

DCS Comparison Review

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Fatboy vs Sutro

Having ridden DCS boards for a while I realized that no one ever compares the decks themselves so I put together a review to pit two of the more popular models together and see how they compare. This is not an article about the DCS system itself and the review relies on understanding the dynamic of this innovative carving system. Hybrids are all about finding something you like. So with that being said lets compare the decks.

FATBOY 48" Longboards by Fatboy Complete. DIMENSIONS: 48"L x 11" W

DECK: 3 ply bamboo deck with griptape.

Custom made by Fatboy himself.

HARDWARE: Fully assembled DCS truck set
 with mounting hardware and risers

WHEELS: 2 7/10" 94a Pleasure Tools Sumo Joyride

Construction:

The fatboy is a beautiful deck a massive plank of pressed bamboo with a tapering ends, the deck had moderate bounce for my 140lbs and a good amount of spring coming out of carves. The durability of the bamboo is insane as a good number of curb smashes have done nothing to diminish it's beauty or structural integrity. The grain is a vertical laminate and looks real good with the grip job. Labeled with a Longboards by fatboy this is a quality deck. If you like big wood and exposed grains this is a DCS you should take a look at. The width of the deck is well suited for those with bigger feet and the sizeable deck allows for many foot placements. The deck seems very light for it's size and is not really all that thick in appearance the dense nature of the wood used makes it have some inherent properties that it really benefits from. The overall look is just great and it is further supported by the sheer durability of the boo. The Feel:

With the wider deck base there is a much more accentuated feel of rocking rail to rail. The deck gives a firm yet mild rebound when exiting carves and is not flexible enough to buck even in the hardest carves. It's a stable solid feel which compliments the DCS system very well. With a deck this big carving is the word and you do not want to hit straight downhill as this deck has a great amount of power if the carves are not kept in line. The ability to shift foot position into a comfortable stance is easy with the space you are allocated. The rails are far enough from the road even on the hardest carves to prevent roll over. With a solid base such as this high speed slides are possible when needed. Pendulums are a simple feat with more complex slides requiring a good amount of deck control. This deck outfitted with soft wheels is a great steeps carver and is well suited for long haul carving sessions. The size makes it a little less flat adaptable but pushed on the flats it is guaranteed to increase your ankle strength. Sutro/42" inch Fighter Bomber Complete.

DIMENSIONS: 42"L x 10" W

DECK: 7-Ply maple deck with griptape.

Symmetrical design w/ concave

HARDWARE: Fully assembled DCS truck set
 with mounting hardware and risers

WHEELS: 2 7/10" 94a Pleasure Tools Sumo Joyride

Note: Deck size is same yet graphic differs from shown Construction:

Seven ply maple pressed into a mild double kick with a raised edge. The rails really allow you to lock into your stance for a very firm hold on carves. They also help to accentuate carves and really push that rail edge down. The deck is not too heavy and is not much of a drag for the walk back uphill. The deck seems sturdy with only the normal wear and tear a deck would go through. The double kicks make it well suited for someone wishing to roll a dcs with the option of a kick and still maintain a wide stance. The deck is only slightly wider than the DCS trucks giving a short transition when carving the deck angle to wheel transition is lessened by this aspect of the deck. The Feel:

In two words – locked in, the deck shape gives a very comfortable stance that transitions the carve very well. The width of the deck is comfortable without having much overhang allowing carves to be tight and transitions smooth. The deck flows with very little flex and no bucking out of carves the 7 ply maple deck is solid and has taken no damage on any of the bails I have subjected it too. With the spoon type kicks the foot transitions when riding are aided by knowing where your feet are in regard to center line. Well suited for tight carving on steeps and just chopping up mellow rollers. The deck is easy to push on the flats and is very stable at pushing speeds allowing the ankles more rest than would be expected. The deck overhang is so little that edge carving can be very extreme taking it up to the edge as long as momentum and traction allows. Sliding the deck is relegated mostly to letting the back trucks slide out a bit in carves I have yet to feel comfortable sliding the deck as the deck edges have a tendency to flip it over however that could be due to my inexperience with sliding this deck. The tight carves make it a great back alley and sidewalk carver. Also a good time had in parking garages with smooth concrete. The Comparison:

As with most of my reviews I try to use the same hardware so the ride of the deck is what is in question in this case both

decks are set up with the exact same hardware. The fatboy is a big hill badboy he needs room to loll around and really has a pension for quality pavement and asphalt. The extra deck width makes the carves a little more extended suiting it much better for a wider road. The pure size of the deck wins it for me in respect to hill carving however the stability is a little less than the Sutro. Making the Sutro far better for flat land pushing and sidewalk carving. The back alley ability of the Sutro is awesome with it's ability to lash out tight carves and hold edge tight with the raised rails and spooned kicks. However if you happen to be out camping and you are short on camp gear two rocks and the Fatboy deck make a great table. I am real sure that you could hit a slope and evade a bear if needs be on your Fatboy as well. The bear wouldn't even chase you though hopefully he would wait dutifully at the bottom of the hill for his chance to carve. The Sutro is better suited for the urban territory and versatility. Both boards fare real well in durability but the Fatboy wouldn't fare as well as a knock around deck. It's integrity wouldn't be compromised but it would show the scratches and nicks of hard wear. I relegate my Fatboy to long rollers and solid runs with a few slides and choose to rock the Sutro when I am hitting the garages, sidewalks or carving alleys. All in all both decks hold their own in a variety of terrains and it all depends on what you find them best suited for.

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