

11'2" Shellback Dinghy

Particulars

LOA	11'2"
Beam	4'5"
Draft (cb up)	6½"
(cb down)	2'3"
Weight	about 100 lbs
Sail area	54 sq ft

Designed by Joel White

The Shellback is about as fine a dinghy as you're likely to find. It rows well, tows well, and is responsive under sail. In fact, professional boat-builders in Brooklin, Maine (home of *WoodenBoat* magazine), race a fleet of these dinghies every summer Wednesday afternoon. These fellows are hard judges of a boat's character; they know good design when they see it.

Shellback has a narrow flat bottom, which allows it to sit upright on the beach—and which excuses its builder from the job of making and beveling a keel. The hull's sides consist of three wide plywood planks. Shaping and hanging these planks goes quickly, and most builders consider the process to be good fun. For the beginner, a 53-page monograph *How to Build the Shellback Dinghy* (available from The WoodenBoat Store) describes everything in great detail.

Shellback works just fine as a simple rowboat, but builders who choose to add the standing-lug sailing rig will be delighted with its performance. This simple rig, with its unstayed mast, can be raised or struck in just seconds. The sail, hoisted with a single halyard and controlled by a single sheet, makes singlehanding a simple pleasure.

Shellback's plans come on six sheets and include: lines, construction, building jig, plank layouts, and full-sized patterns for molds and other parts. WB Plan No. 109, \$75.00.

