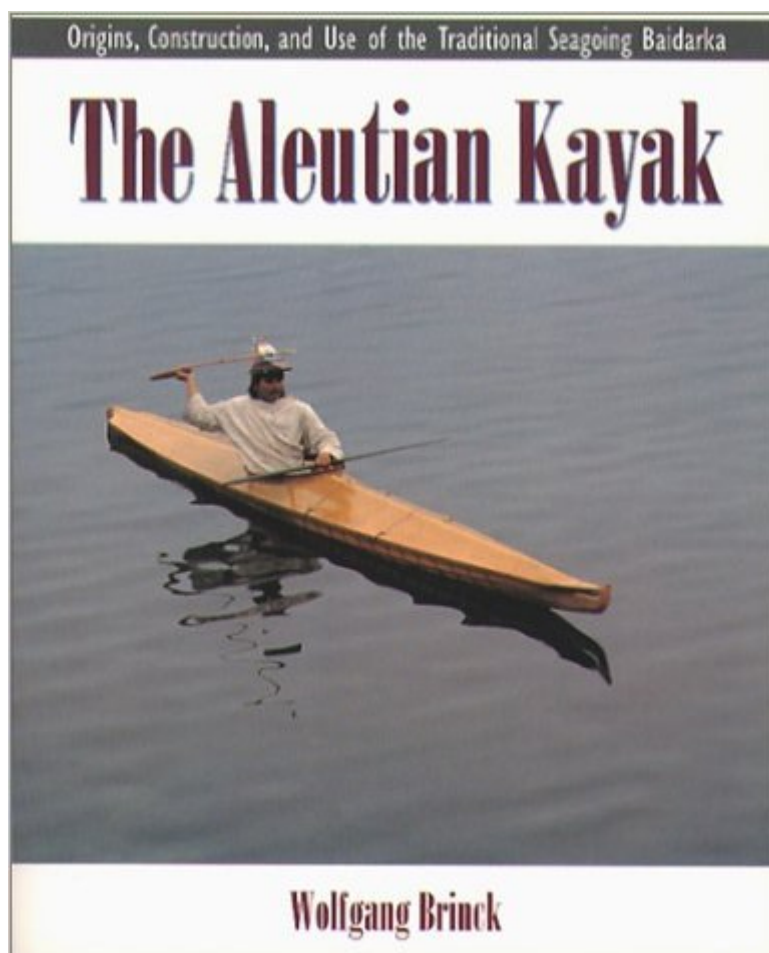


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# The Aleutian Kayak: Origins, Construction, And Use Of The Traditional Seagoing Baidarka



## Synopsis

This book offers the complete plans and detailed building instructions for an authentic Aleutian Kayak - the ancient voyaging and hunting craft of the nomadic Unangan of Alaska. Plans based on originals in museums in Oregon and California are included. Kayaks can be built to fit owner's exact dimensions using simple hand tools and readily-obtainable materials.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Building this boat was a profound experience. I now understand the workings of a kayak more intimately. As such, I will never look at a plastic, fiberglass, kevlar or even plywood kayak the same. There were one or two times in the building of this boat that were frustrating, but I just stepped back took a day or so off, thought about it and worked my way through it. Mr. Brinck's instructions were as good as you can get, trying to explain a complex project such as this. His spiritual insights in the text were quite inspirational. I love my boat...it paddles wonderfully... I am now a boat builder for life!

This book helped me build a spectacular kayak. Beware, it can change your life. I am now a boatbuilder. Brinck's traditional methods are inspirational. The text left me with a few questions, but most of them were solved with re-reading, walking around the project a few times, or finding the Baidarka listserv on the net. Again, beware! If you buy this book you may spend the next six months in your garage.

I just finished building a traditional west greenland sea kayak. I can't wait to move on and build a baidarka. This book is an important guide for the traditional construction of an Aleutian Baidarka. This is an awesome book for anyone interested in building an authentic Aleutian Baidarka whether they have experience working with wood or not. I highly recommend it!

This is an excellent book on how to build your own light weight kayak or "baidarka". If your'e looking to do it yourself, and looking to do it very inexpensively, you just cannot beat the way the original Aleuts did it. They had thousands of years to do it right. Those who did not drowned. Mr. Brinck walks you through the process with clarity, lots of pictures, and large doses of common sense. There is no need for brain cell killing epoxy or for that matter, hardly any synthetic material. I am in the process of building one now and I am very much enjoying the hand fitting and "hand" measuring. Best of luck.

Within this book you will find the procedures for building a kayak in the traditional manner...but with a modern twist! I doubt you will use seal-hide for the exterior, but the ancient method of constructing the hull is well portrayed within these pages. As an amateur boat-builder, particularly of kayaks and sailboats, I found this book to be a unique gem among many similar titles. I have always admired the ingenious craftsmanship of the Inuit people, and other dwellers of the Arctic and Tundra regions. Surviving in the most savage climate on Earth, they developed a unique and complex culture. Those people who live in such challenging environments invariably possess the sharpest wit for improvisation with limited resources. A book of fourteen chapters, you will find within a narrative of the history of Inuit boat-building, detailed instruction of construction: tools and materials to make a modern re-creation, and all pertinent accessories: paddles, spray-skirt, paddling-jacket, and even some modern innovations: a rudder and sail. In general, the hull is built from a wood frame fastened together by string lashings, covered by a canvas skin. The end result: a traditional kayak, from mostly modern materials, (unless you really want to use seal-skin to cover the frame).

W. Brinck hits the mark with this book. With little wood experience anyone can build this boat for less than \$200 US. Although I am building a Greenland style kayak, Brinck's book provides invaluable information to get the job done quickly and easily. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in kayak building.

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