



How to Cut Shafts and Glue T-tops on KIALOA Stand-Up Paddles

Sizing: Determine the size for your paddle by adding 6"-10" to your overall height. If you paddle more frequently in the surf, lean towards the shorter end of the range for quicker maneuverability on the waves. If you paddle more in flat water, lean towards the longer end of the range since you are likely to be standing up straighter.

A. KIALOA Stand-Up paddles with *FULL CARBON SHAFTS*

Un-topped paddles with full carbon shafts are available in two height ranges: SHORT and LONG

- SHORT - A short un-topped paddle can build paddle sizes of 66"-76" ONLY, covering people who are approximately 5' - 5'8" tall.
- LONG - A long un-topped paddle can build paddle sizes 76" - 86" ONLY, covering people who are approximately 5'8" - 6'8" tall.

WARNING: Do not cut sizes shorter than specified range. Due to the taper in the shaft the t-top will NOT FIT if you cut any carbon shaft down more than 10 inches.

B. KIALOA Stand-Up paddles with *Aluminum Shafts*

KIALOA Stand-Up Paddles with aluminum shafts can be cut down indefinitely because the shaft is uniform from top to bottom. You can bring paddles in un-topped at 86" and then cut them down to the length you desire.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut paddle to desired height. **For the carbon shafts**, we recommend a sharp hack saw, band-saw or wet tile saw. **For the aluminum shafts**, a hack saw is fine. Make sure it is an even cut to allow the t-top to rest flat. **Do not** clamp tube/shaft in a vise on a carbon shaft as this may cause it to collapse.



Measure from the tip of the blade, as shown. It is not necessary to adjust for the size of the t-top, it will not add length to your paddle when put on correctly.



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2. Lightly sand outside of shaft where it will be inserted into the t-top. This creates texture to which the glue will adhere.



Gripping the sandpaper (around 80 grit is perfect) in your hand covering about $\frac{3}{4}$ " of shaft and using a twisting motion with other hand, turning the shaft, is an easy way to get a good scuffing.



3. Insert the foam plug provided into the end of the shaft until flush with the top. This prevents glue from dripping down into the shaft and helps create a good seal.



4. Use regular setting 2-part epoxy glue. **Make sure to use an adequate amount of glue to ensure a water-tight seal.** Failure to do so may cause water to leak into the shaft. For best results do not use a fast drying epoxy and do let it dry 24 hours before use.



Coat the inside of the t-top as well as the sanded portion of the shaft to be inserted into the t-top and coat top of foam plug.

5. **IMPORTANT:** How to Orient the T-top: Orient the flat side of the t-top facing the front of the blade, the side with logo sticker. The curved part of top should fit in your palm when you grip it.



NOTE: The t-top is a snug fit, use good pressure and a twisting motion until it bottoms out. Bracing the blade on a padded or carpeted floor while pressing on the t-top is helpful.



After firmly pressing the t-top into place, sight down the shaft to ensure that the t-top is parallel to the blade. Note the red lines in the photo.

6. Excess glue should seep out from where the t-top meets the shaft. Clean excess glue from around the seal with a paper towel. An even amount of glue seeping out from the t-top is an indication of a good seal, if none seeps out it is likely not enough glue was used.



7. Set the paddle upside down, stabilize the paddle so it won't fall, and let it dry overnight. This helps the glue seal around t-top rather than dripping down the shaft. Check frequently for the first 10 minutes for any glue that may continue to seep.



Note: If you attempt to cut down a paddle that already has a t-top glued on, please contact us first to avoid mistakes and “overcutting”.

For further help or questions contact us at:

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