

Materials Needed	Procedure Overview
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Microfiber suede scull grip patches</li><li>• Shrink/plastic wrap (if available)</li><li>• Heat gun (or hair dryer)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remove old grips and any glue residue</li><li>• Install replacement suede grip patches</li><li>• Set oar length as appropriate</li></ul>

**Note:** Microfiber suede grips are designed as a wearing item that will require regular inspection and maintenance. The main advantage of microfiber suede grips is that changing the patches is very easy, and provides a grip that performs well in a wide range of conditions. In our experience the average lifespan of suede patches during regular use is approximately one year, but is dependent on many factors such as heat, humidity, and cleanliness. Athletic tape applied to fingers is very abrasive to the suede material and will decrease the life of grip.

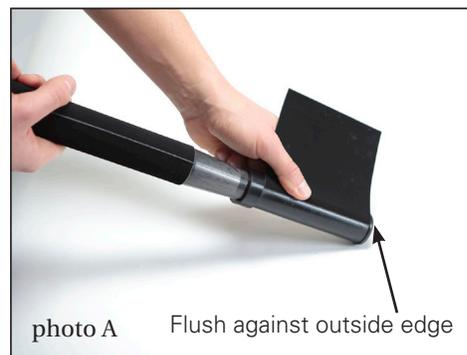
## Preparation

1. Support oars in V-blocks.
2. Heat the entire suede patch area with a heat gun or hair dryer. The glue will release from the handle more readily when warm.
3. Slowly peel the suede patch from the handle. Remove any remaining glue, which can usually be rubbed off with your fingers. For stubborn areas, dab the glue side of the removed patch on and off the residue that you wish to remove.

**Note:** Do not use solvents, cleaners or sandpaper to remove suede grips or glue.

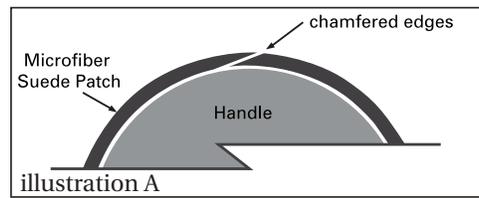
## Procedure

1. Peel away the backing paper along one of the chamfered edges of the grip patch.
2. Align the peeled edge parallel with the handle, so that the seam is opposite the grip clamp (facing towards the rower during the drive). Also make sure the outside edge of the patch is flush against the outside edge of the grip core. Firmly press down along the chamfered edge. See photo A.



Procedure - continued

3. Peel away the remaining backing paper and wrap the patch around the plastic grip core. The chamfered edge should land directly onto the other, creating a smooth seam. See illustration A. Firmly squeeze all areas of the patch to ensure proper adhesion.



4. If possible, use shrink/saran wrap to tightly wrap the patch and leave it overnight. This helps to improve the bond between the new patch and grip core. See photo B.

