

American Traders' Wooden Canoes FAQ - Sales Questions & Answers

Do people actually use these canoes? Yes, 85 out of every 100 wooden canoes sold is paddled on a regular basis. Once you buy a wooden canoe you get hooked and realize there is 'No Boat like a Wooden Boat'.

Where are they made? The canoes are made by **American Traders** who are based in Brattleboro, Vermont and have their canoe workshop in Quebec, Canada.

What are the benefits of wooden canoes? Not only are wooden canoes both classic and beautiful, but they are strong and durable, warm & quiet in the water, and will last for years.

What materials are they made of? The canoes are made of cedar with a traditional rib-plank style of construction. The ribs are always made of Eastern white cedar. Planking can be either Western red or Eastern white cedar. Gunnel and keels are normally made of Ash and the canoe is trimmed in walnut, cherry, mahogany or ash.

Are the canoes hand made? Yes, wooden canoes are hand-made in small-scale production facilities. American Traders' shop has ten craftsmen that work together building canoes.

How much do they weigh? Cedar canoes are lightweight. For equivalent sizes a cedar canoe will be lighter than a fiberglass or aluminum canoe.

Can I get the canoe shipped to me? Canoes can be shipped directly to your residence or a commercial location. Canoes are packed in a thick cardboard shell and shipped by trucking company. Shipping charges are normally 10% of list price plus \$60 for delivery to a home address.

How do I transport the canoe? Wood canoes can safely be car-topped; either directly on the roof or on factory fitted bars with a foam block kit. For larger canoes a small trailer can also be used.

What kind of maintenance do they require? With a small amount of care a wooden canoe will last for a very long time. In fact many wooden canoes that are over a hundred years old are still being used every day. Wood canoes need a coat of varnish every three to five years. This is a simple process that can be done by anyone. On a daily basis scratches and marks can be oiled which will help protect the wood from water.

How do I store the canoe? The canoe should be stored inside; a garage, barn or porch, are suitable places to store the canoe. A canoe is best stored upside down on sawhorses or something similar that will keep it level and off the ground. Do not leave the canoe outside in the winter or in direct sun for prolonged periods of time.

What water conditions are suitable for a boat like this? Generally glass/epoxy canoes are best suited for flat and slow moving water, such as lakes, ponds, wide rivers and coastal waterways. For wilderness tripping, down-river paddling, fast moving water and up to class 3 rapids, canvas covered canoes are more suitable.

Can I use the canoe in the Ocean? Yes many of our wooden canoes are used in coastal waters. We recommend that the canoe is hosed off with fresh water before storing away.

What is the difference between Canvas and Epoxy canoes? These are two types of exterior hull finish. Glass epoxy has a clear fiberglass cloth bonded to the outside of the hull with 3 layers of epoxy. This produces a strong and durable watertight finish. Canvas canoes are covered with a cotton cloth that is filled and painted. Canvas is the traditional method of hull covering and as it is not permanently bonded to the hull it allows for more flex than epoxy and it can be replaced easily when needed.