

Cut Rowing Blades



For the past 5 years we have been developing a patented technique and application of putting cuts through the face of rowing blades, the primary objective being to reduce the physiological impact on the body without the loss of any power or efficiency.

Our results are revolutionary

Catch

- Softer lock on
- More stable lock on
- More secure lock on

Drive Phase

- Good acceleration
- Easier to keep the blade locked on through to the finish
- Longer stroke

Exit

- Cleaner exit

Physiological

- Progressive power curve
- Significantly less back pain

Performance

- No loss of performance or power from the blade
- Less physiological stress, enabling maximum performance

The physics: High pressure water created on the front of the blade during a stroke escapes round the edges (backflow) to fill the low-pressure area at the back. The cuts allow some high-pressure water to squeeze through the cuts and in so doing lose energy and become low pressure so compensating for some of the backflow. By maintaining the High/Low difference and allowing some water through the face of the blade the cuts facilitate the flattening of the power curve at the catch making the catch softer and spreading the power more evenly through the stroke. The stroke is also more efficient for a longer distance and the extraction is cleaner. The rower will experience lighter loading on the body for no loss of efficiency allowing maximum potential to be achieved.

Quotes

Rachel Morris PR1 2016 Olympic Gold (Scull)

"I am really excited to feel the lock onto water again and power through the boat & blades! I have been unable to engage with elite rowing since bilateral shoulder reconstruction after Rio2016.

I have been training and back up to elite fitness but unable to train full time in rowing due to the risk of injuring them again.

I can really see the blades having an incredibly positive affect on minimising the back/ shoulder/ hip injuries Elite rowers unfortunately are susceptible to."

Adrian Miramon World Coastal champion 2022 (Scull)

"Since using the cut blades I have noticed there is less stress and fatigue on my back. The cut blade allows for a softer catch and therefore less loading on my back and body in general."

"My feeling is that these blades would seriously reduce and minimise back injuries which rowers are susceptible to. I myself have suffered back injuries in the past but since using the cut blades I have encountered no symptoms of back pain."

Grace Prendergast five times World champion, Olympic champion and Boat Race winner (Sweep)

"First impressions were quite positive. I have a tendency to want to start washing out a bit in the last quarter of the stroke and I felt like there was a slightly improved grip around the front which meant that I had to put less effort into keeping my blade in the water. Through the drive, I enjoyed how it felt like the blade almost wanted to travel through the water in a straight line and I just had to let it do that itself and not change the path that it naturally wanted to travel."

"Catch, Drive, Finish and effectiveness of the stroke were all better."

Other quotes

Two rowers, both Olympic medalists and European Champions

Say that they "notice a much softer catch right from the first few strokes." They "feel a gentler entry." In addition, both also agree that "the oar/blade feels more stable through the stroke than the regular oars [they] use."

Lyme Regis Gig Club - Marcus Dixon

It's interesting how many of our competitive rowers are testing it (cut wooden gig oar) and evangelising. I went out rowing this morning and stroked the gig in 6 with the new oar. We did pyramids out to the Charmouth buoy and raced the 1.5 miles back to The Cobb. The (cut) oar was great and I was able to maintain a good stroke rate and felt good at the end of what was a strenuous session.

International Rowers

"More comfortable to use; stays locked on to the water; finishes are cleaner; makes the boat a more stable platform to work from."

"Softer catch, less risk of back overload"

"Easy to use; positive connection at the catch; stability throughout the draw; good clean extraction"

Mark partridge- from Australia, coach and ex gb lightweight

I really like them. Grips the water well, and holds it through to finish. Easy to feather though. Light in the hands. Prefer them to the croker arrows that we normally use.

JP from Holland

When Wim and I rowed with them in the pair, it was a very noticeable difference and I thought actually an improvement, with the blades more stable in the water and more grip towards the finish.

Theo Hudson - rows in NZ

I thought they were great paddling and at pace, really secure especially through the catch/lock part of the stroke.

I thought they felt a bit odd/slippy out of the start or for the first few strokes paddling away. In hindsight also agree we may have been a bit overheated.

UK Masters

"Allow you to scull with more confidence - everything locked; no instability; cleaner catch and finish; better buried during the drive"

Chris Leonard - ex gb lightweight

Really liked them (cut sweeps)- grippy and felt like there was a response to power. Seriously thinking about getting some sculls.

Quad Quotes - Masters

"We have used the Oscar blades in our quad for 3 outings. I listened carefully to how my crew mates were reacting. They were universally delighted with the way the blades felt and behaved in the water. The blades lock on to the water very positively. Finish is cleaner too. It is simply easier to row well with these blades."

"As a crew I felt our power phases were better synchronised and boat stability improved Instantly."

General scull quotes

"Soft catch and smooth movement through the water" International

"Smooth at the catch, and with a good feeling of a stable blade through the water" International

"Dissipates the force from shoulders compared to standard blades, smooth transition at each point in stroke, solid lock instantly" Club

"Very stable in the drive phase" Club

"Soft catch, probably need to gear harder than usual, easy to extract" Club

"Soft catch, different sound to the catch, very clean extraction of the blade" Club

"More comfortable to use; stays locked on to the water; finishes are cleaner; makes the boat a more stable platform to work from" Club

"Easy to use; positive connection at the catch; stability throughout the draw; good clean extraction"

"Very stable and gave a good grip of the water" Club

"A very comfortable feel in the water, it also seemed to stabilise the boat in the extraction and recovery phase. Catch was smooth and power application felt like real acceleration through the stroke" Club

"A slightly softer catch, as a crew I felt our power phases were better synchronised and boat stability improved Instantly" Club

"More stable and loaded the stroke nicer. The consistency through the water means less strain on the back from fighting normal oats desire to bounce up and dive in during the drive" Club

"The new blades feel smoother and more dynamic - it was like getting a new improved car" Club

"Less severe on the pickup and drive" Club

Harry

I really enjoyed using the blades, having them on a lighter and newer shaft along with them feeling very light and connected was a big change for us which we really enjoyed. The blades feel very light on the front end and easy to connect through the stroke and grip onto the back on of the stroke. I have not used them in a pair but would imagine they would work very well for it, having had a go with a similar set in the single I would say the same things apply.

However, as the spoons are so lightweight they did sit naturally quite high in the water which was something to get used to. Although this is more about the shafts than the spoon, the c2 skinnier are generally great other than the inside handle being very close to the outside handle which was not very comfortable, but that might just be personal comfort! Overall, we enjoyed using them and grateful to have been lent them!

Elliot

Blades are great. They make the catch feel much lighter and easier to control.

Ben

The blades had a lot of "grip" in the water. Once they were in the water they felt very hooked in with no slippage.

They were very easy to work with once the blade was out of the water. At the finish and getting separated over felt very easy. This made it very easy to spin up the rate when building off the start.

Once the blade was loaded up, it felt easy to stay connected and continue to build pressure through the stroke. It didn't feel like I was losing much power through the looms.

The catch felt much lighter compared to our previous blades. I prefer to load more at the front end of the stroke so this gave me more confidence to load up earlier and build pressure on the blade as soon as they were in the water.

General sweep quotes

"I'd say in terms of "feel" it's about the same, just feels slightly lighter geared. The reason I put "better" is because when I look at the split times of the timed pieces I completed I was surprised to find them consistently faster, so in my opinion they must be better." Club

"They do seem more sympathetic on the catch and initial drive phase. This does seem to encourage slightly higher ratings during steady state pieces" Club

"Blades feel lighter through the water" Club

"Felt it was slightly easier "ticking over" at steady state i.e. a couple of pips higher than normal" Club

"First impression was that the feel of the oar was pretty similar to the C2 smoothie. The spoon felt like it loaded more gradually at the catch, with greater load at the finish" Club

"The centre of mass being the same as the standard C2 blade made the switch feel pretty seamless. The oar didn't take any adapting to during the finish, recovery, or catch. It was, however, quite interesting during the drive. It felt significantly lighter throughout the duration of the stroke" Club

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