EXPLORE MORE

Your new XPL Oars are built using the latest technology from the finest, lightest, strongest materials. We believe our oars represent the best combination of strength-to-weight ratio and perofrmance potential of any oar you will find.

While these carbon fiber oars are exceptionally strong, there are some things you should consider in terms of general care and feeding:

• Separate the two sections when you stow them and give a freshwater rinse after use.

• Note: while your oar halves might be interchangable, each oar is actually built as a set. If they aren't interchangable you might want to make marks with pen or tape so that you can mate the correct halves quickly.

• Wipe clean to remove sand, dirt and grit.

• The basswood handles allow a nice, natrual burnishing with use, but may be oiled with a 50/50 mix of turpentine and boiled linseed oil to help protect wood.

• As stainless can corrode in contact with carbon fiber and salt water, we don't recommend screwing into the shafts.

• Stow your oars out of direct sunlight as UV light can eventually discolor or damage finish.

• Use an automotive wax on shaft and blades to protect from UV damage and to maintain a nice shine.

• Do not use your oars to push off of docks or the bottom.

• Warning: Carbon fiber is electrically conductive; keep oars away from power lines.

There are a variety of sleeve and collar methods that will work with our oars (1.75" outside diameter), but we recommend either typical "sculling style" collars and buttons (Concept2, etc.) for purpose-built rowing boats, or our heat-skrink tubing and polypropylene collars combination paired with Gaco's super effiecient oarlock.

The Gaco oarlocks are available with conventional 1/2" shafts, or as lighter 10mm shafts with their own plastic sockets.

How to Affix Heat Shrink Rubber and Collars

1. Determine the proper location of collars based on your boat.

2. Use masking tape to temporarily locate polypro collars.

3. Slide the heat tube up flush with the button top of the collar.

4. Tape just below the rough bottom edge of the heat tube to catch any adhesive that drips out during heating. (Tubing is self-adhesive)

5. Using a heat gun (or other safe heat source) begin warming rubber in place. It was start to shrink. Rotate and heat side to side until it has squeeze down tight to collar and shaft.

6. Clean off any excess adhesive.

7. Get ready to row!