

CARE AND MAINTENANCE FOR YOUR NEW TENT

PRACTISE:

Get to know your new tent and it's assembly procedure thoroughly. It's no fun trying to put up a tent you are not familiar with on a dark, wet and windy night.

ZIPS

Always treat gently. Never force zips, particularly on door ways. Take the strain off doorway zips by cross pegging at the base of zip. Keep zips closed when not in use and always peg out with zips closed.

PEGGING

Always face your pegs at an angle to the ground to obtain the best grip in the soil. Do not over tighten guy ropes and when possible peg down inline with seams and tent material. Cross peg zips to reduce stress on zip, fabric and stitching. Whenever possible tents should be guyed out for maximum stability.

CONDENSATION

This occurs mainly with nylon tents, particularly in humid conditions. Do not confuse this with leaking. Moisture in the air and breathing forms droplets on the inside of the flysheet when the temperature drops during the night. Increasing ventilation by pegging the flysheet off the ground and leaving doors partially open reduces the level of condensation.

COTTON TENTS

We recommend that cotton tents are soaked, prior to use, to "weather" the material. On the first wetting or after a hot spell, a fine spray may be used until the fibres swell and close the weave. Cotton canvas should be kept tensioned to prevent shrinkage. Thoroughly dry and air cotton tents before storage to prevent mildew.

FIRE

Check your tent label to see if it is Flame Retardant however, some tent material can be HIGHLY FLAMMABLE. Keep naked flames away from the tent material. NEVER light pressure stoves inside the tent. Matches and candles should be used with extreme care.

SEAM SEALING

When seams are not sealed or if tent material starts to leak seams and joins can be treated using sealant and re proofing sprays.

We recommend Storm Waterproofing.
www.stormwaterproofing.com

SUNLIGHT

Prolonged exposure to strong sunlight weakens certain tent material which fades and becomes brittle. This is known as degradation and affects all tents, to a degree. However, with normal and careful use there is no reason why the tent materials should not last for many years. If long term pitching in sunlight is unavoidable then find a pitch that will give some shade.

RAIN

Whenever possible avoid contact with tent material by body movement or equipment from inside the tent. This cause water seepage through the material by means of conduction, this is particularly true in the case of cotton tents.

STORAGE

When not in use, tents are best stored loosely folded or opened out. Make sure the tent is dry and store in a dry well aired place. NEVER store damp, otherwise cotton will suffer mildew and weaken whilst nylon will become stained and rot.

STRIKING CAMP

Whenever possible pack up when tent is dry. If not, then at first available opportunity open and peg out the tent to enable it to dry thoroughly especially the seams. Clean off any mud or grass deposits, fold carefully with zips closed and roll towards the doorway to allow any trapped air to escape. Roll the tent to size of the carrying bag. Check site for any items that may have been missed.

MAINTENANCE

Remove dirt and stains by light brushing or gently washing with water. NEVER use detergents. Rinse well and dry thoroughly before storing. Check straps, buckles, seams and stitching.