



## Tie Down Tips for Canoe & Kayak Transport

### **Canoe with Bare Roof**

Tie Down Kit Includes:

- Two canoe belly straps
- Four canoe carrier blocks
- One or Two Y-Straps

#### **Step 1 – Install Foam Canoe Blocks**

Install two canoe blocks onto the gunwale of the canoe. Two near the front (bow) and two near the rear (stern) of the canoe.

#### **Step 2 – Load your Canoe on top of Your Vehicle**

Place your canoe upside down on top of your car roof. Make sure the canoe is centered, front to back as well as left to right, with the foam blocks under the gunwales of the canoe. If your roof is sloped, or if you have a sunroof, make sure the canoe isn't touching the roof. This can cause damage during the tie-down.

#### **Step 3 – Install the Stern Belly Strap**

Take one strap and place it over the top of the canoe, the best location is at the rear door of your vehicle. Open both rear vehicle doors. Bring the belly strap through the vehicles open doors. Press the cam buckle and feed the loose end of the strap through the buckle from the back of the buckle and pull the strap tight. Tie the remaining loose end of the strap into knots.

#### **Step 4 – Install the Bow Belly Strap**

Repeat step 3 on the front (bow) of the canoe, the best location is at the front door of your vehicle.

#### **Step 5 – Test for Tightness**

Shake the canoe and see if there is any movement. It should be held down tight with no movement. If there is movement, open all four doors and tighten the straps and re-test the canoe for tightness. Be sure the straps are tightened properly.

#### **Step 6 – Install the Front &/or Rear Y-Strap**

Put the single hook onto the canoe handle. Find a secure metal location to attach the two remaining hooks to the front of your vehicle. (If your vehicle does not have a metal location within reach of the length of the straps, ask a Swift Staff member for suggestions.) Pull the loose end of the strap to tighten the strap through the cam buckle so they are snug, NOT TIGHT. This strap, intended to help in windy conditions, will damage your boat if over tightened. If necessary, repeat for rear of vehicle being sure to stay clear of your muffler as it will damage the strap.

### **Tips & Warnings**

Do not criss-cross the belly straps as they go over the top of the canoe, but make sure they're parallel to themselves. The straps won't tighten properly if the straps aren't parallel. Stop the car after a few kilometers of driving and check the straps to make sure they're still tight and the canoe is firmly in place on the roof.

It is your responsibility to ensure the safe and proper loading of a canoe on your vehicle. Improper loading and attachment of a canoe may result in damage to your vehicle, vehicles around you and the canoe itself.



## Tie Down Tips for Canoe & Kayak Transport

### **Canoe with Roof Rack System**

Tie Down Kit Includes:

- Two canoe belly cam buckle straps
- Four foam canoe carrier blocks
- One Bow/Stern Y-Strap

#### **Step 1 – Load your Canoe on top of Your Vehicle**

Place your canoe upside down on top of your car roof. If necessary, place small squares of cardboard or carpeting where the gunwales make contact with the roof rack to add cushioning/abrasion resistance. This will minimize rubbing and avoid damage. Make sure the canoe is centered, front to back as well as left to right, with any cushioning under the gunwales of the canoe.

#### **Step 2 – Install the Stern Belly Strap**

Take one strap and place it over the top of the canoe, the best location is at the rear load bar. Wrap the strap under the load bar and back over the top of the canoe again and under the opposite side of the roof's load bar. Press the cam buckle and feed the loose end of the strap through the back of the buckle and pull it tight.

#### **Step 3 – Install the Bow Belly Strap**

Repeat step 3 on the front load bar. Slip the loose end of the strap through the buckle and pull it tight.

#### **Step 4 – Test for Tightness**

Shake the canoe and see if there's any movement. It should be held down tight with no movement. If there is movement, tighten the straps again and re-test the canoe for tightness. If the canoe is tied to the roof rack itself and canoe carrier blocks are not used, the canoe might vibrate some when you pass a large truck. Be sure the straps are tightened properly.

#### **Step 5 – Install the Front &/or Rear Y-Strap**

Put the single hook onto the canoe handle. Find a secure metal location to attach the two remaining hooks to the front of your vehicle. (If your vehicle does not have a metal location within reach of the length of the straps, talk to a Swift Staff member for suggestions.) Pull the loose end of the strap to tighten the strap through the cam buckle so that they are snug, NOT TIGHT. This strap, intended to help in windy conditions, will damage your boat if over tightened. If necessary, repeat for rear of vehicle being sure to stay clear of your muffler as it will damage the strap.

### **Tips & Warnings**

Do not criss-cross the belly straps as they go over the top of the canoe, but make sure they're parallel to themselves. The straps won't tighten properly if the straps aren't parallel. Stop the car after a few kilometers of driving and check the straps to make sure they're still tight and the canoe is firmly in place on the roof.

It is your responsibility to ensure the safe and proper loading of a canoe on your vehicle. Improper loading and attachment of a canoe may result in damage to your vehicle, vehicles around you and the canoe itself.



## Tie Down Tips for Canoe & Kayak Transport

### **Kayak with Bare Roof**

Tie Down Kit Includes:

- Two kayak belly straps
- Two kayak carrier blocks
- One or Two Y-Straps

#### **Step 1 – Install Foam Kayak Blocks**

Install one kayak block on the roof of your vehicle at the front and one kayak block on the roof at the back.

#### **Step 2 – Load your Kayak on top of Your Vehicle**

Place your kayak in the upright position on top of your car roof. Make sure the canoe is centered, front to back as well as left to right, with the foam blocks under the hull of the kayak. All composite kayaks should be loaded with the deck up. If your roof is sloped, or if you have a sunroof, make sure the kayak isn't touching the roof. This can cause damage during the tie-down.

#### **Step 3 – Install the Stern Belly Strap**

Take one strap and place it over the top of the kayak, the best location is at the rear door of your vehicle. Open both rear vehicle doors. Bring the belly strap through the vehicles open doors. Press the cam buckle and feed the loose end of the strap through the buckle from the back of the buckle and pull the strap tight. Tie the remaining loose end of the strap into knots. When loading two kayaks, use the same two belly straps and tie the boats together as they are side by side on the roof.

#### **Step 4 – Install the Bow Belly Strap**

Repeat step 3 on the front (bow) of the kayak, the best location is at the front door of your vehicle.

#### **Step 5 – Test for Tightness**

Shake the kayak and see if there is any movement. It should be held down tight with no movement. If there is movement, open all four doors and tighten the straps and re-test the kayak for tightness. Be sure the straps are tightened properly.

#### **Step 6 – Install the Front &/or Rear Y-Strap**

Put the single hook onto the kayak handle. Find a secure metal location to attach the two remaining hooks to the front of your vehicle. (If your vehicle does not have a metal location within reach of the length of the straps, ask a Swift Staff member for suggestions.) Pull the loose end of the strap to tighten the strap through the cam buckle so they are snug, NOT TIGHT. This strap, intended to help in windy conditions, will damage your boat if over tightened. If necessary, repeat for rear of vehicle being sure to stay clear of your muffler as it will damage the strap.

### **Tips & Warnings**

Do not criss-cross the belly straps as they go over the top of the kayak, but make sure they're parallel to themselves. The straps won't tighten properly if the straps aren't parallel. Stop the car after a few kilometers of driving and check the straps to make sure they're still tight and the kayak is firmly in place on the roof.

It is your responsibility to ensure the safe and proper loading of a kayak on your vehicle. Improper loading and attachment of a kayak may result in damage to your vehicle, vehicles around you and the kayak itself.



## Tie Down Tips for Canoe & Kayak Transport

### **Kayak with Roof Rack System**

Tie Down Kit Includes:

- Two kayak belly cam buckle straps
- Two foam kayak carrier blocks
- One Bow/Stern Y-Strap

#### **Step 1 – Install Foam Kayak Blocks**

Install one kayak block on the front (bow) load bar and one on the rear (stern) load bar of your rack system.

#### **Step 2 – Load your Kayak on top of Your Vehicle**

Load the kayak in the upright position on top of your car roof. Make sure the kayak is centered, front to back as well as left to right, with the foam blocks under the hull of the kayak. All composite kayaks should be loaded with the deck up.

#### **Step 3 – Install the Stern Belly Strap**

Take one strap and place it over the top of the kayak, the best location is at the rear load bar. Wrap the strap under the load bar and back over the top of the kayak again and under the opposite side of the roof's load bar. Press the cam buckle and feed the loose end of the strap through the back of the buckle and pull it tight. When loading two kayaks, loop the straps on the bars at the center of the vehicle. Bring the straps over the boats towards the outside of the vehicle, then tie down straps as instructed above.

#### **Step 4 – Install the Bow Belly Strap**

Repeat step 3 on the front load bar. Slip the loose end of the strap through the buckle and pull it tight.

#### **Step 5 – Test for Tightness**

Shake the kayak and see if there's any movement. It should be held down tight with no movement. If there is movement, tighten the straps again and re-test the kayak. If the kayak is tied to the roof rack itself and kayak blocks are not used, the kayak might vibrate some when you pass a large truck. Be sure the straps are tightened properly.

#### **Step 6 – Install the Front &/or Rear Y-Strap**

Put the single hook onto the kayak handle. Find a secure metal location to attach the two remaining hooks to the front of your vehicle. (If your vehicle does not have a metal location within reach of the length of the straps, please talk to Swift Staff member for suggestions.) Pull the loose end of the strap to tighten the strap through the cam buckle so that they are snug, NOT TIGHT. This strap, intended to help in windy conditions, will damage your rental boat if over tightened. If necessary, repeat for rear of vehicle being sure to stay clear of your muffler as it will damage the strap.

### **Tips & Warnings**

Do not criss-cross the belly straps as they go over the top of the kayak, but make sure they're parallel to themselves. The straps won't tighten properly if the straps aren't parallel. Stop the car after a few kilometers of driving and check the straps to make sure they're still tight and the kayak is firmly in place on the roof.

It is your responsibility to ensure the safe and proper loading of a kayak on your vehicle. Improper loading and attachment of a kayak may result in damage to your vehicle, vehicles around you and the kayak itself.

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