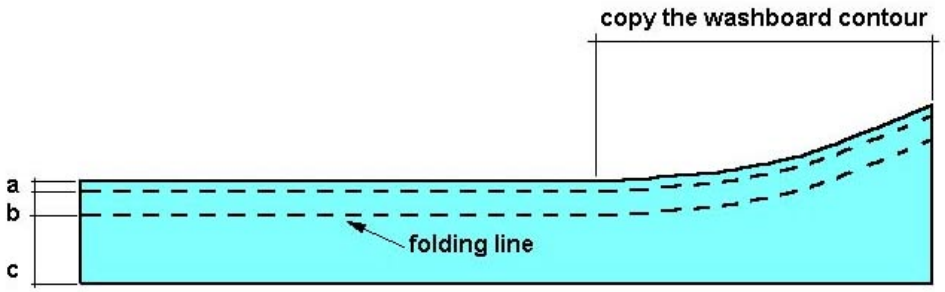
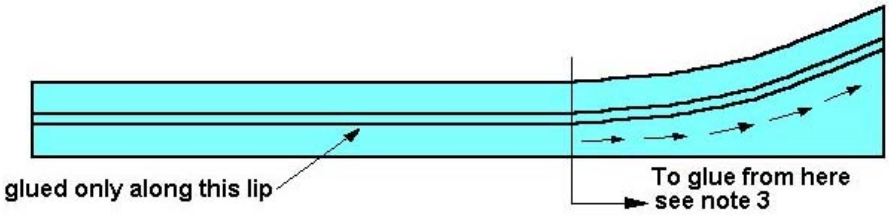
Skinning the deck

The deck part is the most time consuming of the skinning work. The deck is formed by four pieces. The front piece covers from stem to rib # 2, the cockpit part is formed by two pieces one for each side of boat and stern piece covers from rib # 6 to the stern. Perform first the stem and stern parts and at last the cockpit part. To do it you must fabricate both cockpit pieces first following this descriptive drawing, which shows how to build the washboard fastener pockets.

Washboard Section of the Deck



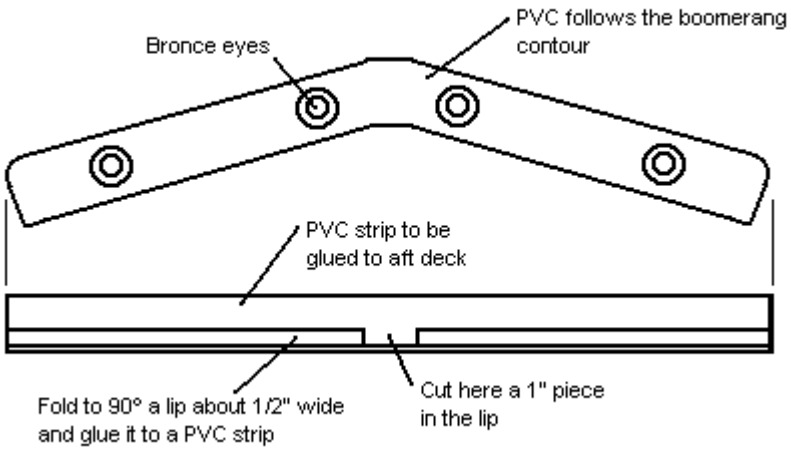
a : 5/8" to 3/4" .
b : The wide of the aluminum strip plus 30 to 35 %. (see note 1)
c : b + distance between wahsboard to gunwale plus a excess. (see note 2)



NOTES:
1) This excess of 30 to 35 % in order to facilitate to put and take out the aluminum strip.
2) When the lip gluing is finished, then mount the complete washboard, (Alu strip and wood) copy the gunwale contour and cut the excess before gluing to the keel skin.
3) Glue by steps of 2" to 3" pulling each time in the arrow sense as hard as possible in order to compensate the curved shape of the washboard edge.

First, build the washboard fastener pockets. Make them loose-fitting in order to permit the washboard aluminum fasteners slide into easily. May be the curved part of front cockpit deck skin tends to curl a bit and some wrinkles appear in this zone because it has a double curvature shape. It's difficult to avoid it and I consider that the most difficult part of skinning. When you finish both parts of cockpit deck, mark the bolts holes position, perform them and assemble the complete washboard with the skin in his place. Then mark the gunwale contour and cut the PVC along this mark. At last, glue the skin along the gunwale, stem and stern parts of deck. Don't pull too much the skin of cockpit side when glue it to the gunwale side because doing it may turn difficult in the future to assemble the washboard. If you note some wrinkles in this part, don't worry because they will disappear almost completely when you inflate the sponsons.
The last part of skinning work is to glue the lip in the after deck to connect the skin to the boomerang.
Cut a piece of PVC coping the boomerang contour but adding about 1/2" in the lower part of it. Cut about 1" in the center part of the 1/2" excess and fold and glue to a PVC strip about 1' wide. This lip will be glued to the aft deck skin. To do so, assemble the washboard and boomerang in place, put the lip previously built in place by hooking the eyes in the brass pieces and finally glue the lip to the deck.

BOOMERANG TO SKIN ATTACHING LIP





The boomerang in place

By last, cut all the cord laces used to mount the hull to the frame. Disassemble the frame and take out the skin, then unfold the skin inside out as like you do with a sock or glove and cut the excess of material which was used to lacing the skin. Cut it about 1/4" from the glued junction The junction between hull, sponsons pocket and deck. Put again the skin in the normal manner, it is to said, the inside in.
With this the skinning work is finished.
I think it's convenient for safety reasons to put a couple of floating bags in the stem and stern underdeck holes. I built two floating bags with PVC following the same method as the sponsons. They have a volume about 45 lts each one. This will help to maintain the boat floating in case of capsize or hull damage. The sponsons volume only, may be not enough if the boat is full loaded.
Also is convenient to put hull skin reinforcement strips along the keel and chines tubes if you plan to navigate in rocky rivers or shores. The reinforcement strips must be made with 2" PVC

strips, gluing them in the hull exactly along and over the keel and chines tubes in the outer side of skin.
The ultimate detail in the skin is to put the "U" shape aluminum fitting which supports the rudder. To do it, mark in the stern the exact position of the semi holes which you practiced previously in the stern plate to accommodate the heads of bolts which support the rudder. Then practice the two 1/4" holes in the skin which permit pass trough the bolts. Mount the "U" shape fitting with the two bolts, two flat washers and two bronze nuts which are the rudder hinge.

To assemble the boat , follow the following instructions:

1) Put both parts of the keel on the floor but don't engage the shoe horse.
2) Put ribs # 1 and # 2 in place hooking its in the fore keel slots.
3) Repeat with ribs # 6 and # 7 in the aft keel.
4) Engage front part of left and right gunwales in the respective bow plate fittings.
5) Engage the ribs 1 and 2 in the corresponding gunwales tongues.
6) Repeat same procedure with ribs 6 and 7 and the aft part of left and right gunwales, hooking its in the stern plate.
7) Put the stem deck stringer and stem part of chines in place. Connect central part of chines to the front part of them. Engage the chines in all the rib HDPE fittings.
8) Repeat procedure with stern part.
9) Extend the skin in the floor and put the stem and stern into it. Take care to align both parts thoroughly regard the skin. Take the gunwales as reference. If you don't align them as well as possible, latter will be impossible to do this.
10) Engage both parts of keel shoe horse, and push it toward the floor. You will note as the stem and stern penetrates well in the skin.
11) Engage the gunwales shoe horses, and expand gunwales outward.
12) Insert the # 4 rib, hooking it in the keel first and then in the respective gunwales tongues.
13) With same procedure insert ribs # 3 and # 5 in this order.
14) Slide the chine coupling tube to cover fore and aft part of chines about by the same longitude and engage the chine coupling tubes in the rib # 4 HDPE fittings.
15) Slide the washboard aluminum fasteners into the skin pockets, align the holes with the rib's bolts and put them in the bolts.
16) Put the wood washboards in the bolts and fix them with butterfly nuts.
17) Put the boomerang in place and hook it to the skin.
18) Adjust all nuts firmly.
19) Inflate the sponsons.
20) Put the rudder in place and connect the control cables to the rudder pedals.
21) Put the lift cable.
22) Put aft and fore floating bags and inflate them.