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The LeverGlide™ quick-release system

The LeverGlide™ quick-release system fits to the stretchers in rowing boats by replacing the existing t-bolts and thumbscrews. LeverGlide™ is designed to be compatible with most existing stretchers but there may be some variants where fitment is not possible. In this case we recommend that the stretcher fittings and channels are upgraded to a current square-toothed or shark-toothed design such as those from Martinoli.

Dimensional information is given at the end of this guide to indicate those stretcher fittings which may be used with LeverGlide.

LeverGlide™ is compatible with old Matt Wood-type square-toothed stretcher fittings as fitted to earlier Janousek boats, and current Martinoli-type square-toothed and shark-toothed fittings.

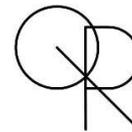
As the LeverGlide™ spring runs along the lower inner surface of the channel it is important that this surface is smooth. To help achieve this we stock countersunk bolts and screws to replace any existing screws that protrude into the channel.

Once you have installed the LeverGlide™ system it is adjusted by lifting the lever and rotating it around the threaded pin.

Once fitted and adjusted the spring provides an upward force to support the stretcher whenever the lever is lifted, allowing the stretcher to be moved easily to a new position. When the chosen position is reached, the lever is lowered to lock the stretcher securely.

The high lever ratio and over-centre locking features mean that over-tightening is unnecessary and should be avoided as adequate tightening may be achieved with finger pressure.

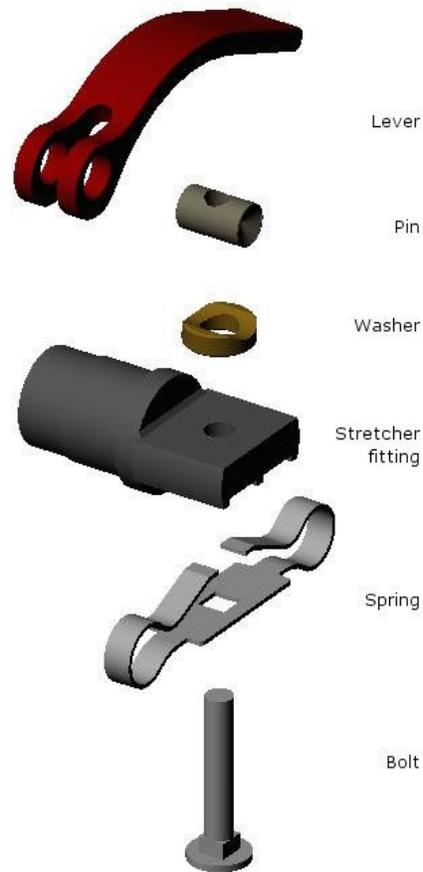
The spring protrudes slightly beyond the end of the stretcher fitting and at the extremes of channel travel the spring will protrude slightly from the end of the channel. This is normal and does not affect the function of the device, or the stretcher.



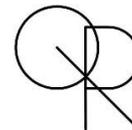
Installation notes

The LeverGlide™ system is normally delivered assembled, and will need to be dismantled for fitting. These instructions are provided as a checklist for those new to the LeverGlide™ system.

- Remove the existing stretcher from the boat.
- Unscrew the thumbscrews and remove the t-bolts. These items are no longer required.
- Check that the channel retaining screws do not protrude into the lower channel as this will prevent the smooth operation of the device. If necessary, either tighten the existing screws to achieve this or replace them with those supplied¹.
- Remove the LeverGlide™ system from the packaging.
- Unscrew the lever from the spring and bolt.
- Referring to the exploded view, push the bolt through the spring ensuring the square feature on the bolt is fully located in the square hole in the spring.
- Slide the spring and bolt into the channel. Repeat the above for the other two channel positions.
- Once all three spring and bolts have been fitted lower the stretcher assembly onto the bolts.
- Fit the support washer over the bolt with the flat surface facing down.
- Push the threaded pin through the hole in the lever, align the threaded hole in the pin with the threaded bolt and screw together using light downward pressure on the stretcher to ensure engagement.
- Tighten by rotating the lever clockwise until the lowest point on the stretcher fitting just contacts the upper surface of the channel, with the lever in the disengaged position.
- Then rotate the lever anticlockwise by one turn to ensure free movement of the stretcher.
- Refer to the adjustment notes below to refine the adjustment position.



¹ Occasionally the screw holes in the channel may need to be chamfered using a suitable drill attachment.



Adjustment notes

The levers can be adjusted to provide smooth stretcher travel along with adequate clamping. As the LeverGlide™ system is designed to fit a variety of different stretcher types these notes provide a basic setting procedure applicable to all types.

- Assemble the LeverGlide™ system as described above.
- With the levers in the released position, check that the stretcher slides along the channels. Refer to the troubleshooting guide below if necessary.
- With the lever pointing vertically, tighten the levers clockwise until the stretcher fittings just contact the channel teeth.
- Move the levers to the released position as shown in figure 1. The stretcher should be able to slide freely, although slight contact with the channels is acceptable.
- Move the levers to the locked position, as shown in figure 2. The stretcher should lock in place. Further adjustment of up to one turn of the lever may be carried out to provide a secure lock.
- Align the levers as required by rotating in the nearest direction as necessary.
- Should either the locked or released position not function correctly, check for misalignment of the stretcher fittings and channels. Refer to the troubleshooting guide for further information.
- Increased travel is available if required by rotating the levers as necessary. However care should be taken not to over-tighten the assembly as damage may be incurred to the channel. We recommend that no more than one complete turn from the engaged position is applied.



Figure 1: Position with lever in released position



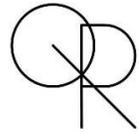
Figure 2: Position with lever in locked position

Operating notes

Once the system is adjusted normal operation is by lifting the levers to allow the stretcher to slide, and by pushing the down lever to lock the stretcher in place, as shown in figures 1 and 2.

The levers may be tightened additionally up to a complete turn clockwise if desired without permanent damage to the channels, dependent on installation.

When the levers are in the released position fine adjustment of the stretcher can be achieved by partially closing the levers until the stretcher and channel teeth come into contact. This enables the user to feel for the latching point during adjustment.



Troubleshooting guide

Unable to assemble the components

- Components assembled in the wrong order
- Incompatible stretcher components – replace with current products²
- Stretcher components damaged and require replacement
- If difficulty is experienced locating the screw thread of the lever pin with the thread form on the bolt, apply downward pressure to the stretcher to release spring pressure. The ends of the pin may be gripped between the fingers to help alignment. On no account use tools such as pliers or mole grips as these may cause damage to the LeverGlide™ components.

Spring doesn't fit the channel

- Channel type is incompatible with LeverGlide™ – replace with current products²
- Channel is blocked by debris

Stretcher doesn't slide

- Check correct alignment of the channels and stretcher
- Check channel retaining screws are flush with the surface of the channel
- Check channels are not worn
- Check stretcher fittings and channel are of the same type

Lever too stiff

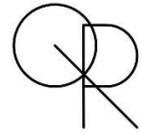
- Lever may be too tight – try unscrewing the lever in the vertical position
- Clean the components thoroughly with water
- Check for signs of damage to the components

If all else fails:

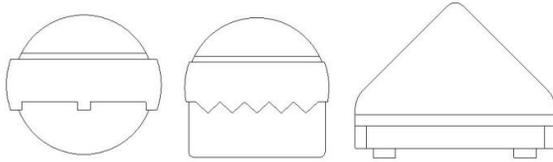
If you have tried everything here without success please get in touch through the "contact us" link on our website, along with as much detail as you can provide.

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² We recommend the current Martinoli-type square-tooth or shark-tooth stretcher fittings. Ensure the all stretcher fittings are of the same type.

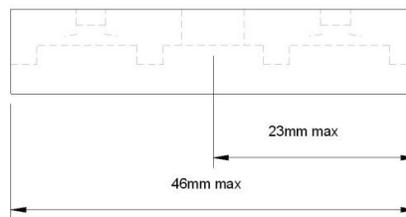


Deck stretcher fittings:



These all fit – if you have older fittings it is recommended that you replace with new ones.

If unsure, check the dimension as shown below. If it's less than 46mm, and the hole is central, it will be compatible with LeverGlide. If the hole isn't central the centre of the hole must be less than 23mm from the end of the fitting.

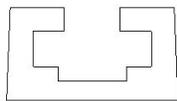


Keel fittings:

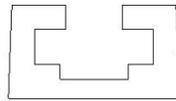
Most fixed angle stretcher fittings are compatible with LeverGlide. If in doubt carry out the dimensional check as above. For adjustable angle stretcher fittings with non-central holes use assembly LG303 (available early April)

Channel types:

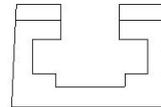
The following channel types are compatible with LeverGlide:



Matt Wood
(old Janousek)



Martinoli
Nogged



Martinoli
Shark tooth

Again, if you're not sure carry out a dimensional check as below.

