



2-Place Wall Mount



2-Place Side-by-Side



2-Place One-Sided



4-Place



6-Place



8-Place

Due to the unlimited number of variations possible with our Kayak racks, please use these instructions for all variations.



## Getting Started

Thank you for purchasing one of our handcrafted American-Made Log Kayak Racks. The following pages will help in the assembly of your Kayak Rack. There are an unlimited number of rack variations to fit your storage needs. **Please use this assembly guide along with the photo of your specific rack, as well as the hole patterns that are on the main posts.**

There are two tools that will be necessary to complete the assembly process. The first is a rubber mallet (or a hammer with a scrap block of wood). This will be used to tap joints together. The second is a 1/4" bit driver (cordless drill). We have supplied a T-25 star bit for the Torx exterior screws, and a T-30 star bit for the GRK Structural screws.

Adhesive tips: When applying construction adhesive, it is recommended to use a dowel or another disposable applicator to spread the glue. When applying glue to holes, place a 1/4" bead of glue 3/4 of the way around the inside of the hole (spread evenly) to ensure solid joints. **If too much glue is applied or the glue is spread all of the way around the inside of the hole, it creates a Hydrolock which makes it hard to get the tenon all of the way into the hole.** When gluing a flat surface, a bead of glue will work best. Be careful not to use too much glue, as it can seep over the sides of the product. Wash any excessive glue off with a wet toweling.

Lay out and identify all pieces to make sure you have all of the necessary components to complete your Kayak Rack. Page 3 and 4 give an approximate idea on quantities of hardware and components needed for complete installation, depending on which Kayak Rack design you purchased. (Custom racks are not specified) Read and understand all directions thoroughly before starting assembly.



## Hardware Schedule

### 2 - Place Wall Mount

Qty 12 - 4" GRK Screws for Mounting  
on Your Wall

### 2 - Place One-Sided

Qty 14 - 4" GRK Screws  
Qty 4 - 3" GRK Screws for Feet  
Qty 20 - Torx Deck Screws

### 6 - Place

Qty 24 - 4" GRK Screws  
Qty 4 - 3" GRK Screws for Feet  
Qty 36 - Torx Deck Screws

### 2 - Place Side-by-Side

Qty 16 - 4" GRK Screws  
Qty 4 - 3" GRK Screws for Feet  
Qty 20 - Torx Deck Screws

### 4 - Place

Qty 20 - 4" GRK Screws  
Qty 4 - 3" GRK Screws for Feet  
Qty 28 - Torx Deck Screws

### 8 - Place

Qty 28 - 4" GRK Screws  
Qty 4 - 3" GRK Screws for Feet  
Qty 44 - Torx Deck Screws

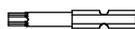
Custom racks are not specified.



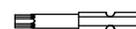
5/16" x 4" GRK structural screws  
5/16" x 3" GRK structural screws



#9 - 3" Torx Deck screws



T-30 Star Bit



T-25 Star Bit



4 oz. tube, construction adhesive



## Component Schedule

### 2 - Place Wall Mount

Qty 2 - Wall Mount Post  
Qty 4 - Upper Arm

### 2 - Place One-Sided

Qty 2 - Post  
Qty 2 - Upper Arm  
Qty 2 - Lower Arm  
Qty 2 - Feet  
Qty 2 - Cross Rail - 48"  
Qty 2 - Lower Arm Support Post

### 6 - Place

Qty 2 - Post  
Qty 8 - Upper Arm  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm  
Qty 2 - Feet  
Qty 2 - Cross Rail - 72"  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm support Post

Each custom rack has a different quantity of components. See your custom photo attached.

### 2 - Place Side-by-Side

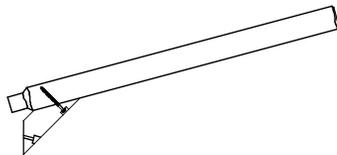
Qty 2 - Post  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm  
Qty 2 - Feet  
Qty 2 - Cross Rail - 48"  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm Support Post

### 4 - Place

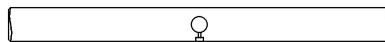
Qty 2 - Post  
Qty 4 - Upper Arm  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm  
Qty 2 - Feet  
Qty 2 - Cross Rail - 48"  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm Support Post

### 8 - Place

Qty 2 - Post  
Qty 12 - Upper Arm  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm  
Qty 2 - Feet  
Qty 2 - Cross Rail - 72"  
Qty 4 - Lower Arm Support Post



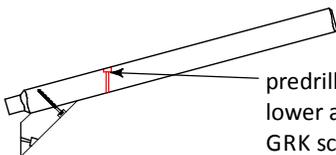
Upper Arm



Feet



Lower-arm Support Post



predrilled hole for lower arm support GRK screw.

Lower Arm



Cross Rail



Post



This assembly is for a standard 4-place rack. Please use the assembly system for all racks.

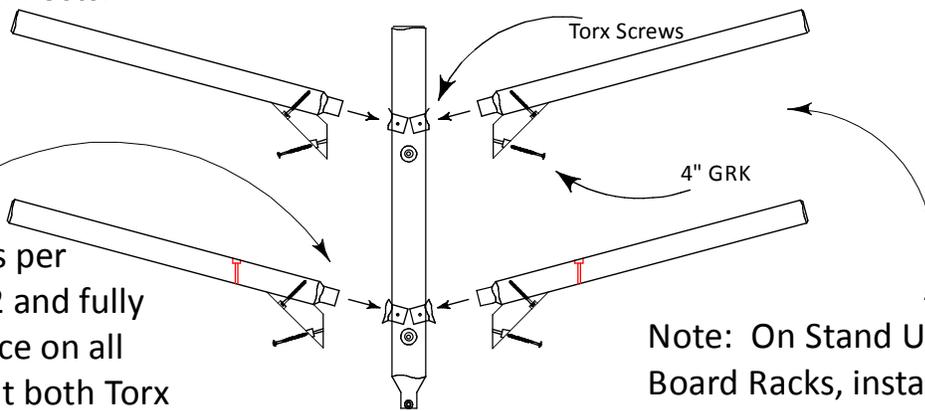
### Step #1:

- Find the Posts, Lower Arms, and Upper Arms for your Kayak Rack.
- Apply a 1/4" bead of glue around the inside of the lower angled hole on the post. (Refer to page 2 for glue application)
- Set a Lower Arm in the angled hole.
- Tap the Arm using the mallet so the connection is secure.
- If a gap remains between the Arm brace and post, remove the brace completely from the Arm and re-attach to insure tight joints. (Excess glue or Hydrolock may cause the tenon not to go all of the way into the hole)
- Install the Torx deck screws in both sides of the Arm using the pre-drilled holes.
- Fasten the Lower Arm to the Post using a 4" GRK screw.

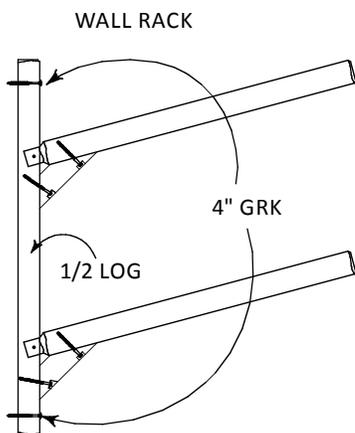
Complete the 6 above processes for the remaining Lower and Upper Arms, starting with the Lower Arms, on both Posts.

### CAUTION:

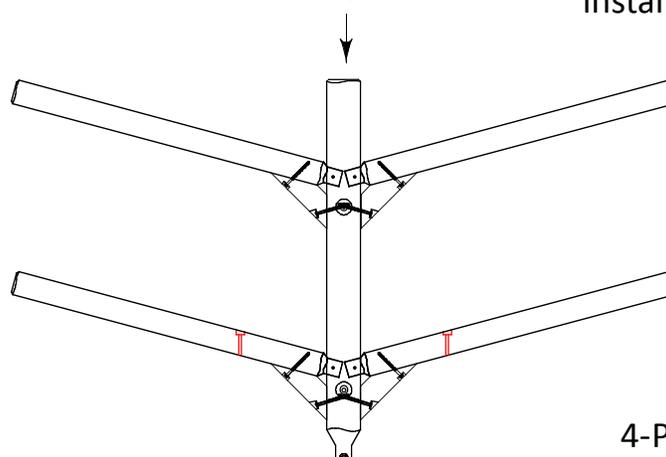
Fully glue the joints as per instructions on page 2 and fully secure the joint in place on all tenons. Be sure to put both Torx deck screws into the joint.



Note: On Stand Up Paddle Board Racks, install arms from top to bottom so that there is adequate space for screw installation.



### Complete



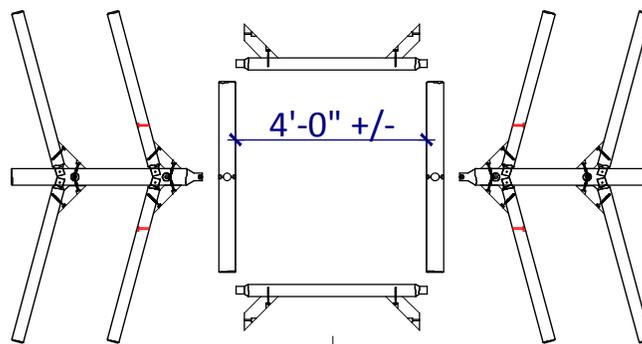
4-Place Rack Show as an example



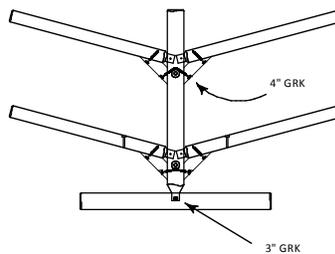
Step #2:

- a. Find the Cross Rails and Feet for your Rack.
- b. Lay the Feet, Cross Rails, and Post assemblies on the ground as shown.
- c. Apply a 1/4" bead of glue around the inside of the Foot hole. (refer to page 2)
- d. Insert the Post (tenon side) into the Foot, tapping with the mallet for a secure joinery.
- e. Install a 3" GRK into the predrilled hole joining the Foot and Post.
- f. Apply a 1/4" bead of glue around the inside of the post holes to join the Cross Rails.
- g. Set the Cross Rails into the post (Post laying on the ground)
- h. Install 4" GRK screws in the predrilled holes.

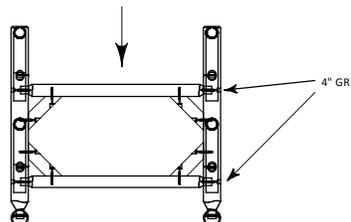
Note: No Torx screws are used in this step.



Complete



Complete



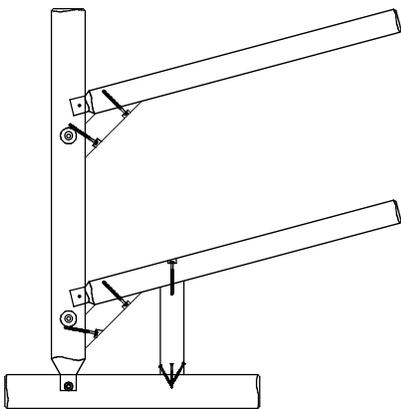
4-Place Rack Show as an example



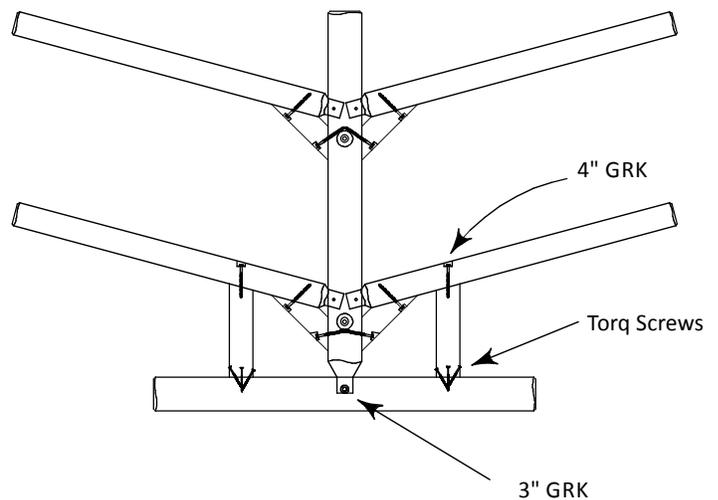
Step #3:

- a. Find the Lower Arm Support Posts.
- b. Align a Lower Arm Support Post with the hole through the Lower Arm.
- c. Align the Post and Base to be perpendicular to each other.
- d. Install a 4" GRK through the Lower Arm into the Support Post.
- e. Check the Support post to confirm it is aligned and vertical with the post.
- f. Install 3 Torx screws through the Support Post into the Foot.
- g. Complete the steps b-f for the remaining 3 Support Posts.

ALL 1-SIDED RACKS



SET THE LONGER SIDE OF THE FOOT IN THE DIRECTION OF THE ARMS.



4-Place Rack Show as an example

**Congratulations! You can begin to use your new Log Kayak Rack!**

For more instruction, please visit our online tutorial at [www.logkayackrack.com](http://www.logkayackrack.com) and watch the assembly process of a 2-place one-sided rack.



Hitch Exclusives | 660 US Hwy 51 | Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

[www.logkayackrack.com](http://www.logkayackrack.com) | p. 715-543-2006, f. 715-543-2109 | [sales@hitchexclusives.com](mailto:sales@hitchexclusives.com)

#### Trouble Shooting/Installation Tips:

If the joints can't be tapped together with the mallet and block of wood, there are two options:

1. If the components are wet, allow them to dry before joining.
2. Sand the tenons with a palm sander or by hand to get them to fit.
3. If you have a problem with joint Hydrolocking and the tenon does not go all of the way into the hole causing a gap where the angle brace meets the post, remove the brace completely and reset the brace, refastening with the joints being tight.

#### Maintenance:

If you purchased the finish option with your Log Kayak Rack, it means that your rack is prefinished with Sherwin Williams "Super Deck", in either of the following finishes: 6508-82863 Natural or 6508-82814 Canyon Brown. We recommend that you apply your first maintenance coat when it is visually required. Clean your Kayak Rack with 1 part bleach and 2 part water before finishing or for standard cleaning. Please follow Sherwin Williams' instruction on the application of the maintenance coat.

#### Longevity:

We want you to enjoy your Log Kayak Rack for years to come. To insure it's Longevity, we recommend that the feet are not in direct contact with the ground, but rather raised and set on landscaping block or a similar product.

#### Typical Wood Characteristics:

When Northern White Cedar loses moisture and dries out, small cracks will appear in the exterior of the wood. These small cracks are called "checking" and are a natural and expected part of the drying process. As the logs dry out, they also shrink in size slightly. Because the logs are round, somewhere along the perimeter there has to be a give point, and that's where checking occurs. Again, this is a natural process. Checking will not affect the log and does not crack through to the other side, only as far as the middle. This process will stop as soon as the log is completely dry. To minimize checking, all of our cedar is kiln dried. Checking is also what gives cedar log furniture part of its rustic appeal. The logs will weather to a silvery gray with approximately 2 years of sitting outdoors, and still keep the smooth feel they had when they were first placed.

Structurally, checking is not a concern. This is why white cedar is the first choice for outdoor structures—such as fencing, raised garden beds, outdoor log furniture, etc—that must stand up to extreme elements like humid summers and dry winters.



## Guide for Kayak rack meant to be buried

How to dig holes and bury the posts of your Log Kayak Rack:

1. Assemble the rack enough to know the post hole placement positions.
2. Dig a hole as close in diameter as you can to the diameter of the post. You will want as little wiggle room as possible.
3. Dig deep. Don't cheat by cutting the post shorter. Bury the posts right up to the arm braces. Cover part of the braces if you feel it is necessary for some reason.
4. Before you set the post in the hole, place a rock or broken chunk of concrete in the bottom of the hole - pointy end up if possible. That little footing will give the post something to stand on instead of damp soil.
5. Set the post in the hole and brace it plumb (or put a helper on the job) and in line and level with the posts you've already set.
6. Slowly shovel in equal parts of crushed rock or sharp gravel and soil, tamping between layers, until you get to ground level. You can use a upended shovel or 2x2 board to tamp with. All that's needed is something long and narrow.
7. When you get to ground level, pour enough of your dirt and rock mix around the post to tromp it down and make a little hill so rain will run away from the post.
8. End-grain is the enemy, which was the reason for installing that little rock "foundation" under the post. It holds that end-grain above whatever moisture might collect at the bottom of the post hole.

Note: We do not recommend concrete in lieu of the rock and dirt as the post backfill.

Concrete creates a collar around the post, and because different materials expand and contract with moisture and temperature rates, inevitably a little space develops around the post. Water loves to seep into little spaces. But the water doesn't seep out because the concrete is not just a collar, it's also a cup. Cups hold water. If you have a post sitting in a cup of water, is it any wonder that the post eventually rots?

