

SNUG FIT INSTALLATION

Please refer to the oar brand specific instructions for more information.
Installing your Gilman Grips using 3M High-Strength 90 spray adhesive.

If you would prefer to use tube silicone for the installation, please see the loose fit instructions on how to apply the silicone.

- 1) After indexing your Gilman Grips (see indexing instructions), test the fit of the Gilman Grips in the oar shaft. We recommend using a file or sandpaper to slightly bevel the inside edge of the oar shaft to slip over the black TPE waterproof gasket on your Gilman Grips. The fit should be snug but the grip should slide all the way in until the collar of the Gilman Grips touches the oar shaft. The fit will not be as snug initially when the glue is applied, because it will lubricate the surfaces.
- 2) Oar shafts have slight differences in the inside diameter (I.D.) size. You may need to slightly adjust the diameter of the Gilman Grips cylinder for the proper fit. Sand down the diameter of your Gilman Grips cylinder to create the desired fit using 80-100 grit sandpaper. Have someone hold the grip so the cylinder overhangs the edge of a bench. Don't put the Gilman Grip in a vice, which may damage it. Next, place a ½ sheet of sandpaper over the top of the cylinder. With one hand on each end of the sandpaper, slide the sandpaper back and forth, so you are sanding the top half of the cylinder. Repeat this process by rotating the grip 3 times using one-third of a rotation each time. Be sure to sand the cylinder evenly including the black TPE gasket at the collar each time. Repeat until you have the correct fit. Be sure the Gilman Grips will slip all the way into the oar shaft before applying silicone. If you have a loose fit, please follow the loose fit instructions, as this method only works for a snug fit.
- 3) Once you have the correct fit, use 3M High-Strength Spray Adhesive ("Spray 90") to coat approximately 4" inside the oar shaft. Then, starting about ¾" away from the collar of the Gilman Grips, coat the Gilman Grips cylinder (the part that will slip into the oar shaft) with Spray 90, trying not to spray all the way to the collar. Let the application dry for about 2 minutes. Dry time is directly related to the air temperature and the time will need to be reduced in temperatures over 70 degrees.
- 4) Slip the Gilman Grips into the oar shaft, rotating and twisting the Gilman Grips back and forth as you slip it into the oar shaft. Once the Gilman Grips is inserted all the way to the TPE gasket, pull the Gilman Grips all the way out with a twisting motion. Let the parts dry for about 10 minutes.
- 5) Now apply a second coat of Spray 90 on each part exactly as you did previously. Let dry for approximately 2 minutes. The time will be shorter in hot temperatures and longer in cold temperatures.
- 6) Insert the Gilman Grips into the oar shaft again with a twisting motion, then pull back apart and let dry for about 30 seconds.
- 7) Use a paper towel to wipe off any excess glue at the end of the oar shaft.
- 8) Now **in one motion** insert the Gilman Grips all the way into the oar shaft and align the second indexing mark with your center line (see indexing instructions). It's best to slip the grip all the way in then rotate the Gilman Grips to the correct indexing mark. The Gilman Grips must be fully inserted and indexed before the adhesive becomes tacky. Do not bang the grip on the floor or use a hammer to bang the grip in. If the glue sets up before you get the Grip all the way in or indexed you can use a hot air gun to warm up and re-activate the adhesive. Do not overheat the oar shaft or apply heat to the TPE on the Grip. The glue should re-activate at about 300 degrees.
- 9) Repeat this process on the other oar. Re-check the alignment in about 20 minutes. Let the oars sit in a 70 degree or warmer room for a minimum of 48 hours undisturbed, to allow for the glue to cure before use. Do not let them sit in a cold room, because the glue will not cure properly. Use lacquer thinner to clean any excess glue off the oar.

Spray 90 can be purchased at most home improvement centers or good hardware stores for between \$11 to \$15. We recommend using only 3M Spray 90 because it is designed to be used with polypropylene and has a 600 pound psi shear strength. In addition, this adhesive can be reactivated with heat to make adjustments to the indexing or to remove the Gilman Grips.

See our website's Help Center section for How-To videos.

My cell number is 406-763-6464. Please give me a call if I can help. If you happen to be in Whitefish, MT, I would be happy to install your Gilman Grips for you.