

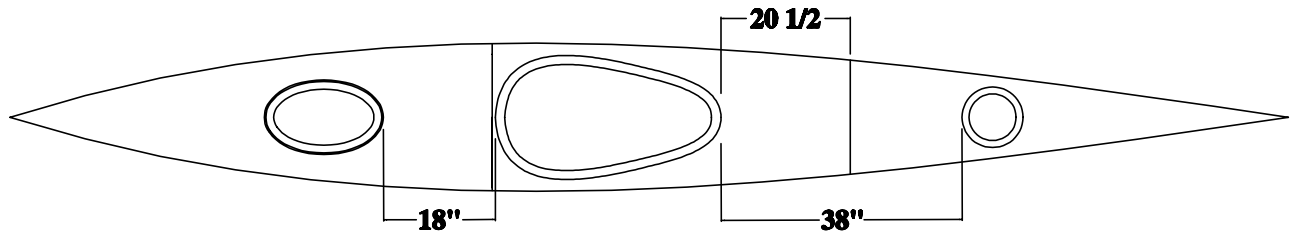
Hatch Installation

Introduction/Overview

The hatch kit for the Queen Charlotte consists of two pre-cut bulkheads and a pair of Valley Canoe Product's hatches. Read through these instructions first and familiarize yourself with how the hatch system works and installs.

Mark Hatch Openings

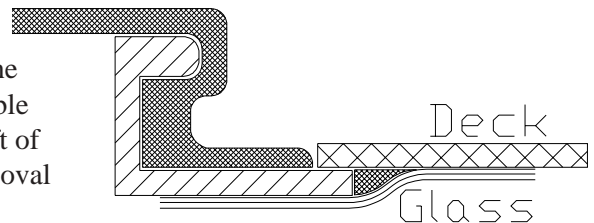
The bow hatch is a round 7 1/2" diameter (ID) and the stern hatch is a 16" oval.



The bow hatch is installed 38" in front of the cockpit. The stern hatch is 18" aft of the rear edge of the cockpit.

Install Stern Hatch

The hard plastic rim is mounted under the deck, and the cover sits down in the hole you have cut out. Take the flexible plastic cover off of the oval stern hatch. Set the cover 18" aft of the cockpit and mark a line around it with a pencil. Cut out the oval you have drawn.

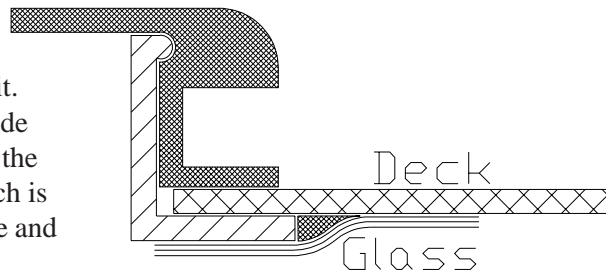


Before gluing the rim in place, take coarse sand paper and scuff the top of the rim base where it will touch the under side of the deck. Put the plastic cover back on the hatch lip, it will help you position the assembly. Turn your boat upside down on a couple of saw horses. Reach the oval hatch up inside the boat and settle it down in the hole you cut out. Get it centered and then tack it in place with a few spots of 5 minute epoxy. Mix up some regular epoxy and thicken it with wood floor. Spread a fillet of thickened epoxy around the outside of the hatch lip and then three layers of fiberglass cloth over the hatch lip and deck.

Install Bow Hatch

The plastic cover on the bow hatch is not recessed in the deck. The hatch rim is tall enough so that when the cover is on, it will sit above the deck.

It is positioned 38" forward of the front of the cockpit. First take the plastic cover off and turn the bow hatch rim upside down 38" in front of the cockpit. Then draw a line around the rim. Trace the outside edge of the top of the hatch lip (which is now upside down and touching your deck). Cut out the hole and glass the hatch lip in place as above.



Seating the Oval Hatch

When the oval hatch is pushed onto the rim, the bottom edge of the cover must be inside the recess in the deck. Push the edge with a thumb or finger tips so that it tucks neatly in all the way round.

To remove the hatch cover you must lift it at the front or back. Push down with both thumbs on the cover just inside the rim, and pull up with your fingertips. The oval hatch cover will only release at the ends.

Install Bulkhead

Use scraps of glass cloth (left over after you completed your boat) to glass both sides of your bulkheads before you install them. Your stern bulkhead is installed 1" behind the aft inside edge of the cockpit. Position it underneath the reinforcing butt plates that are right behind the cockpit. You might need to trim it a little to get it to fit. Once it is in place, smear a fillet of thickened epoxy around it and glass it in place with glass tape. Fillet and tape both sides of the bulkhead.

The bow bulkhead is placed right in front of the forward end of your foot brace assembly. Again, trim it to fit and glass it in place. The cockpit side of the bow bulked is hard to reach. Just glass the bow side, it will be strong enough.