



Bic Kayak Buying Guide

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Types of Kayaks

***Note: Not an All-Inclusive List of Kayaks, Reference Only**



Sit-on-Top/Open Top

Sit-On-Top kayaks or Open Top kayaks allow an individual to sit on the top of the kayak, hence their name. They are a great selection for kayakers who enjoy fishing or diving. They are also an ideal selection for beginner kayakers.



Touring/Sea

Touring kayaks or Sea kayaks are perfect for individuals who enjoy kayaking long distances. The design of Touring or Sea kayaks are long and lean for better tracking (the kayak's ability to travel in a straight line), and quick travel over long distances.

The difference between a Touring Kayak and Light Touring Kayak is the length. Light Touring Kayaks are under 14 feet and are ideal for the shorter trips with more stability than a touring kayak. If you're going on a day trip on an inland lake then the Light Touring is the way to go.

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Tandem

The name "Tandem" may just give away what this type of kayak is designed for. Just in case you don't know, Tandem kayaks are two-seated boats that are perfect for families or couples. Whether you're a beginner or experienced rider, Tandem kayaks can be used by any level kayaker.

Fishing



Just as the name suggests, it's for fishing. A Fishing Kayak is outfitted more for the angler. They are usually wide enough and stable enough to stand in when reeling in the big fish and have features to accommodate gear buckets, tackle, fishing rods, etc.



Inflatable

An Inflatable Kayak is one that you blow up. You'll want to invest in a pump to blow the kayak up quickly but, once you're ready to go, you can hit the waters safely. Inflatable Kayaks have a strong exterior and are quite stable. Don't think of them as a one-person towable tube.

Kayak Construction

Plastic

- Plastic boats are more durable.
- Offer protection on rocky shorelines.
- Most kayaks are constructed of polyethylene, which is a flexible, durable plastic that offers high-impact resistance.
- Polyethylene is perfect for, and commonly found, in the construction of whitewater kayaks.
- Airalite Thermoplastic: Another plastic material commonly found in plastic constructed kayaks. Airalite is stiffer and lighter than polyethylene.
- Airalite Thermoplastic is typically used in the construction of touring kayaks.

Fiberglass

- Fiberglass boats are lighter and faster than plastic boats.
- Can be repaired if damaged during use.
- Last a long time when stored correctly.
- Stiffer material makes kayak more responsive



BIC Sport is the proud owner of an industrial tool that is unique in the world, capable of three different manufacturing techniques: thermoforming, thermoforming around a polystyrene core, and blow molding/blown extrusion.

BIC Sport is the only manufacturer in the world to have these three manufacturing techniques available on one production site.

This enables us to produce six different product types.

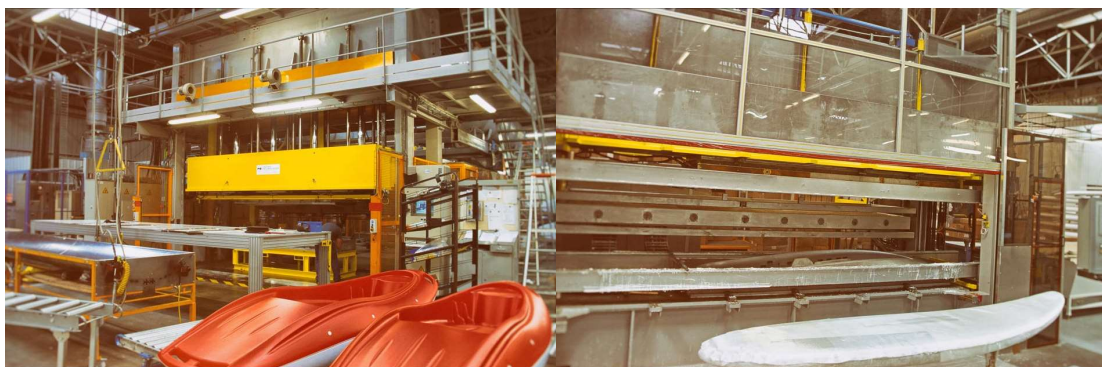
TST

Hollow Twin-Sheet Thermoforming

The principle: two slabs (deck and hull) are heat-molded in an aluminum mold then pressure-fused together. The product is then cooled and taken for finishing in the workshops.

Products using this technique:

Kayaks, O'pen BIC, Dinghies



ACE-TEC/ TOUGH-TEC

Thermoforming around a Polystyrene Core

ACE-TEC:

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A polystyrene blank is covered with fiberglass layers which is then impregnated with resin before being moved to a mold containing two prepared thermomoulded ASA finishing sheets. The mold is pressure-sealed, then cooled, and then the finished product extracted and sent for finishing.

Products using this technique:

Techno Windsurf, Designated Surf, All-Around SUP.

TOUGH-TEC:

Under heat and pressure in aluminum molds, we thermoform a durable, impact resistant skin over a molded, watertight EPS foam core. The board is then extracted from the mold and sent for finishing.

Products using this technique:

Windsurf and Designated SUP

DURA-TEC

Blow Molding / Blown Extrusion

The principle: a tube of extruded (molten) polyethylene is gravity molded and then shaped by being blown against the inner walls of its hollow mold. Next it's cooled, taken out of the mold and moved to a steel shaper where it is expansion-filled with high density polyurethane foam.

Products using this technique:

Dura-Tec Surf

Additional Kayak Features

***As reference only, may not be Available on Bic Models**

Bulkheads

Bulkheads will prevent a kayak from flooding. They basically are a wall that blocks the water that may enter the kayak from a sit-in kayak from filling up the kayak. This means you're less likely to sink and won't have to worry about areas you can't reach filling up with water.

Hatches

Hatches are compartments where you can store gear, equipment and food. Some offer waterproof seals so water doesn't seep in and ruin whatever you have in there.

Rudder

A Rudder will aid in tracking.

Kayak Paddles

Kayak Paddles can be the difference between a great kayaking experience and a terrible one. It is highly recommended that you understand the differences between the two types of paddles that we discuss here. Also, make it a priority to look at a few models before you settle on one. Lastly, do not hesitate to invest in an extra paddle to take with you on every excursion, even though you may deem it unnecessary. It will often prove invaluable.



Sport/Touring

- Generally very light and long.
- Have Asymmetrical blades.
- Can be constructed from a variety of materials.
- Usually made up of two pieces that can be broken down for storage and/or travel.
- Two-piece construction allows the blade position to be customized.



Adventure

- Stronger, shorter, and more durable than touring paddles.
- Blades are symmetrical or asymmetrical.
- Usually built in one-piece for rapid, powerful strokes.

Accessories



Dry Bags

Okay, so the name of this pretty much gives it away, but why should you invest in one? Dry bags are not essential, but rather they may simply be a preference among kayakers, particularly those who take long excursions. Dry bags will keep all of your belongings dry when you're in the water.

Dry Bags can be found in several types, including compression and regular dry bags. Compression bags are designed to hold larger items like sleeping bags to be compressed for packing. Some feature manual or automatic air valves to expel air by compressing the bag and tightly.

Emergency Equipment

Let's be honest here, you never know what can happen when you're out on a trip. Keeping this point in mind, you need to be sure to pack a first aid kit with basic medical supplies and an emergency kit. The emergency kit that you pack should expand as the distance of the trip lengthens and the remoteness of the destination increases.



An Emergency Kit should include (dependent on the distance and venue):

- First Aid Kit
- Map
- Compass
- Drinking Water
- High-Energy Food
- Flashlight with Batteries
- Whistle
- Extra Pair of Glasses or Contact Lenses (if you wear them)
- Sunscreen
- Emergency Shelter
- Materials for Building a Fire

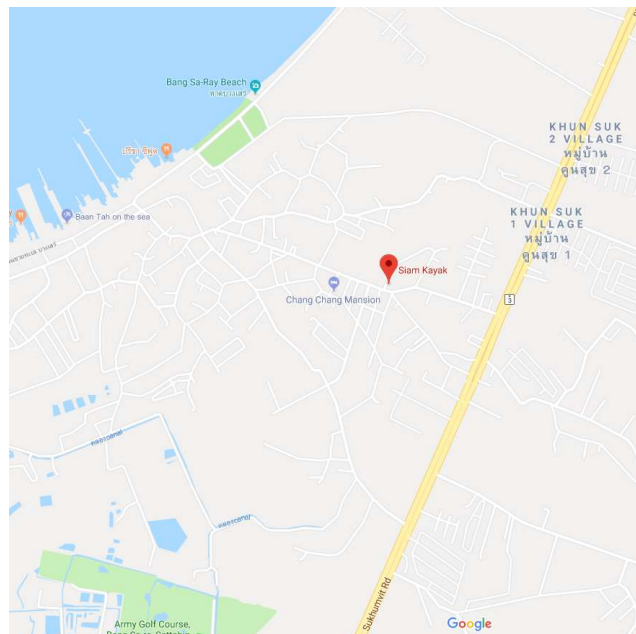
Where to Purchase



Retail Address

120/80 Moo 8 Bang Saray
Sattahip, Chonburi
20250 Sattahip
Thailand

siamkayak@gmail.com



Across from the Fire station at the roundabout on main road in Bang Saray.

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