

# **APEX MOUNT INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Congratulations on your recent purchase! Both the Gamut Paddle Holder and Versa Paddle Systems work with each of our mounts. These instructions include installation steps for the Apex Mount. We've also included important tips for using your new system, along with a link to them below. We encourage you to share these tips with others who'll be using this product, if applicable.

# **Refund Policy**

Before you install your new mount, temporarily place it on your kayak on dry land to check the fit. If you receive a Versa or Gamut system and discover it does not fit your kayak, please contact us within 30 days for a refund (minus shipping and handling). Do not attempt to attach the mount, and keep all other components packed and in their original condition and boxes.

# **VIDEO INSTRUCTIONS & USAGE TIPS**

To watch a video on how to install your new mount, go <a href="www.angleoar.com/installation-instructions">www.angleoar.com/installation-instructions</a> or use the links below to see them on our <a href="youTube">YouTube</a> channel. While you're there, subscribe to our "Assembly & Maintenance Tips" Playlist for quick tips on using and caring for your system.

**Apex Mount Installation:** www.youtube.com/watch?v=2STHmmvk8U4&t=2s

Assembling the Versa Paddle: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYvIZVoGEgI&t=4s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYvIZVoGEgI&t=4s</a>

Installing the Hinged Mount: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0g50Z0wpKqw&t=3s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0g50Z0wpKqw&t=3s</a>

Hinged Mount - Getting the Right Fit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HHz24SqdEM8

Twin Track Mount Installation: www.youtube.com/watch?v=FijcdVVRQ3k&t=6s

**Customer Custom Mounts:** <a href="https://www.angleoar.com/post/kayak-mounts-adaptive-kayaking">https://www.angleoar.com/post/kayak-mounts-adaptive-kayaking</a>

Blind Installation Demo: www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHWHpGhjtUs

Inserting and/or Tightening the Steel Pin on Versa: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykDinCuoGpU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykDinCuoGpU</a>

Tips for Using: https://www.angleoar.com/tips

## **APEX MOUNT (WITH STICKY CUPS)**

## **Tools Needed:**

- Cleaning product (e.g., Windex) and cloth
- Measuring tape, marker (optional)
- Saw to shorten support post (if needed)



# STEP ONE: SECURE THE ADAPTERS TO THE STICKY CUPS

Keeping the backing on the sticky cups, squeeze the "mushroom head" of the sticky cups into the slots of the four adapters. It's a very tight fit, so it may take a little effort to get them inserted.

Next, thread the screws of the adapters through each of the four slots and loosely tighten the knobs.

Place the support post in the receiving hole and loosely tighten the clamp in a temporary position.

## STEP TWO: CLEAN THE SURFACE AREA UNDER THE MOUNT

Whether you have a sit-on-top or a sit-inside kayak, thoroughly clean the area where the Apex Mount will be attached. Any general cleaner will suffice. Be sure to remove all sand and debris so that the surface is as clean and dry as possible. This will help ensure maximum adherence of the sticky cups.

# STEP THREE: CHECK THE FIT

On dry land, before you begin the actual installation of the Apex Mount, sit in the seat of your kayak and place the mount in the position that feels most comfortable, relative to your arms and shoulders. (Be sure to keep the backing on the sticky cups for this step.)

At this moment, you should slip on the clevis fork onto the support post and attach your Versa Paddle (or Gamut with your paddle) to see whether the distance feels right for your arms. Your elbows should be somewhat close to your sides, not fully extended in front of you. **TIP:** Put on your PFD for this step as the extra material may slightly impact where you decide to place the sticky cups and mount relative to your torso.

Adjust the height of the clamp, if needed, and take a few practice strokes to make sure the placement is good. **NOTE:** If the support post feels too high, you can also cut it down to size once you're sure the

overall system will work for you. Or, if you find the post is too high or too low for your particular kayak, we do have alternate lengths available. Contact us at <a href="mailto:info@angleoar.com">info@angleoar.com</a> to swap one out.

# STEP FOUR: ATTACH THE STICKY CUPS (AND KEEP THE BACKING)

**TIP:** Keep the release liners (i.e., the backing) that come with your sticky cups. It may not be easily visible, but one side of the liners has a silicone coating and the other is plain. Keep your cups facing/attached to the silicone side for easier storage and removal next time. You may want to mark the correct side with a marker before you remove the liner for easier identification when it comes time to store them.

With the Apex Mount in approximately the best position from your seat, see where the four sticky cups (still with backing) land on the surface area. (You can take Gamut or Versa off for this step.) *The goal is to have the entire surface area of each sticky cup make full contact with the surface of your kayak.* Adjust the cups in each slot as needed to find the best location, then re-tighten the knobs.

You may want to watch this video in advance to find the best fit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=2STHmmvk8U4&t=2s

With the cups in the correct position, it's time to remove the plastic backing of your cups. **TIP:** If you try to remove all four knobs and place all four sticky cups in their designated spots, there's a good chance the screw shanks will get out of alignment relative to the slots. It is therefore better to take off just one backing at a time, working at opposite corners, so that the remaining cups stay secured in place with the knobs tightened until you're ready to take the next backing off. Be patient as you take off the backing as the polymer takes a while to release.

**IMPORTANT:** When the four sticky cups are in place, press down in the center of each one to remove the air from the suction cup so that a vacuum seal is formed. The inner cups will first be flat, but eventually they will "pull up" creating a little cavity that may raise the overall height of the cups slightly.

Next, run a finger around the entire perimeter of each sticky cup to achieve a tight seal. Doing these two steps will form both an inner seal and outer seal.

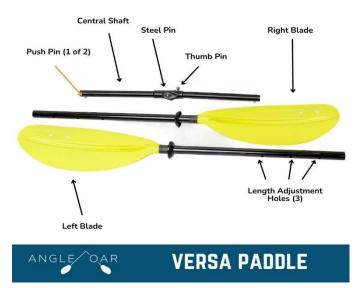
## STEP FIVE: ASSEMBLE & ATTACH YOUR VERSA OR GAMUT SYSTEM

### Versa



With the mount installed, you are ready to assemble and attach your Versa Paddle. The central shaft of your Versa Paddle will likely arrive in two pieces, (i.e., unattached). Simply locate the two-inch steel pin in your package and insert it through the center holes on each half. The section with the thumb pin should be on the right side, and the push pins should be facing downward on both sides. Try to face the flat edge of the steel pin towards the set screw and make sure the sides extending out of the hole are equal on each side (i.e., roughly ½ inch per side). Next, insert a 1/8" Allen wrench into the top hole to tighten the set screw that's embedded inside. Turn it to the right until it's snug. Now you should be able to transition the central shaft from straight to angled and back again. See the link

on the first page of these instructions to see a video on how to tighten it. **NOTE:** The set screw may become loose over time, so keep the Allen wrench to re-tighten it when needed.



Next, insert each blade of your paddle onto each side of the central shaft. The length adjustment holes on each shaft should face downward, and the adjustable thumb pin on the central shaft should be on the right. Make sure you put the blades on their proper sides. (Hint: They are correct if you can see the Angle Oar logo on each blade, right side up, facing you.) For now, choose one of the three adjustment holes on the blades to snap the push pins into place, keeping the length the same on both sides. You can adjust the length whenever you want.

Slip the clevis fork onto the support post.

Then pop the steel pin of the central shaft into the clevis fork, with the thumb pin on the right side. Go ahead and give your Versa system a spin.

## **Gamut Paddle Holder**

To assemble the Gamut, attach the two Roto Grips from the bottom, using either set of bolts, though the shorter bolts are generally sufficient. If your paddle has a cuff or other hindrance in the middle, which causes it to touch the Gamut "spaceship" piece when inserted, you may need to add spacers and use the longer bolts. Place either type of black spacers (e.g., single rubber spacers or stacked black washers) between the Roto Grips and the spaceship to create a little more room. Otherwise, simply use the shorter bolts without spacers.



**NOTE:** If you purchased the Roto Grip SnapNStraps, you must add those before securing the Roto Grips through the spaceship. Snap the clip into place over the round base. The hooked side should be angled upward.

Slip the clevis fork onto the support post. Next, pop the steel pin of the Gamut into the v-shaped area of the clevis fork. You may find that the "spaceship" doesn't initially move fluidly in the clevis fork, but it will become looser over time.

Grab your paddle and give it a spin!



## **TIPS FOR USING VERSA & GAMUT**

#### **Both**

Be gentle with your system. There are multiple moving parts that can get lost or broken if handled roughly. Clean your system after each use and store the components in a designated storage bag/container. Consider having a backup paddle on-hand. Share these tips with your team, if applicable.

If you have the hinged mount, simply hinge it upward for entering and exiting your kayak. Avoid putting your body weight on the mount as you may damage the stabilization brackets, hinge plate and/or mount. Also try to avoid having it "hang open" when not in use as it will create stress on the hinge plate and coaming.

The Versa or Gamut can be difficult to remove from the clevis fork, by design. You may have to give it a strong tug to get it loose. It's easiest to do this with the clevis fork and paddle off of the support post. Be careful not to accidentally send the clevis fork flying into the water when you remove it. Consider adding a tether to avoid losing the clevis fork.

If you find the clevis fork raises up on your support post as you're paddling, try to use a slight downward pressure and/or gravity with your hands during the push-pull of the paddle stroke. If you're doing it correctly, the clevis fork should not lift up, only turn about the support post.

Occasionally, the epoxy seal that holds components together may break. You can use a suitable epoxy from a local hardware store to reconnect them. Allow time to dry.

## **Versa Only**

Practice using the thumb pin to change the angle of Versa. Do this on dry land. Lift the left shaft up a bit to take the pressure off the thumb pin in its slot so that it can be adjusted. Pull back toward the right on the button to retract it. Also practice using the three push pins on each shaft to adjust the length of the paddle.

We've found that it's easiest, if you are able, to use the paddle straight and off the mount upon entering and exiting the water. Straight mode and on the mount works well in open water conditions where you may have choppy water. Angled and on the mount works well when the water is very calm as it minimizes the likelihood of the paddle skipping on the water during strokes.

The stainless-steel pin that connects Versa's central shaft should be tight when you receive it. If it loosens over time, just open up the angled component to access a hole that contains a set pin. Use a small 1/8" Allen Wrench to tighten the set pin by turning to the right. See our YouTube channel for a video demo.

Both Versa paddle shafts contain a small amount of foam to aid in flotation, however, it occasionally it will not be enough to hold the weight of the paddle. We recommend adding additional spray foam in each shaft, being careful not to extend the foam past the first shaft hole, or even adding pool noodles to the shafts.

# **Gamut Only**

The "spaceship" piece of your Gamut may be a little tight when inserted in the clevis fork. It will loosen over time. If desired, however, you can add a small amount of lubricant (e.g., WD-40) or even lightly sand/buff the area of the spaceship around the steel pin to create a narrower fit.

If you haven't already purchased them, we recommend using the <u>RotoGrip SnapNStraps</u> to keep the paddle securely in place as it can occasionally pop loose from the RotoGrips during paddling.