

XPLORE CATS

Setup, Inflation & Deflation Manual

Pre-Launch Mission Prep

Before you begin, choose a flat area free of sharp objects (rocks, glass, or oyster shells). It is suggested that you use a small tarp on the ground to protect your boat especially in boat ramp car parks that are notorious for fuel and oil spills which can stain your boat.

- **The Packing Lesson:** Before unfolding, observe how the boat was professionally folded, taking a photo after every fold is unwrapped can help. Aim to repeat this same pattern every time you pack down to ensure your gear stays mission-ready for many years to come. It's important to take your time as the difference between a poor fold and a great fold can be considerable.

Understanding Your "Push & Turn" Valves

- **Inflation Mode (Valve Sealed):** Locate the center pin. **Push and turn the pin 90 degrees anticlockwise** until it pops into the **UP** position. Air can enter but cannot escape.
- **Deflation Mode (Valve Open):** **Push and turn the pin 90 degrees in the opposite direction** until it locks in the **DOWN** (recessed) position for pack-down.

The Secondary Seal: Once inflated, **always firmly replace the valve caps.** These protect the mechanism from salt grit and sand, acting as a vital secondary airtight seal.

1. The Pre-Shape (1 PSI)

Your XPLORE CAT uses a multi-chamber safety system. To protect the internal baffles, never inflate one chamber to full pressure while others are empty.

- **Pre-Shape:** Set all valves to **Inflation Mode** and put approximately **1 PSI** into all four pontoon chambers. This gives the boat enough shape to easily install the floor and seats.

2. Installing & Inflating the Air Deck Floor (11 PSI)

For maximum Xploration Readiness, the floor is the first component to be brought to full working pressure:

- **Installation:** Fold the floor in half lengthways, "pop" it into the center, and tuck the edges under the tubes, pushing it firmly against the transom.

- The rubber bump strip on the nose can sometimes tuck under the floor, make sure to manipulate it back into position. If you are having trouble this can be done again when the floor is at 0.5 PSI
- Inflate to 0.5 PSI and then check that the floor is seated up against the transom and there are no folds or creases at the protection strip at the bow
- Slide the **Aluminum Seats** into their rails. It is essential to do this while the tubes and floor are still at the low-pressure stage to allow for easy fitment. Make sure to get the seats roughly where you want them as it will become harder to slide them one inflated to operating pressure. The best way is to tap them along from each side a bit at a time
- **Full Inflation:** Once you have seated the floor and installed the bench seats inflate the Air Deck Floor to **11 PSI**. This high pressure provides the structural rigidity required for the catamaran's performance.

3. Final Pontoon Inflation Sequence (3.5 PSI)

Now that the floor is at 11 PSI and the seats are in place, follow this specific sequence to bring the hull to its final working pressure of **3.5 PSI**:

1. **Front pontoons First:** Inflate the port and starboard front chambers to **3.5 PSI**.
2. **Rear pontoons Last:** Finally, inflate the rear chamber to **3.5 PSI**. This completes the hull tensioning.

Xplorer Tech Tip (2-Stage Electric Pumps): If using an automatic 2-stage electric pump, sometimes the first stage may "stall" and fail to trigger the second stage at 1.0 PSI. If this happens, **push down firmly on the air chamber being inflated** to increase back-pressure and engage the second stage.

Essential Explorer Tip: Pressure Management

- Air expands in the sun. If your boat is sitting on the beach between launches, check the pressure. If the tubes feel overly tight, bleed off a small amount of air (the "Burp") to protect the seams.
- **Morning Inflation Note:** If prepping in the cool of the morning, inflate tubes to **3.0 PSI** and the floor to **10.5 PSI** to allow for midday heat expansion.
- Store in the shade where possible

Mission Complete: Deflation & Pack-Down

Properly packing your boat is the final step in ensuring it remains ready for many years of adventure.

1. Clean and Dry (The Saltwater Rule)

Before deflating, rinse the boat thoroughly with fresh water. Ensure it is **bone dry**, especially in the channels between the floor and tubes.

2. Component Removal & Air Release

- Remove the valve caps. **Push and turn the center pins clockwise** on all chambers and the floor until they lock in the **DOWN** position.
- Remove the seats, oars, and any external gear.
- **Remove the Air Deck Floor:** Once deflated, remove the floor from the hull. **The floor is to be packed and stored separately from the hull bag** to prevent unnecessary bulk and ensure the longevity of the Air Deck.

3. The Xplorer's Fold & Roll

- **The Strips up Fold:** Starting in the middle, fold the sides of the pontoons inward toward the center of the boat. The bottom protection strips of the boat should face upwards. Align the width of the folded pontoons with the width of the transom.
- **Starting the roll:** Fold the transom forwards and down
- **Pontoon Rear Ends:** Fold the pontoon ends inward so they tuck neatly behind the transom.
- **Deflation Tech Tip:** If you are using an electric pump to assist with deflation, **do not begin sucking the air out until you have completed the first three folding steps above.** Sucking the air out too early makes the fabric rigid and difficult to fold. Once the air is removed it is recommended to leave the valves open to avoid heavy creasing
- **The Final Roll:** Starting from the **Transom (rear)**, begin rolling or folding the boat toward the **Bow (front)**. When you get to the last fold tuck the pontoon cones in first by folding the last 30cm inward toward the rest of the boat
- **Long-Term Storage Tip:** If storing the boat for an extended period, it is recommended to **leave the air valves in the "Open" (Down) position** to preserve the internal seals.

4. Final Secure & Safety

- Lay the folded hull on your storage bag centrally

- **Bag Closure Sequence:** Close the bag by folding and securing the **long 3-buckle sides first**, followed by the **short 2-buckle sides last**.
- **Safe Lifting:** It is always recommended that **two people** are used to lift the boat bag where possible, as the hull weight alone is approximately **39.5kg**.
- Store your XPLORE CAT and separate floor in a cool, dry, and elevated location.