

# TIPI ULTIMATE SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Hello and thanks for buying one of our Tipis.

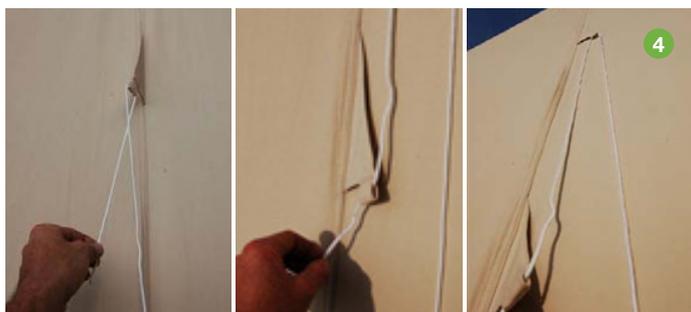
If you look at the bottom of this document you will see a list of tips to help you get years of use out of your tent but the golden rule is:

**ALWAYS, WITHOUT FAIL,  
STORE YOUR BELL TENT BONE DRY  
OR YOU RUN THE RISK OF  
GETTING A MOULDY TENT!**

Enjoy!

## Putting up a Tipi Ultimate

- 1 Find a suitable place to pitch the tent . Choose a flat surface with no stones or sharp objects. Avoid the proximity of trees that produce resin or are in bloom : they may secrete substances that damage the tent . Unpack the tent.
- 2 Now lay the tipi out on the groundsheet with the crown next to the cap. You'll see that the bottom of the cap and the top of the crown have matching Velcro patches. Line them up and stick them together. We recommend that you set it up so that the slit on the cap is facing away from where the door as this will stop the ropes getting in the way when you open and close the Tipi top.
- 3 Time to attach the guy ropes! This should take twenty minutes, but you'll only have to do it once. Once the ropes are in place, you can leave them attached. Connect the guy ropes **WITHOUT** slide adjusters to the loose top of the tent.



- 4 Next job is connecting the remaining adjustable guy ropes to the two points on the side of the tent. On each seam of the tent you will find two loops, one above the other. You will connect the two loops using a single thread. Be sure to use the ropes with slide adjuster. Take the end of the guy rope without adjuster and pull it through the top loop and back down through the lowest loop.

- 5 Take the same end and doubling it over create a loop and tie it off.



- 6 Hurray, that's the stringing over for a bit - time to put your tipi up! If the canvas is not already attached place it on top of the groundsheet make sure it's the right way round and the guy ropes are outside) and line the door up with the doorway on the ground sheet.

- 7 Zip the canvas and the groundsheet together, all the way round (apart from the door: you will have to take the central pole through it).

- 8 Take the small pegs and, pulling the groundsheet tight, peg it out. Use the bigger pegs to peg down the black loops on the bottom of the canvas. Do not tighten the belts yet: if you would, you would not be able to erect the central pole.



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**9** Take the main straight pole through the door, find the center of the cone and push the pole and tent up until the main pole is vertical.

**10** Come out and zip up the door. Go round the tent pulling the adjustable straps round the pegs tight.

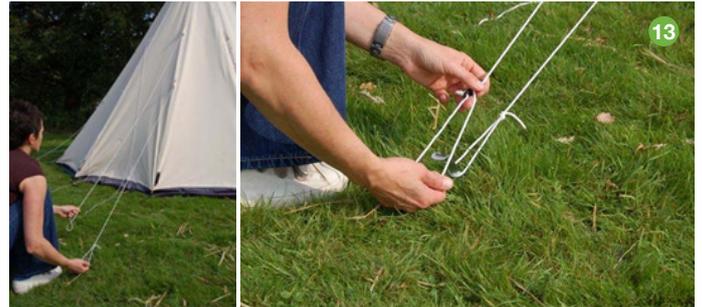
**11** Now it's time for the last of the stringing (again this is a one off as you leave them connected). Take the bottom of the ropes coming from the cap and starting on the side opposite the slit follow the seams down and thread the end through the two eyelets at the bottom and tie off. As you go round you will see there are more ropes than seams, this is correct as you are looking to create an overlap at the slit.



**12** Once you get to the slit leave the last two ropes loose. Using them you can now open and close the flap for ventilation and tie the rope off at the nearest vertical black strap with eyelets.



**13** Now all you have to do is peg in the stabilising guyropes using the last of the larger pegs and use the adjuster to put some tension on them. Don't put so much on that you distort the shape of the tipi and follow the line of the seam when positioning the peg. Put the peg through the loop and it's important to thread the peg through the lower bit of the adjuster otherwise it doesn't work.



## TIP

We've found that the Tipi stands up fine without guyropes pegged out in all but the worst weather. We advise you use them but if in a hurry or at a festival you might consider not using them as they create a spiders web of ropes for pissed revellers to get caught up in during the night....

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## Taking down your Tipi and getting it back in the bag

You might think this is telling you how to suck eggs but if you follow this routine your tent will stay clean, dry and last you for years. It is VITAL that your tent is stored bone dry. If you have to take it down wet get it straight out when you get home and hang it over something to start drying it out. If you wait a day or so you run the risk of mould. Once you get that you're stuck with it as it grows in the material not just on it. Hang it on a washing line, in the garage or over furniture, anywhere where it can start to dry.

## This is how to get your tent back in the bag without hassle

1 Take all the poles and pegs out of the tent whilst keeping the canvas off the grass - this helps keep your tent clean and grass stain free.

Without standing on the canvas, fold half of the tent over so you have a half moon with the groundsheet facing up.

2 Let that half of the groundsheet dry out and you might want to wipe off any mud or worm casks. If it's not a dry day you'll need to dry the tent out when you get home. The idea is that you always have canvas touching canvas and groundsheet touching groundsheet so even if the tent is wet you avoid stains. Once the condensation has dried off you need to flip the half moon over so the other half of the groundsheet can also dry out.

(We find it's a good idea to move the tent off its original spot to avoid putting the condensation back onto the first half)

3 Once the whole tent is dry you now need to fold the half moon over on itself again and again so you end up with a strip the width of the tent bag. The best way to do this is to put the bag at the top of the tent and use it as a template to get the right width.

4 Now fold the strip in half and place the pole bag and peg bag at one end. Roll the whole thing into a tight bundle using the ties to secure the tent as a roll. Last but not least, lift one end and slip the bag over the tent.

Enjoy your Tipi, and remember: please only store it bone dry.

Many thanks, and feel free to call us if you get stuck.



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## Other info

Cotton shrinks when wet, making itself waterproof when it rains.

The first time your tent gets wet it may leak a little, don't worry - THIS IS TOTALLY NORMAL!!

Once it dries out for the first time that shrinkage closes up any little holes to ensure it won't happen again.

The canvas has been impregnated to protect it from dirt, ultraviolet radiation and fungus. This makes it mould resistant but not mould proof.

If the canvas remains damp in a place where mould can grow, eventually mould will grow. If you put your tent up in a damp corner of the garden next to a hedge or under a tree long term it will eventually get mouldy (as would a car or anything left there). Therefore, it's worth considering the right spot that has some ventilation as mould is not covered by the manufacturer's warranty.

Advantages of a cotton canvas tent:

- Strong
- Breathing and humidity regulating

Disadvantages of a cotton canvas tent:

- Dries slowly
- Sensitive for dirt and fungus

## Maintenance

- The cotton must be bone dry before storing the tent.
- Never keep the tent stored away wet for longer than two days otherwise fungus can affect the canvas which will then create permanent little, black dots.
- The canvas has been impregnated with anti-fungi and made waterproof that is effective for up to 4 to 6 months of use. Once you have passed this period of camping you will need to re-proof the fabric in order to keep your tent as new.
- Maintenance starts when setting up your Sibley tent. If a Sibley tent has not been set up correctly uneven forces will pull on the canvas. This could eventually lead to damage. To ensure your tent stays set up correctly daily guy rope maintenance is necessary.
- It is in your interest to keep the canvas as clean as possible and remove stains as soon as they appear. Dust and dried mud is best removed once the canvas is dry by brushing with a clean hard brush like a floor scrubbing brush.

## Lifespan

The lifespan of your tent is very dependent upon camping conditions such as air pollution, ultraviolet radiation, natural dirt (bird droppings, sand, salt water) and domestic dirt (cooking stains, soda, wine, sun cream), as these all limit the lifespan of your cotton canvas tent.

When cared for your tent should be good for 60+ weeks of use.

## Zipper

Zipper sometimes have to endure extreme tension caused by wind, incorrect tent set ups or pressures caused by people or objects leaning into the tent.

In order to limit damage to any zippers:

- close all zippers before setting up your tent
- handle the zippers with care
- protect them by treating them with silicones once in a while
- verify zippers before setting up your tent, as there is no insurance on them after use

## Fungus and stains

Due to insufficient ventilation, fungus can affect the canvas. It is important to store your tent dry so no fungus or other stains can appear. If you have to temporarily store the tent wet be sure to remove the mud and dirt from the bottom of the tent and put your tent back out to dry within 48 hours.

In order to limit fungus and stains on your tent:

- store your tent 100% dry
- (when dealing with fungus) use a soft brush or sponge and a lot of fresh water. Only use specialized tent cleaning product to remove difficult stains as other chemical products can cause the cotton to leak. We suggest you have your tent re-impregnated with water-proofer is any area has been cleaned using a cleaning product.

## Leaking

Cotton can, when new, let some air through and leak around the seams. After the canvas has been wet once this will no longer happen because of the cotton expanding. Very light stains can appear on a wet tent - these stains cause no problems.

In order to preserve your tent's water resistance and prolong its lifespan after a considerable amount of use, the outside of the canvas can be re-treated with a sealant. There are many good spray can sealants on the market, and we also sell re-proofer.