

Minimum Requirements for Using Your Personal Sea Kayak

Everett Mountaineers Basic Sea Kayak Course

The course is designed to teach safe sea kayaking. There are many different types of kayaks available for many different purposes. Your sea kayak must meet these minimum requirements to be used by you for the course. Please also make sure you have a spray skirt that properly fits your kayak. Every year we have students that bring kayaks to our pool session that can't be used. The common issues are: 1) No static deck lines (only bungee cord or none at all) 2) Spray skirt doesn't fit right, usually due to a seat back that is too high. . High seat backs can also be an issue when learning to self-rescue as some folks struggle to climb over them or as they do the back folds down and gets stuck under them. These issues usually can be resolved but not at the last minute as you may need to order parts and need time to install

If you have questions, please contact Cathie Frizalone at 425-829-8505 or cathiefrizalone@yahoo.com .

Style: Sit in, single occupant

Length: 14' to 19'

14' is the minimum length for this class. A boat less than ~14' long isn't typically qualified to use on a Mountaineer open sea paddle. If your boat is <14' long be sure to check with the trip leader to find out if it will be acceptable for the trip you are considering.

Material: Plastic, Kevlar, Wood, or Fiberglass

In addition, your kayak and kayak gear must include:

- Water-tight hatch covers
- Flotation in both ends
- Spray skirt
- Bulkheads between compartments
- Deck lines on full perimeter
- Foot pegs
- Paddle
- Bilge Pump
- Paddle Float
- Personal Flotation Device (PFD)

Other gear is obviously required for a successful paddle. The list above is specific to those features and items that are an essential part of your kayak and gear required for this class.

We are not judging the recreational use or practicality of sit-on-top kayaks, stand-up paddle boards, skin-on-frame baidarkas, ORU type folding kayaks, fishing kayaks, inflatable kayaks, double or triple kayaks, canoes, out-riggers, etc. except to say that they are not appropriate or acceptable for this class.

(Revised 1/5/24)