

# Commander

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## INFLATABLE BOAT OWNER'S INFORMATION PACKET

COMMANDER 9 FH301

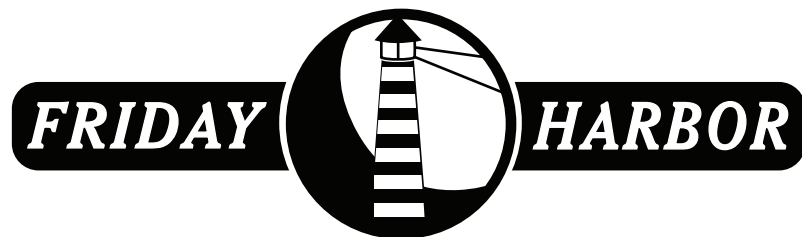
COMMANDER 12 FH302

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**IMPORTANT!**  
**BEFORE PROCEEDING**  
**READ THIS MANUAL CAREFULLY**

Save these instructions for future reference

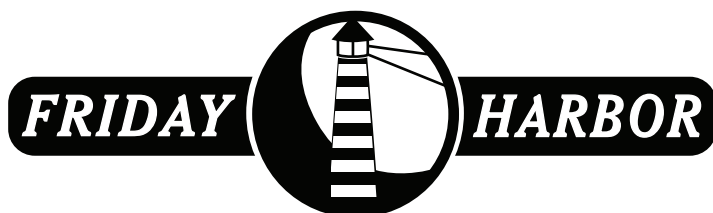


SIERRA STERLING

toll free 888-545-1424

# INFLATABLE BOAT INSTRUCTION MANUAL

## COMMANDER 9 FH301 & COMMANDER 12 FH302



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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CALL US AT:  
888-545-1424

## 5. PROPER CARE

Your inflatable boat is made of very durable materials. However, like anything else, proper use and care will increase the life of your boat. Before storing your boat make sure it is both **CLEAN** and **DRY**. You may clean your boat with a mild liquid soap and water. Never use strong solvents to clean your boat as they will destroy the material. If your boat has been used in salt-water, rinse it off with fresh water and allow it to dry before storing. Use a dry towel to wipe up all moisture. It should be deflated and kept out of direct sunlight when stored. Avoid exposure to extreme temperatures (hot or cold). If your boat is exposed to freezing temperatures while storing, allow it to warm before unfolding.

## 6. REPAIRS

All boats come with a repair kit that includes glue and several patches. This should remain with the boat in the event that you may need it.

### TO REPAIR SMALL PUNCTURES AND CUTS:

1. Cut a rounded patch at least ¼" or ½" larger than the hole or cut.
2. Clean the area where the patch will be placed with water and/or mild soap.
3. Make sure all surfaces are dry.
4. Spread a thin layer of glue on both the patch and on the damaged area and let it sit for three to five minutes or until tacky.
5. Press the patch onto the desired area, making sure that no air bubbles form.
6. Apply pressure evenly to the patch by placing weight on it. Do not peel back.
7. Do not inflate the boat for at least twelve (12) hours.

# Boating Notes

*It is always a good idea to keep notes of your boating experiences. Your notes can serve as a reminder of what to look out for, as well as what gear to bring along, and what conditions are like.*

[illegible]

## 4. GUIDELINES FOR USAGE

BOATING CAN BE VERY DANGEROUS AND PHYSICALLY DEMANDING. THE USER OF THIS PRODUCT SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT PARTICIPATION IN BOATING MAY INVOLVE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING SAFETY STANDARDS WHENEVER USING THIS PRODUCT. THE USER OF THIS PRODUCT ACKNOWLEDGES BOTH AN UNDERSTANDING AND AN ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK INVOLVED IN BOATING.

After you have inflated your boat, and before you put it in the water, inspect your equipment for obvious signs of wear or failure, review local rules and regulations, and read again the "CAUTION" statement.

Most areas have local laws and regulations about the use and equipment of small boats. Usually a phone call to the local authorities will provide you with the needed information. Some areas may require that you register, and display a registration number on the front of the boat. Once you have been issued a number, it is best to affix it to the boat by printing it on the material with a permanent ink marker. If you are required to display a sticker or vinyl letters, an inflatable boat ID kit can be purchased at most marine stores.

### CAUTIONS:

- GET BOATING INSTRUCTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS TYPE OF CRAFT.
- OBTAIN CERTIFIED FIRST AID TRAINING AND CARRY FIRST AID AND RESCUE/SAFETY EQUIPMENT.
- ALWAYS WEAR A NATIONALLY APPROVED PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE.
- USE THE BOAT ONLY IN PROTECTED SHORE-ZONES, AVOID OPEN WATER AND STREAMS WITH STRONG CURRENTS.
- DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR WEATHER CONDITIONS; COLD WATER AND/OR COLD WEATHER CAN RESULT IN HYPOTHERMIA.
- CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO EACH USE FOR SIGNS OF WEAR OR FAILURE.
- POOR WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION CAN RESULT IN DESTABILIZATION OF THE BOAT.
- DO NOT GO BOATING IN FLOOD CONDITIONS.
- BE AWARE OF DANGEROUS CURRENTS, WEATHER CHANGES, AND STRONG OFF SHORE WINDS.
- SCOUT UNFAMILIAR WATER; PORTAGE WHERE APPROPRIATE.
- IF NOT CAREFUL, CHILDREN COULD BECOME ENTANGLED IN THE BOAT'S ROPES. DO NOT LEAVE CHILDREN UNSUPERVISED IN BOAT.
- DO NOT EXCEED YOUR ROWING ABILITY; BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF.
- CONSULT YOUR PHYSICIAN PRIOR TO BEGINNING YOUR BOATING TRAINING.
- YOU MUST NOT USE ALCOHOL OR MIND ALTERING DRUGS PRIOR TO USING THIS PRODUCT.
- FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE USE OF THIS PRODUCT.
- IF ADDITIONAL OUTFITTING IS REQUIRED, USE MANUFACTURER'S APPROVED MATERIALS ONLY; DO NOT IMPAIR ENTRY OR EXIT ACCESS.
- READ OWNER'S INFORMATION PACKET PRIOR TO USING THIS PRODUCT.

Always practice safety, and take the time to learn about the area where you are boating. Be careful that you do not over-estimate your strength, your endurance, or your skill. Be careful never to under-estimate weather conditions. Be aware of the dangers before you begin. Be aware of your skill level. Be sure you understand and accept the risk of these dangers. There are many boating clubs all over the world. These can be a great source of information on places to boat, people to boat with, and most importantly continued safety practices.

## 1. CAUTION - SAFETY WARNING/CAPACITY

Users of this product agree by their use to accept the inherent risks involved in this boating activity and agree to follow all instructions, cautions, and warnings carefully before using this boat.

(PLEASE READ CAUTION STATEMENT CAREFULLY)

# CAUTION

### SAFETY WARNING

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THE USER OF THIS PRODUCT ACKNOWLEDGES BOTH AN UNDERSTANDING AND AN ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK INVOLVED IN BOATING.

### MAXIMUM CAPACITIES

**4 PERSONS OR 600 LBS.**

700 LBS PERSONS, MOTOR, GEAR  
2.5 H.P. MOTOR

MODEL FH301 - FRIDAY HARBOR - COMMANDER9

THIS BOAT COMPLIES WITH U.S. COAST GUARD SAFETY STANDARDS IN EFFECT ON THE DATE OF CERTIFICATION

MANUFACTURER: SIERRA STERLING / CONCORD, CA USA 94524



### MAXIMUM CAPACITIES

**6 PERSONS OR 900 LBS.**

1200 LBS PERSONS, MOTOR, GEAR  
2.5 H.P. MOTOR

MODEL FH302 - FRIDAY HARBOR - COMMANDER12

THIS BOAT COMPLIES WITH U.S. COAST GUARD SAFETY STANDARDS IN EFFECT ON THE DATE OF CERTIFICATION

MANUFACTURER: SIERRA STERLING / CONCORD, CA USA 94524



The person/load capacity is determined by the availability of proper seating in the boat. Acceptable seating determines the number of passengers, not the overall capacity.

Please read this entire manual for additional safety information. Please pay close attention to items marked Important, Caution, Warning, Never, and Always.

## 2. INFLATING INSTRUCTIONS

Use either a bellows style foot pump or two-way hand pump to inflate your boat. Be sure that the fitting on the pump hose fits snug in the valves on the boat. NEVER USE COMPRESSORS, CO2, OR COMPRESSED AIR AS THEY MAY DAMAGE YOUR BOAT.

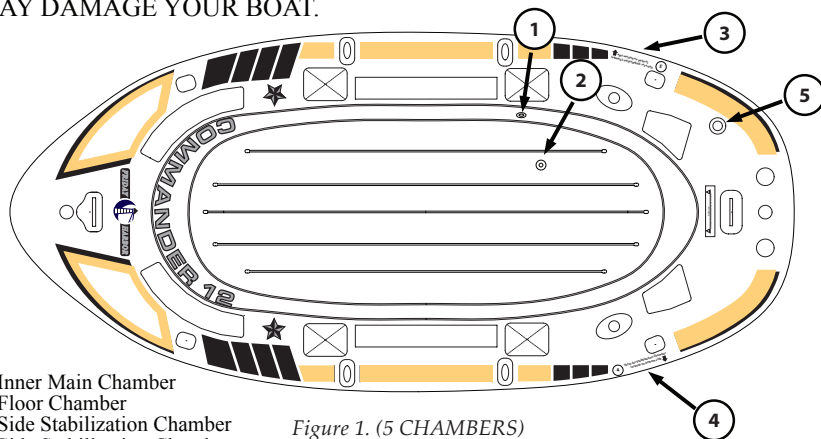


Figure 1. (5 CHAMBERS)

### 2.1 Understanding Your Valves

1. The Commander uses standard Boston valves for inflation of the Main Air Chambers (Marked as 1 and 5). The following figures give details on how to operate these valves.

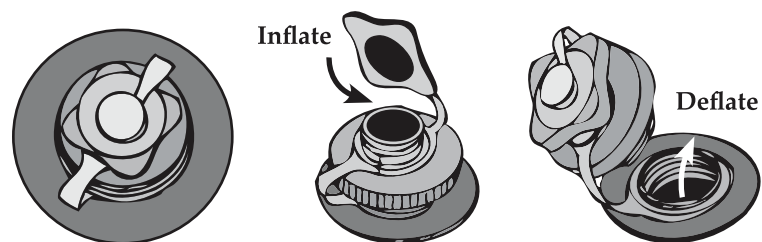


Figure 2. Inflate/Deflate Boston Valve

### 2.2 Inflation

Inflate your boat in the following order: FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO YOUR BOAT. DO NOT OVER INFLATE.

1. Inflate Chamber 1 until it feels firm to the touch.
2. Inflate Chamber 2, "floor", (using appropriate fitting). Fill with air until firm. **CAUTION: Do Not Over Inflate.** The floor should still be a little soft, not rock hard.
3. Inflate Chamber 3 and 4 until they protrude from the underside of the boat and become firm.

4. Inflate Chamber 5 until it feels firm to the touch.
5. Inflate the seats until firm. **CAUTION: Do Not Over Inflate.**

#### IMPORTANT:

DO NOT OVER-INFLATE THE BOAT. OVER-INFLATION IS THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF DAMAGE. INFLATE THE BOAT UNTIL MOST OF THE WRINKLES ARE GONE OR UNTIL IT FEELS FIRM TO THE TOUCH.

**CAUTION:** Water temperature and weather will affect the air pressure of the boat. In cold weather your boat will lose some pressure as the air inside contracts. If this occurs, you may want to add a bit more air to improve your boat's performance. However in hot weather, or prolonged direct sunlight, the air inside will expand. You must let some air out of the appropriate chambers to prevent the boat from failing due to overpressure. You should avoid exposing your boat to extreme temperatures (hot or cold).

## 3. HARDWARE FEATURES

The following illustration has been provided to assist you in identifying some of the more important hardware features located on your boat.

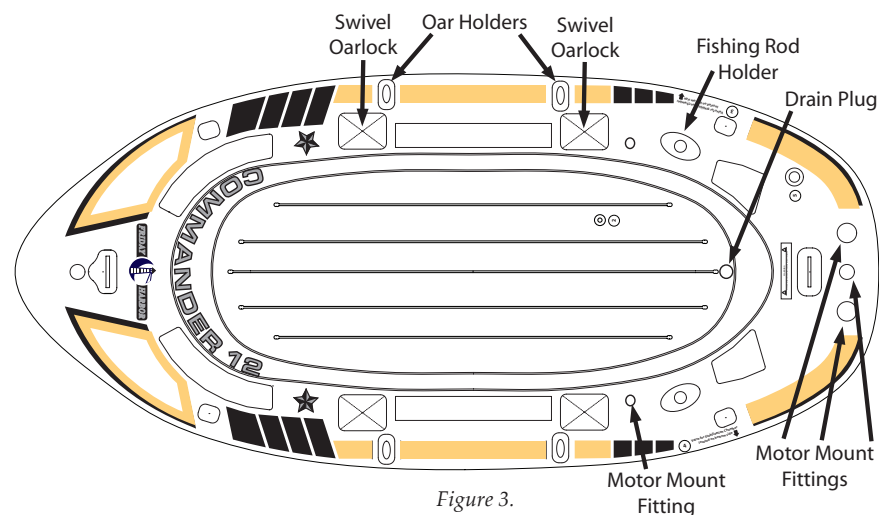


Figure 3.