Traditional Classic Canoes

If you’re looking for an “ultra-light” fragile wood canvas canoe to display at your cottage and paddle about the pond see another builder.

If you’re looking for a wood canvas canoe with superior strength to weight ratio: intend on using it for extended trips, and “heaven forbid” even run some whitewater: then you owe it to yourself to test paddle one of my canoes. I specialize in building “working” canoes.

As a full time guide I’ve seen the canoes I build for the service take a lot of punishment. I want to paddle and pole canoes, not repair them.

That is why I use variable thickness hull planking (3/16” below water line tapering to 1/8” along the shear line) and your choice of rib thickness (5/16” standard, or 3/8” expedition.) This gives me a stronger canoe for the same amount of weight. Additionally, I seal the “hard to reach” places of wood such as the undersides of ribs, stems, inwales, outwales, and decks, with a mix of cuprinol & linseed oil before assembly to prevent rot.

I pride myself in building the strongest most rot resistant wood-canvas canoes available.

The Wabanaki people of Maine, and the Maritimes, handcrafted the highest quality birch bark canoes in North America. It’s not surprising the wood-canvas canoe
was first developed here in Maine over one hundred years ago. Keeping with tradition, I use only the highest quality native woods - white cedar, spruce, ash, maple or cherry. The hull is covered with number 10 or 8, grade A domestic Midwest Duck and all fasteners are marine grade bronze or brass. Exterior paint is marine enamel and the interior is finished with 4 coats of captains spar varnish. For more information or questions contact Kevin Slater.

**Canoe Models**

**Canadian Prospector**-- Made famous by the endorsement of Bill Mason. The prospector is the ideal solo tripping canoe and is also appropriate for shorter tandem trips. Design features include a shallow arch hull for excellent secondary stability, moderate rocker for responsive turns, and full bow and stern quarters to keep you dry in waves. The prospector is truly a classic.

**Specifications:**
Length: 16’
Depth: 14 1/2”
Width: 34 1/2”
Wt.: 70 lbs. average

**Prospector Canoe $3,700**

![Canadian Prospector Canoe](image)

**Mahoosuc Guides**-- These canoes are a hybrid of the prospector and E.M. White® guide canoe. Midship below water line, they have the shallow arch hull of the prospector for excellent stability and they have the depth of the Prospector for dryness. The grace of the White shear line is maintained along with a narrow entry bow and stern for tracking ability. To offset the narrow entry’s tendency to ship water in waves the bow and stern are slightly fuller and flared. The rocker was also increased an inch to make it more responsive on rivers. The Mahoosuc Guides are truly superb working canoes for lake or river travel. They are available in two lengths:

**Specifications:**
Length: 17’6”
Depth: 15”
Width: 35 1/2”  Bow Height: 24”  
Wt.: 78 lbs. average  Hull: Shallow Arch  
**Mahoosuc Guide Canoe: $4,400**

**Specifications:**
Length: 18’6”  Sides: Midship-Straight, Bow
Depth: 15” & Stern- Slightly Flared
Width: 37 1/2”  Bow Height: 24”
Wt.: 80 lbs. average  Hull: Shallow Arch
**Mahoosuc Guide Canoe: 18’6” $4,550**

*Mahoosuc Square Stern*-- This is a Grand Laker style Freighter Canoe that can easily accommodate 4 people and all of their gear. Available with a wide range of options and various hull thickness of ribs and planking depending on owners intended use. Asymmetrical hull design features a tapered stern with a fair bit of rocker up to the transom so it handles better at low speeds when using a paddle or pole.

**Specifications:**
Length: 20’  Sides: Straight Flair
Depth: 18 1/2”  Bow Ht.: 30”
Width: 48”  Hull: Very Shallow Arch
Wt.: 175-200 lbs.  
(Depending on rib & planking thickness)
**Mahoosuc Square Stern: $7,900**

Options available for all canoe models - choice of cane or babiche seats, cherry outwales, halfribs, shellac bottom, and curved center thwart.
**Paddles**

Traditional one piece paddles are based on Wabanaki blade and grip designs native to Maine. The long flat “guide grip” allows used of various paddling techniques: standing or sitting. All paddles have 7 1/2” beaver tail blades and an oval shaft for better control. Each paddle is signed and may be personalized with your name before applying the fifth coat of marine spar varnish. Clear select grade white ash is used for its superior strength to weight ratio and flexibility.

**Guide Grip - Ash Beavertail Paddle** $125.00
**Pear Grip - Ash Beavertail Paddle** $85.00
Other woods available- choice of birds eye maple, cherry, or basswood subject to availability at market price.

**Setting Poles**

I use only stump dried, hand peeled black spruce setting poles. The natural taper of the poles provides better hand purchase than the milled spar variety. Choice of Allagash (copper ferrule with lag bolts) or Penobscot (spike) shoe, and lengths of 10 to 12 feet.

**Allagash Setting Pole** $95.00
**Penobscot Setting Pole** $75.00

**Other Traditional Gear**

Wannigan boxes in a variety of shapes and sized, leather tumplines, pounded brown ash pack baskets, and crooked knives are custom made to order.