

As you sew the center seam in from the ends the canvas will gather up ahead of the seam. To take the slack out, fold the excess fabric under (don't cut it) and sew a dart up to the center seam. You may need several darts in the stern where the gunwales have the strongest curves.

edges under to meet at mid-stringer. Beginning at the bow, lace the canvas together as illustrated. The needle enters under the canvas about 1/8" from the folded edge. Stitches are about 1/4" apart. The seam meets at the mid-stringer pencil line with no overlapping. The canvas should have no slack, but don't let the stitch holes strain the canvas. At deck beam #4, on each side, make a hole in the canvas just aft of the deck beam, 1/2" in from the top edge of the gunwale. Insert the end of an eye-spliced loop and tie firmly to the deck beam. These loops will hold the forward deck line. Continue sewing as far as the cockpit, stopping at the inner edge of the masik. Leave needle and leftover thread dangling. There may be some ripples at the widest part. They

After the decks are sewn, cut an undersized hole within the area covered by the coaming.

will disappear after shrinking the cover.

Begin sewing again at the stern, until the canvas begins to bunch up. The strong curves in the shape of the stern will make it necessary to put in some darts to tighten up folds in the canvas. Experiment a bit to get the best fit and angle. Using pushpins to hold the canvas to the deck stringer helps when positioning the darts. Make 2-4 darts in the canvas at the aft cockpit deck and possibly the sides to make a snug fit. Sew the darts without cutting the canvas. Finish sewing the aft seam about 2" inside the itivik. Leave needle and thread dangling.

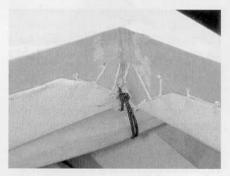
Draw a line 1" from the top, the whole way around the outside perimeter of the coaming. Mark every 2" on that line. Drill two 3/16" holes at each spot marked, angling 45° to the left and 45° to the right,

so that the other ends of the holes on the inside will be about 1" apart, 1" from the top. Lay the cockpit coaming in place. Using scissors or a sharp knife, cut a hole in the canvas in a rough approximation of the cockpit shape, leaving a margin of at least 3"



The canvas is pinned to the inside of the coaming with the edge folded under. A clamp holds the aft end of the coaming in place on the itivik.

Cut the canvas on a 45° angle to within 1/4" of the aft corners of the coaming. Fold the raw edge in toward the coaming so that the fold meets just below the holes in



After the canvas is sewn to the coaming, lashings in the corners lock the coaming to the itivik.

the coaming. To ease folding around the curve of the coaming's forward end, cut the canvas at right angles at 2" intervals. Stop the cut 1/4" before the fold line.

To seat the coaming firmly on the deck framing, clamp the forward part to the masik and make a few stitches in the flat aft section. Start at the centerline of the aft coaming and stitch through each V-shaped hole as illustrated. Fold remaining canvas to the inside at the level of the holes and fasten with clamps and pushpins. Complete sewing the canvas to the coaming.

The coaming will be under strain as you get in and out of your kayak. To prevent the cover from tearing, you need

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