replacement.

Make sure the serial number on your MSO matches that on your hull.

QUESTIONS?

Visit our Frequently Asked Questions section at www.perceptionkayaks.com to answer these and many other commonly asked questions about our kayaks and accessories:

Boat Model:

Date of Purchase:

Dealer Name:

Note: Make sure the serial number on your MSO matches that on your hull.

contact us

Boat Model:

Serial Number:

Date of Purchase:

Dealer Name:

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To learn more about our kayaks and accessories, please visit our online support webpage at www.perceptionkayaks.com for resources or to find information on contacting a customer service representative.

888-373-1220

888-52-KAYAK (888-525-2925)

www.perceptionkayaks.com

service & support

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Q & A

Contact us

Q: What other accessories are available for my kayak?

Q: How can I get replacement parts?

Q: How do I install the rudder?

Q: How do I move the footbraces for solo paddling?

Q: How do I adjust the seat?

Q: What is the hull number for my kayak?

Q: What is the frame number for my kayak?

Q: What is the MSO number for my kayak?

Q: Where can I find the serial number on my kayak?

Q: Where can I find the MSO number on my kayak?

Q: Where can I find the frame number on my kayak?

Q: Where can I find the hull number for my kayak?

Q: Where can I find the hull number and frame number for my kayak?

Q: Where can I find the MSO number for my kayak?

Q: Where can I find the boat model and serial number for my kayak?