



BackBone® Guidelines for Usage

Thank you for your purchase of the Advanced Elements BackBone®! The BackBone® is an easy to use tracking enhancement for the AdvancedFrame® line of kayaks as well as the DragonFly 2XC™ and Lagoon2™ kayaks. Before you hit the water, there are just a few things that you should know about where, and in what conditions, you should not use your BackBone® in so that you can avoid the risk of damage to your kayak.

Areas and Conditions the BackBone® SHOULD NOT be used in:

- **Rivers/Whitewater**

For whitewater, typically the less tracking you have, the better, so that you can pivot and maneuver quickly. The BackBone® is designed to enhance the tracking ability of your kayak so you **do not** want to use it in these conditions.

Additionally, rivers can become very shallow in many areas and have submerged hazards that could cause **extreme damage** to your kayak if you ran over them with the rigid beam of a BackBone® running down the center of your kayak.

- **Rough Surf**

If putting out or coming in on a beach with rough surf, you **do not** want to use your BackBone®. The force of landing on the beach, if not done properly, can cause damage to the BackBone® itself.

- **Shallow Water with Submerged Objects/Oyster Beds/Reefs**

Extreme Caution should be taken when paddling through shallow water conditions, where hidden hazards could be submerged, or in oyster beds or reefs. The BackBone® is a hard keel beam that is pressed against the hull of your kayak and creates a firm point for your kayak to run aground on. As a result, **it is not advised** to use your BackBone® in these types of areas or conditions because you could damage the hull of your kayak. Without the BackBone® installed in these conditions, your kayak's hull is more flexible, making it more resistant to damage.

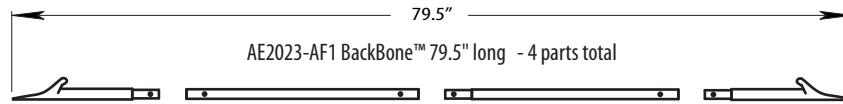
The hull of your kayak is made of very durable PVC Tarpaulin and can withstand running aground on most types of beaches with the BackBone® installed. Areas to be avoided would be any beaches that have a significant amount of sharp or jagged rocks. Aside from that, the kayak will not have any problem landing on beaches with the BackBone® installed.

Dragging Your Kayak Across Land

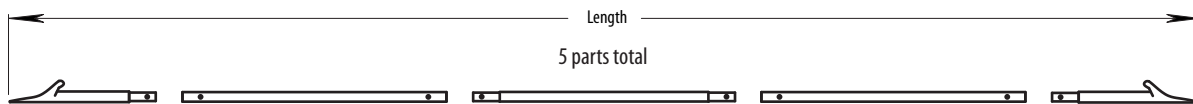
As a general rule of thumb, you should **never** drag your kayak across rough terrain or pavement because it can cause damage to the hull of your kayak. This is **especially important** to remember when you have the BackBone® installed in your kayak.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLING THE BACKBONE (Models AE2023)

AE2023-AF1 For use with AE1012, AE1017 & AE1002: *AdvancedFrame™, AdvancedFrame™ Sport & AirFrame1*



AE2023-AFX, AE2023-AFC and AE2023-DF2

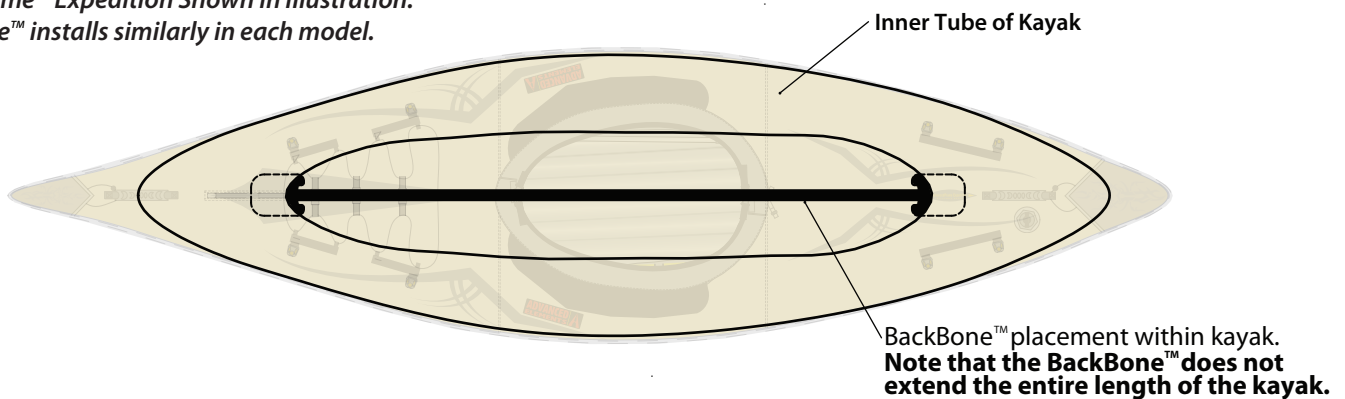


AE2023-AFX For use with AE1009 *AdvancedFrame™ Expedition* = **114.5"**

AE2023-AFC For use with AE1007 & 1004 *AdvancedFrame™ Convertible & AdvancedFrame™ 2* = **126.5"**

AE2023-DF2 For use with AE1033 & AE1023 *Lagoon™ 2 & DragonFly2™ XC* = **109.5"**

AdvancedFrame™ Expedition Shown in Illustration.
The *BackBone™* installs similarly in each model.



STEP 1. Confirm that you have the correct model *BackBone™* for your kayak by reviewing the four models listed above.

STEP 2. Assemble the End Plates to the *BackBone™* Shaft by pushing the button snap and joining.



STEP 3. (AE2023-AF1 go to step 4.) For models AE2021-AFX, AFC, and DF2, Next attach the center Shaft part to either end, but do not connect the two remaining halves.



STEP 4. With your kayak deflated, remove the inflatable floor. For the *Lagoon2/DF2 XC*, Install foam floor before proceeding to STEP 5.

STEP 5. Center the End Plates (with logo facing up) at each end of the seating compartment, resting on the bottom skin of the kayak. The curved surfaces of the End Plates should rest against the gray fabric tube cover.

STEP 6. Connect the two ends of the *BackBone™* together to complete the assembly. Be sure the button snap clicks into place, locking the sections together.

STEP 7. Before inflating your kayak, check to be sure that the *BackBone™* is centered on the bottom skin of the kayak. It may be helpful to mark the center line of the kayak with a permanent marker.

STEP 8. Slowly inflate the kayak, periodically checking to be sure the *BackBone™* remains centered. As the main chamber fills with air, it will compress against the End Plates to hold it in place.

STEP 9. (*AdvancedFrame models only*) Place the inflatable floor in the kayak, over the *BackBone™*, and inflate while in-place.

For visual tutorials on how to install the *BackBone™* visit our youtube site @ www.youtube.com/advancedelements