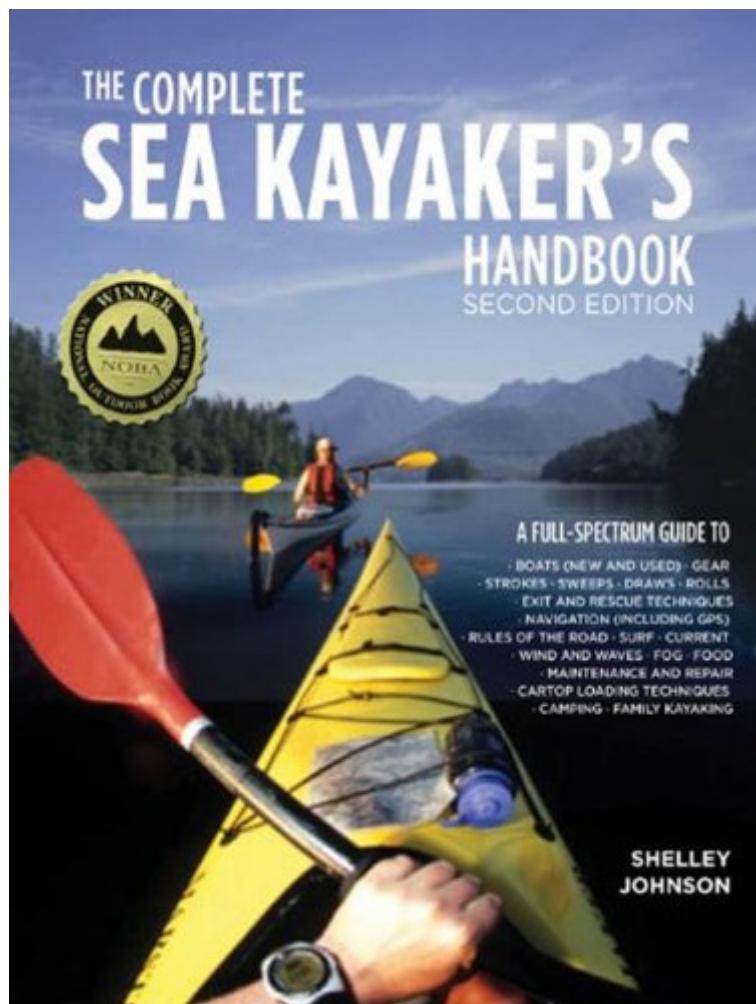


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# The Complete Sea Kayakers Handbook, Second Edition



## **Synopsis**

"...Her writing is clear and concise, sprinkled with bits of humor and many tips gleamed from her years working as a kayak instructor, guide and outfitter."--Sea Kayaker Magazine The first edition of The Complete Sea Kayaker's Handbook received immediate acclaim with its selection as the Best Outdoor Instructional Book by the National Outdoor Book Award group. Now this book boasts 352 pages with changes throughout to reflect the growth of kayaking as a sport. This book is your first step to adventure on the water, with everything you need to know, from buying a kayak to dressing for the water. Updates include: New photos throughout showing new boats, equipment, stretching, and repair techniques A new section on used boats and how to shop for them Expanded sections on: boat materials section to include the newer laminates; buying a new kayak; use of GPS for navigation; family paddling; Planning Your Dream Trip; Taking Care of Your Stuff to include more retrofit and repair information on a wider range of boat and paddle material Improvements in materials and more data on hypothermia; Changes in safety technique descriptions reflecting the new equipment on the market information on stretching, proper posture in a kayak, and easy modifications to kayak seats for more comfortable paddling Topics include: Getting Ready; Kayaks; Accessories and Clothing; Getting to Know Your Kayak; Controlling Your Kayak; Getting Into and Out of the Water; Real Life Paddling; Finding Your Way: Kayak Navigation; Trip Logistics; Group safety; Kayak Camping; Planning Your Dream Trip; Taking Care of Your Stuff

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

After previewing several kayak books in the "handbook" category (those that cover the activity broadly and without specializing in any specific topic), I ultimately decided on Shelley Johnson's Complete Sea Kayaker's Handbook. I was hesitant to go with the title due to its corporate publisher (McGraw Hill imprint) figuring the smaller publishers with more specialization in outdoor activity publishing would offer better books or the more well known authors might have better selections. But the reviews kept leading me back to Johnson's rather inexpensive but very comprehensive Handbook. The most important aspect of this title is Shelley Johnson's writing style. I found most kayak books to read like the author was an outdoors' person trying to be a writer rather than an excellent writer laying out all the key concepts of the activity. That being said, Johnson has impressive credentials and a solid understanding and mastery of kayaking and covered all aspects in respectable detail compared to many of the other "handbooks" that were rather short. Three negatives come to mind and are minor flaws only. Pictures in the book (very good photography, I might add) almost all displayed Current Designs kayaks which seemed odd considering how many different kayakers were photographed. Made me think there was some underwriting or sponsorship and annoyed me slightly for some odd reason. Number two is Johnson's use of "she" which is a personal pet peeve of mine rather than using a gender neutral "their" to describe an unknown third person. Finally, 10 pages on cooking with 7 of those pages being recipies was just weird. I understand the book should have a small section on cooking and camping while touring. But 10 pages for cooking seemed excessive.

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