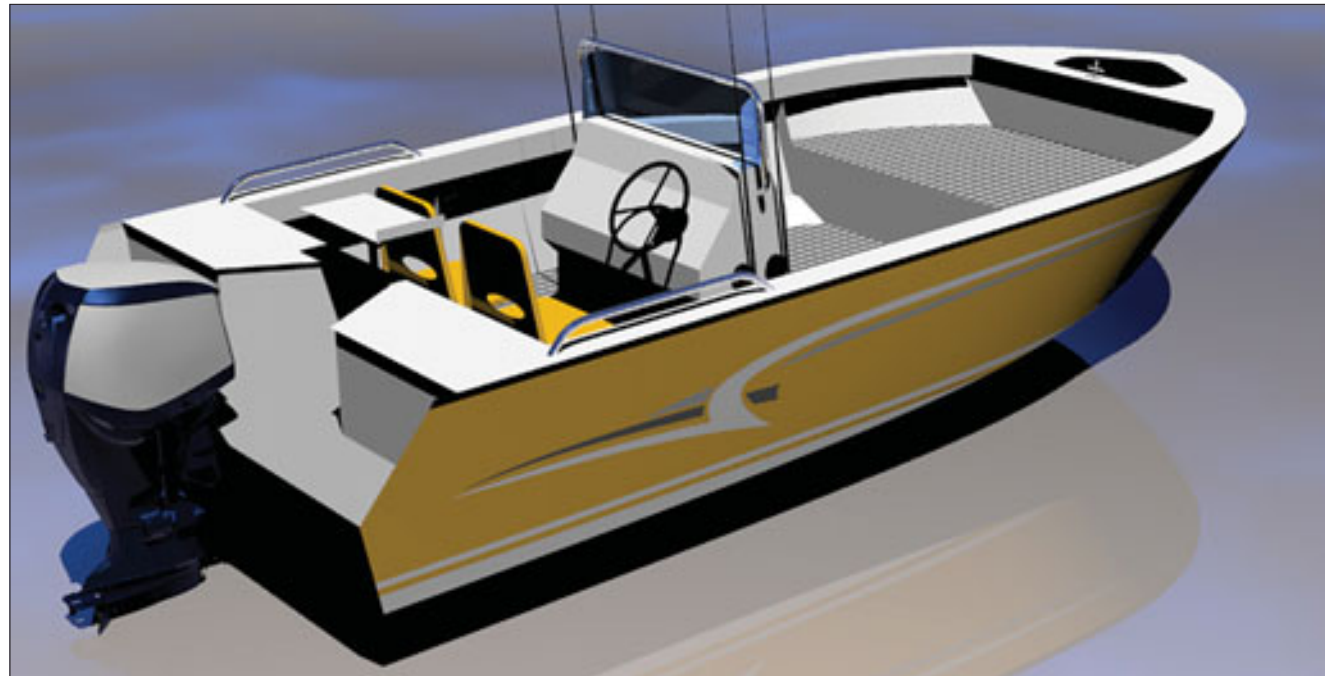


BMD's Gulf Explorer 16

Introducing another very 'do-able' Mark Bowdidge composite DIY Project just about anybody can afford - and what a ripper, all-round fishing family boat comes out of the garage in just a couple of month's time!



Who's going fishing?"

One of the most impressive aspects of the Gulf Explorer 16 is its 'fishability'! With plenty of room, huge storage areas throughout, and being an all-round performer in sheltered and bay conditions, the Gulf Explorer 16 will certainly live up to its name.

(Meaning you'll be everyone's best mate!)

As a composite design, the Gulf Explorer 16 has a large open 12ft x 6ft (3.65m x 1.82m) cockpit providing you with plenty of fish-fighting room, storage areas in the aft compartments and also under the raised front deck. With a large double console, with tons of room for electronics and the capacity for a 50-75 litre fuel tank for those long days on the water, an ultra shallow draft, solid beam-

stability - the Gulf Explorer 16 is redefining fishabilityat a price you will applaud.

Easy to maintain and trailer, the Gulf Explorer 16 will provide you with years of family fun and fishing memories.

Performance

Freed of the constraints of an assembly line, BMD designs lightweight, rigorously-engineered boats that deliver speeds in the 30+ knot range, with emphasis on safety and ride.

This speed capability gives you the time and flexibility to do more boating, more fishing, not to mention the pride that comes from building your own boat. The weight ratios of our designs deliver outstanding range too, so you can cruise further and faster with better fuel economy. This maximizes your time aboard - giving you

more options for any given trip, more ability to go and more money in your pocket.

Liquid Engineering

Built from marine or boatbuilding plywood and completely fibreglassed in an epoxy matrix both inside and outside, the Gulf Explorer 16 is engineered as a composite design to classification standards.

Designed for easy building with no compound curves, no unnecessary complications, ease of construction and long life, the 1/4" (6mm) panels, cut flat from our expanded plates dimensioned drawings, are bent around the 3/8" (9mm) frames and fastened to the transom and bow with stitches. Then the hull is glassed, faired, painted and rolled over. Now the fun begins fitting out the boat, naturally by following the plans, but also adding your

own wants and needs as well. When you're satisfied with what you're wanting in your boat, it's time to bog/ fair/ paint, throw in some fuel, bolt on an outboard and you're off. It's that simple - well, nearly!

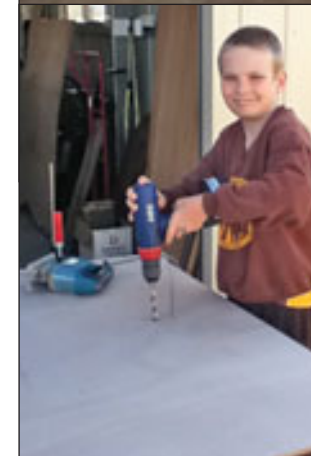
Required Skills?

As all our composite designs are easy to build, no woodworking skills or special tools are required. As a matter of interest, 90% of our builders have never built a boat before and come from all walks of life, and range from 14 to 86 years old!

Approximate finished hull weight, 258kg, plus mechanicals.

Owner/builder Mathew writes:

"Boat building must be in the blood. Among some of the things my dad built, were two timber boats; one inboard, the other, an outboard with a cabin. Apart from a few black and white photos, details of his



build are a bit sketchy as he built them before I was born.

"A few years ago I wanted a project and just like dad, I thought about building a boat. I searched the net for some websites just to get an idea, and after a number of sites, the Bowdidge Marine website kept popping up.

"I didn't take much notice at first, because all the American boat building sites had tonnes more information and cheap plans; which I was a bit suspect about, so I held off and I'm glad I did. When I looked closely at the U.S. designs they appeared sketchy, lacked detail and I certainly didn't want read boat building forums, day in day out, to work out what to do from one stage to the next; what's more, I thought it was best to have some local advice.

"When I rang up Mark, the first time, I asked him a stack of questions; like, "How easy is it?" I think the replied came "if kids can build this boat, with your background, I'm sure you



Gulf Explorer 16 Specifications

Overall hull length	16 ft (4.87m)
Beam	7ft-2in (2.18m)
Max horsepower	90 hp
Deadrise @ transom	10 degrees
Engine shaft length	L/S (20")
Inside depth from cockpit floor to coaming	1ft-11-1/2" (600mm)
Depth of hull	2ft-9" (841mm)
Fuel capacity	Builders choice
Total persons, motor and gear	2280 lbs (1034 kg)

For more information regarding this design, or any other of our designs, please visit our website at www.bowdidge.com

can..."

"What sold me on Mark's plans were the details in the drawings, when compared to American plans. After studying the plans in depth, I went about ordering the plywood and other materials. During the boat build, Mark was always available to answer

any questions, and he would often ring up to see how everything was going; Mark's advice and experience is second to none."

"After building the Mushulu 14 and with the family growing up, it came time to think about something bigger...the Gulf Explorer 16. What appeared

to me about the Gulf Explorer 16 design was the size of the boat. It has a wide bow with a good size fishing deck, with plenty of storage space below. The bow has a separate anchor locker. There's plenty of storage space in the rear locker for just about anything."

"I'm hoping to arrange the centre console with a seat double as a seat / storage space to house a small fridge / esky, gas barby, or whatever else. With the detached motor and centre console it makes for plenty of room to move back and front. Mark's designs allow you to be creative with space, as much as, or as little as you want. The other great thing about this boat is that I'm confident; it will handle deeper water and longer trips and a generally more comfortable ride in offshore conditions."

"Although I'm in the very early stages of building (see pics of the set-up and my foreman!) as I only started not long ago, there's a long way to go yet, and I'm really enjoying this build. I think the name of this boat says it all, explorer by name, explorer by nature, I'm looking forward to the day when I can get her in the water and take family, friends out and have a lot of fun."

TBM