

Groover Installation in the Jackson Rogue 10

First Attempt

At first, I decided to try to install the groover in a custom fit notch in the foam bulkhead like I've seen in pictures online.

To start out, I used a Sharpie to trace the location of the black plastic bulkhead guide track that is attached to the deck of the boat. I also traced the location where my heels contacted the bulkhead. Those were keep out zones for the groover.

Next, I made a cardboard template in the shape of the groover, positioned it on the bulkhead and traced it onto the foam.



I then used a large kitchen knife to cut the foam. This was really easy to do well.

I inserted the groover in the foam, which fit really well, and used 3 foot long cam straps to secure it in place. It seemed like a fantastic way to carry the groover and felt very secure.



Next, I test fit the assembly in the boat and it fit great with no issues related to the cam straps interfering with the bulkhead guide track. I put on my kayaking shoes (5-10 Water Tennies) and found that I had sufficient room for my feet in the boat.

Finally, I tried packing my two full WildWasser Overnighter bags in the bow of the boat and discovered that they simply wouldn't fit with the groover in there. It wasn't even close, and I realized that I would either need to just put one bag in the bow or find a different solution. When you see how much space the bags take up in the bow, it isn't surprising that this configuration did not fit.



However, I plan to save this chunk of foam in case I do self-support trips in the future and want to carry the groover in this manner.

Second Attempt

The next thing I did was put the bags back into the bow of the boat and just tried fitting the groover on the floor of boat between my legs to see how far it would go in. I was pleasantly surprised to find that it would go down to my feet and only come up to the cockpit opening.

Favoring simplicity, I cut the remaining chunk of foam into a 4 inch wide strip, cam strapped it to the groover, and successfully slid it into the boat between my legs.

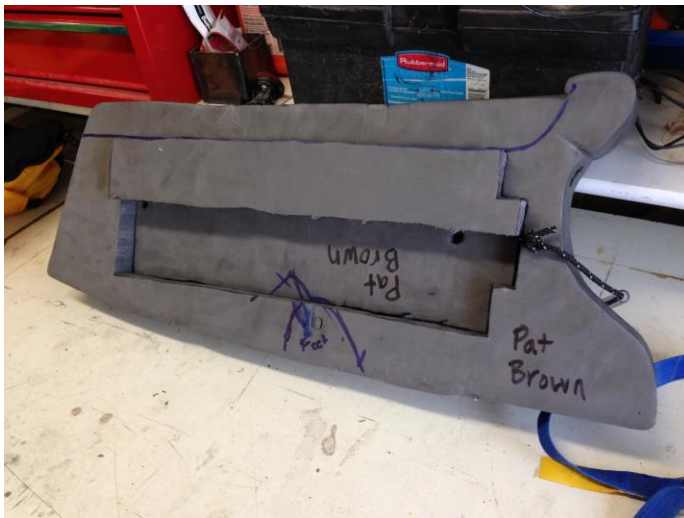


The groover slid in pretty easily and fit like a glove. The only possible issue I had with this approach is that my heels are contacting the groover, since it is not elevated off the floor of the kayak.



One alternate solution would be to put a 2 inch strip on top of the groover and a 2 inch strip on the bottom of the groover which is essentially what Peter did with his. I may just start out with mine in this configuration since it is so simple and if I want more space for my feet, I will just use my pocket knife to cut it into two 2-inch wide strips. Incidentally, I think that the cam strap approach of attaching the foam to the groover is secure enough, and I'm not considering gluing them together.

As a final note, I can always reinstall (and even glue if I so desire) the two chunks of foam into the original bulkhead to bring it back to its original configuration.



If you haven't cut your bulkhead yet, and don't want to modify it, you can simply get some foam and attach a 2-inch chunk on top and bottom or a 4-inch chunk up top. Super simple.

Hope this helps,

Pat