

Model 480C



FirstLight Folding Kayaks

New Zealand, home to some great kayakers and some of the finest sea and river kayaking in the world, is also the home of First Light Kayaks, a company founded by Murray Broom and dedicated to the design and production of lightweight folding kayaks. Murray's vision was a folding kayak that would be:

- light enough to be easily lifted and carried by anyone
- compact enough to be back-packed considerable distances
- rugged enough to withstand regular and prolonged use
- tough enough to survive frequent handling by airport baggage systems.

Three years of development and testing, with input from a variety of paddlers and expert advisers, has resulted in a range of kayaks which re-define the meaning of "light weight folding kayak" and will greatly expand your range of paddling opportunities. FirstLight kayaks are proudly New Zealand designed and made, incorporating the finest materials and components from New Zealand, Australia, North America and Europe.

The FirstLight 480C

The FirstLight 480 C, at 22.2 lbs (10.1 kg) and 15' 9" (4.8 metres) long, is suitable for paddlers of any size and, although designed primarily as a sea kayak, can tackle a wide range of conditions including lake and river paddling. Able to carry up to 275 lbs (125 KG), this kayak can be used for day and weekend trips as well as for shorter touring. With its sleek lines, light weight and long waterline, the 480 C is fast and lively and will keep pace with longer boats. In keeping with our design philosophy, the 480 C does not have a rudder, however we are reviewing this and may add an optional rudder in the future. For up to date product development news, see www.firstlightkayaks.com.



FirstLight Features

- Ultra-light weights of between 17.6 and 22.2 pounds (8 to 10.1 KG).
- A simple and intuitive assembly process taking 15 to 20 minutes.
- Excellent paddling speed and tracking thanks to the light weight of the boat, a fine bow and a water line length that is virtually the same as the length of the boat. Our boats perform as well as longer boats whose waterline length is similar to ours, but whose overall length can be considerably longer.
- The ability to tune the kayak by altering the position of the small cross ribs and varying the degree of rocker in the boat according to paddler weight and paddling conditions.
- A minimum of metal components to reduce the possibility of corrosion.
- Very low packed volumes to enable easy storage and transportation.
- Once the kayak has been assembled, any of the recommended packs will fit behind the seat for use as a dry bag.

For further information including:

- Dealer locations
- More photos and videos
- Information about other FirstLight boats
- Reviews of FirstLight boats
- A list of recommended carry bags
- Detailed assembly information
- FAQs

Please see our web site:

www.firstlightkayaks.com

or email us at info@firstlightkayaks.com

Technical data : FirstLight 480C	
Overall length, feet/metres	15'9" / 4.8 metres
Length at waterline, feet/metres	15'8" / 4.78 metres
Weight of bare kayak, pounds/KG	22.2 lbs / 10.1 KG
Weight when packed (kayak, pack, paddle, sea sock, spray skirt), pounds/KG	28.6 lbs / 13.0 KG
Beam, inches/CM	22 " / 58 CM
Cockpit width, inches/CM	14 " / 36 CM
Cockpit length, inches/CM	28" / 71 CM
Height at main frame, inches/CM	15 " / 39 CM
Assembly time once accustomed, 1 person	15 to 20 minutes
Maximum distributed payload, pounds/KG	275 lbs / 125 KG

Materials	
Deck	3 layer composite polyester, 1000 denier rip-stop. Standard colour is red, but other colours may be available.
Hull	One piece construction, black 900 micron urethane.
Longitudinal rods	Carbon Kevlar rods, shock corded for easy assembly.
Rod tips	Injection moulded from Dupont Zytel® Super Tough nylon, colour coded for easy assembly.
Cross ribs	Injection moulded from Dupont Zytel® Super Tough nylon.
End frames	Injection moulded from Dupont Zytel® Super Tough nylon.
Deck fittings	10 pairs of D-rings.
Bow/stern caps	Moulded urethane to protect the ends of the skin.
Seat	Light weight moulded foam.
Foot rest	Light weight Kevlar tubes covered in foam.
Knee braces	Two foam covered rods, adjustable for height.
Coaming	Lightweight fiberglass rods held in place inside a marine grade vinyl sleeve by anodised aluminium sleeves.
Tensioning system	There are two components to the system which tensions the kayak skin and frame. Firstly the longitudinal rods are expanded and held in place by a set of clips near the stern. Secondly the frame is tensioned using a webbing system which enables differing amounts of tension to be applied, allowing you to vary the degree of rocker in the kayak.
Zippers	We use two sets of dual zippers to close the deck of the boat fore and aft. We use top quality marine grade G-Lock zippers designed for maximum water resistance. These zippers have a load rating of 75 KG (165 lbs) per inch.