Hull Assembly Methods Overview

We use different panel assembly methods for our stitch and glue and composite boats: from the simple sharpie to the basket mold (for larger hulls). You can use almost any method for any boat, but each system has its advantages and is better fitted to a certain type of boat.

気軽に The Sharpie Method: Well adapted to the building of small boats, very easy and fast.

気軽に The Basket Mold Method: For short production runs of small boats: ideal for professional building of small boats.

気軽に Traditional Method: For building around molds on strong backs. This method is best for those who learned boat building the traditional way.

気軽に Self-Aligning Jig System: Fast power boats require a straight running bottom and should be built on a jig. Our system makes it easier with self-aligning stringers and frames.

気軽に Baseline Building Method: Planking around molds, molds are on deck or cockpit sole. Very fast and easy but requires a boat designed for that method. Used for the Phantoms and OD16.

気軽に The Basket Mold Method for Larger Hulls: Build a large hull without complicated set up. Requires accurately developed panel drawings.

The Sharpie Method
The sides are wrapped around a mold or, as in this case, a mid-frame.
The Basket Mold Method
For short production runs of small boats, our basket mold system is ideal:

- No fasteners
- Fast assembly
- Low cost

Traditional Method
Building the traditional way on a jig is also possible and made much easier: no lofting and all panel dimensions are given on the plans. No need to bevel, no delicate assemblies.
Self-Aligning Jig System
This method is derived from the traditional building on a jig method but uses precisely cut notches shown on our plans.

Molds (frames) and stringers interlock and automatically correct possible alignment mistakes. Very little bracing or leveling is required and the assembly progresses very fast.
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The Baseline Method
Using the deck as the base for frames and stringers. The frames are used as molds and cut later to frame dimensions.

Using the cockpit sole as the base. The stringers are in the keel (not visible). The frames are used as molds and cut later to frame dimensions.
The Basket Mold Method for Larger Hulls
A simple frame is used as a basket mold. Bottom panel goes in first.

A Vagabond hull taking shape
Hull Assembly Methods Overview

A Serpentaire hull with very visible stitches

Note the spreaders that keep the panels in the proper shape

If you did not find the answer to your question, please use our message board and we will respond within a few hours.