

BIG BANG INSTRUCTIONS

WEIGHTS

I prefer not to use weights but they do help with rollups and other tricks. This first batch of Big Bangs come with 3 10gram milled weights specifically made for the Sky shark P-200 spar installed on the lower portion of the spine.

In the future weights will not be installed on the kite so the flier can fly the Big Bang without them first and decide if weights are desired. The Big Bang does tend to roll up in lighter winds without them and the weights give you an edge, allowing the kite to do not only the tricks done today, but invent new ones.

The weights are adjustable. By using rubber retaining rings, you can move the position of the weights for balance. Experiment with this to gain the desired flying characteristics.

Moving the weights towards the center T, will allow the kite to fade better in lighter winds.

Keeping the weights at the lowest point, all the way to the "Velcro Release Spine System", will increase performance in higher winds.

As one flier has experienced, he has moved them to the nose because he feels the kite is keel heavy and for him, it better balances the kite in a fade.

Ensure that you disassemble the kite before removing the weights. Remove lower spreaders and remove top spreader from leading edge fittings. Slide weights up to the center T first, then pull from the bottom of the spine until the spar comes out of the nose. Holding the center T helps because it must slide too. Then slide weights back toward the end of the spine as you push the spine forward, also sliding the center T. When you reassemble the spine, ensure that it is under the Dacron reinforcement for the nose and when you tighten the sail tension, take it all out. A sloppy keel inhibits performance. Weight placement and usage is a matter of personal choice. I prefer them where they are installed, but feel free to experiment. In lighter winds I don't use weights, I have the polyester version for that so I don't have to change the weights on the kite.

I may use an easier system in the future, but the idea is to have more than one Big Bang, one for med to med high winds, and one for low. One with weights and one without and at the price of these kites, you can buy two for the price of one these days....

NOSE

One of the biggest "catch problems" is where the seatbelt webbing and Dacron nose meet the leading edge. Some have gone to smaller noses, but it still catches.

I put a Band-Aid on this problem for now by using tape over this seam. This is temporary and the tape must be replaced. It is standard Nylon glue backed tape available from fine kite stores.

FRICION HEAT THE TAPE TO THE LEADING EDGE

During shipping, some of the tape edges have come up a bit, simply rub down the edges using center-to-outside strokes to friction heat the tape onto the leading edge. If you don't, and fly in sand, the tape will last about 1 hour. Friction heat it first and periodically check and repeat, and you may not have to replace the tape for a long time

You can also elect to just pull the tape off. If you are doing advanced tricks, you will want it on there. If you are not, just remove it for now if it becomes a problem.

BRIDLE

The Big Bang comes with an Andy Wardely style active bridle. I have been using my version of it since 1999.

I like it, but I understand that not everyone does. You can make your own bridle if you prefer. It's easy and in the near future, we will start posting the optional bridles on the New Tech Kites web site. A standard 3 point bridle from my older Dynamite works great, but you will need to use a modified bridle setting. You can even use, as I have, an M-80 bridle. Just add one inch to each measurement and then find the correct positioning. In most cases, when you hold the bridle connection point, pull down and out, the point where the inhaul and outhaul connect should come around the lower spreader reference point. You can also use a turbo bridle style bridle if that's your thing. I don't like them, which is the reason it is not on the kite, but many people do, so since many of you don't mind making modifications on \$200 plus kites, doing it to the \$100 Big Bang won't hurt..... But again, I love the kite the way it is.

DODD'S LEADING EDGE NOCK & WING TIP END COVER

I designed new deeper nocks and rubber covers that prevent catching.

To properly assemble, first slip the leach (white line) over the nock, and then tension the tension line. Once it is attached and you have proper tension in the sail, no wrinkles, slide the knot of the black line so it is almost or is at, the top of the slit of the nock, and then slide the rubber over it until it is fully on and hides all lines. Don't allow the end of the line to come out of the rubber, this will cause even more catches. If you check this each time you pick up or walk up to the kite and push it on if it starts to work loose, you won't lose them.

I will make sure that when I return from my upcoming trip to the factory that I will bring back a supply, just in case.

If you lose the rubber it is no big deal, most kites don't have them anyway, but it does prevent line catches in that area. Use another rubber available anywhere, black tape works too.

STANDOFF POSITIONS

It is very important that the outside standoff lower spreader fitting is 2" from the spar end that fits into the lower leading edge connector. This gives the proper trailing edge tension needed. The Big Bang uses a wrapped white fiberglass standoff, the same type I demanded to be used on the Jam Session so many years ago. This standoff gives the proper amount of tension and flex needed in that area and the bend in the standoff, goes down, not up.

Center and inside standoffs are 3mm solid carbon. They must come straight out giving the most tension on the trailing edge. So assemble the kite, then move the tight lower spreader standoff connectors if needed, to achieve this.

The Big Bang uses Jaco fittings. They are covered by a Dacron reinforcement. If this cover starts to fray, you can use a lighter to carefully seal it. Wait until it frays, to seal it as this may not occur on your Big Bang.

The Jaco fittings are held into the trailing edge with a small rubber ring. Many of today's kites use this system.

The rubber ring is not permanently affixed in place. If you want to glue the rubber ring in place, use a very small amount of glue. The best way is to use a drop right on the whole thing while its assembled. Turn the kite upside down, open the cover a bit, and use a drop of glue right on top of the ring and the back of the fitting. Only a small drop is needed.

The standoffs used in the construction of the Big Bang are of a superior quality and should not cause any problems. In all the hours of testing I have not broken one yet.

FERRULES

This applies to all kites using internal ferrules, not just the Big Bang as a lot of this info does...

Be sure to always check your inside ferrules. The main one, of course, is at the center T of the kite, if you disassemble your leading edges often, you will work that loose. If it does come loose, take a small wire brush or roll up some light grit sandpaper and lightly clean out the first 1 inch inside the lower spreader that you are going to reinstall the internal ferrule into, as well as the ferrule itself. This will ensure a better grip for the glue. Use a thin line of super glue on two sides of half of the ferrule and slip that bit into the spar so its half way in. I like to mark the ferrule in the middle with a felt tip pen so I know how far to insert it into the spar.

CONNECTOR PROTECTORS

These are approx 8" tie wrap strips placed under each leading edge opening of each of the 4 LE connectors. They are not glued into place so that final adjustments can be done by the flyer.

The lower connector protectors are not glued into place because the kite comes disassembled. If you don't plan on breaking your kite down, once you assemble the leading edges, use a small drop of glue on the edge of the connector to adhere the white plastic strip to it. This is temporary so don't use a lot. You may want to break your kite down, or, replace a rod if one should break.

The correct position for these protectors is, looking at the leading edge of the kite, the strip should follow the same line as the crease in the Dacron of the leading edge. Be careful when installing it, glue can shoot out into your eye and you will have to go to the ER as I did.

Enjoy!

Sincerely
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New Tech Kites Exclusive Sport Kite Designer
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