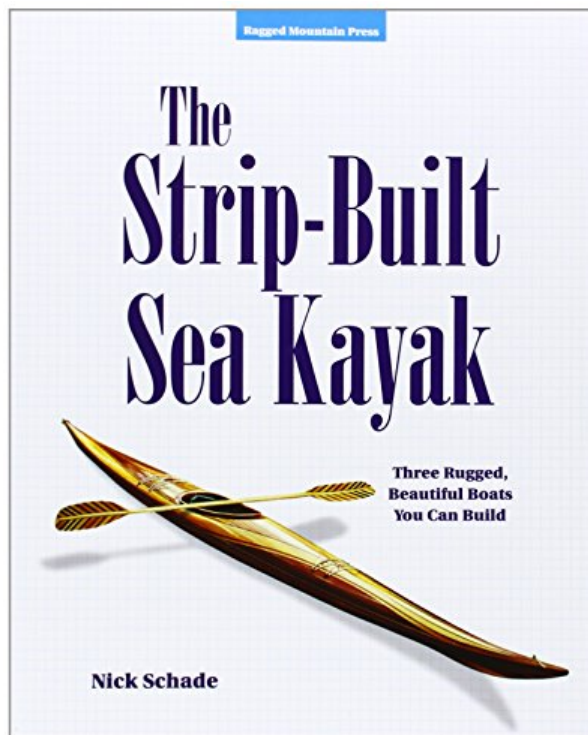


THE STRIP-BUILT SEA KAYAK: THREE RUGGED, BEAUTIFUL BOATS YOU CAN BUILD BY NICK SCHADE



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Ragged Mountain Press

The Strip-Built Sea Kayak



**Three Rugged,
Beautiful Boats
You Can Build**

Nick Schade

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Review

Nick Schade has managed to raise the craft of strip building to the art of graphic design in wood"

From the Back Cover

Strip-building--assembling a pile of thin wood strips into a functional hull--has been a popular canoe-building method for many years. Now boatbuilder Nick Schade, an engineer by training and a self-professed sea kayaking addict, has refined this time-tested method to build the more complex shapes of sea kayaks. The method is simple, forgiving, allows a liberal amount of design flexibility, and requires a minimum number of tools. It's also relatively inexpensive: about \$500 to \$600 for one of the designs discussed here--one-quarter the price of a factory-built model. In *The Strip-Built Sea Kayak*, Schade presents full plans for three elegant designs inspired by the grace and seaworthiness of the Inuit and Aleut skin boats. Profusely illustrated instructions provide the details that will guide you through the process.

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About the Author

Nick Schade, an engineer by training, is a boatbuilder and writer whose articles have appeared in *Sea Kayaker* and *Atlantic Coast Kayaker*. As an impoverished college student, he designed and built his first kayak when he realized that the price of a factory model was beyond his reach. And he's been at it ever since: More than 300 of his sea kayaks are being paddled and built worldwide. Nick divides his time between shops in Connecticut and New Hampshire and paddling the shores of New England.

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Although books on strip building canoes abound, this is among the first to adapt the technique to crafting attractive, functional kayaks. Using high-quality, computer-generated illustrations and photographs to explain key techniques, the book provides complete plans and measurements for three different kayaks: 1) A simple solo craft for beginners, 2) A high-performance solo kayak for intermediate paddlers, and 3) A tandem design for two paddlers. With its easy-to-follow guidance and instructions, The Strip-Built Sea Kayak makes top-notch kayaks accessible to budget-minded paddlers.

- Sales Rank: #43656 in Books
- Published on: 1998-04-21
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.20" h x .60" w x 7.40" l, .98 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 216 pages

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Most helpful customer reviews

36 of 36 people found the following review helpful.

Obsession: Building my own Guillemot Kayak

By A Customer

My parents bought this book for my birthday two years ago. Last week I finished building a gorgeous (with all modesty) Guillemot Kayak. Mr. Shade seemed to understand that there were many "right" ways to do the same thing and he allowed for different skill levels. In addition, nearly every task was described with an accurate degree of difficulty and understanding of the problems associated with each task. In fact, the only difficulty I had was when I deviated from the book's instructions to complete the hatch hold downs. If you want to paddle and have fun, go buy a "plastic" kayak. If you want people to exclaim, "What a gorgeous boat! Where did you get it?" and will derive pleasure in saying, after an appropriate pause, "I built it myself", buy this book and get started. One warning. This is a BIG project and will take several hundred hours to complete (depending on your skill level), but the book can be read and followed by anyone with average woodworking skills and the end result is quite fantastic.

41 of 42 people found the following review helpful.

This is the best one folks!

By A Customer

There are perhaps four books out on building kayaks available through Amazon. This is the most recent to date, and definitely the best of the four I've purchased so far. I just completed a canvas number on G. Putz's book, (which is an exceptional book also), but I wish I had seen this one at the onset for it's strength as a general reference.

So far I've know of three basic kayak building techniques - canvas on frame, stitched plywood, and strip kayaks. This book describes the very advanced (and perhaps most beautiful) method of making a boat of strips with re-enforcing epoxy. They are absolutely beautiful creations, though probably a little heavier than the plywood ones.

This is a very highly detailed book with great photographs and computer generated diagrams. The author is a professional boat-builder who, like the magician that reveals his tricks, descibes everything - down to proper material selection, a list of current suppliers, plans (x3 + paddles), scientific details on boyancy and design, and numerous other details. This book is useful to those going off of other techniques and advices.

Skill-wise I would say that you'd have to be fairly advanced, not afraid to use epoxy and fiberglass, and the owner of at least a band-saw. (unless you buy a kit or pre-cut wood)

A great resource! I'm building a strip one next!

P.S. - the guy who says that these boats aren't seaworthy is full of bunk!

25 of 25 people found the following review helpful.

The Definitive Resource for Strip Built Kayaks

By A Customer

This is the best book I have ever seen on the subject of strip built technique. I have read this book, several

times, and created a boat based on the designs from the author. This book has ALL the information needed to make a beautiful kayak. It is my primary shop reference, with specific details on design, how to assemble the strips, how to fair the boat, how to fiberglass, how to outfit and finish the boat. The steps are described in detail, and richly illustrated with informative pictures.

Thank you Nick Schade for your excellent book, your superb website and your magnificent boats. I picked this boat for all the wrong reasons. I had not paddled one, or evaluated the technical merits of it's design with respect to other boats. I didn't do a cost-benefit analysis or listen to the advice of friends. When I saw that boat, she stole my heart. Honestly, I can't imagine being happier with a boat if I had done all those other things anyway.

To think that by using what I learned in your book, in thirteen short weeks I watched a bundle of sticks and a roll of blueprints metamorphose into a such a beautiful creature, is almost incredible. She may have come out of my basement through my hands, but she's your creation too, and I thank you for helping me make it real.

The single biggest disadvantage to having a boat made from this book is that it takes much longer to launch, because everyone around wants to know where you got such a lovely boat. This book will get you there, so plan ahead for the delays now.

Sincerely,
Ed Valley

[See all 89 customer reviews...](#)

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