

# SIBLEY® 600 TWIN STANDARD SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Hello, and thanks for buying one of our Sibley 600 Twin Standard tents. Here is the best way to put up your tent. A list of tips can be found at the end of this document 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!

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any more questions, good ideas on better ways of doing something or just to send in pictures for the gallery on the site.

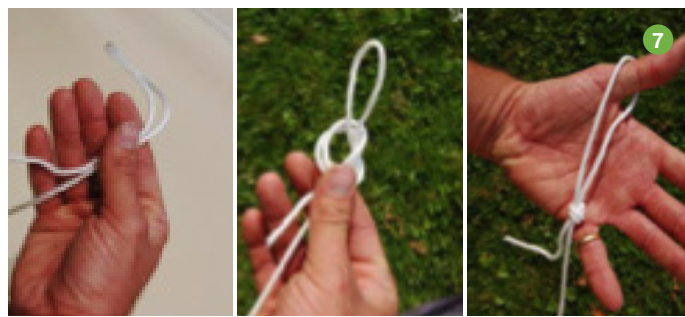
## Putting up a Sibley 600 Twin Standard tent

- 1 Find a good spot to set up your tent.
- 2 Unpack the tent and store small pieces and loose items on the tent bag so you don't lose any in the process.
- 3 Lay out the groundsheet as flat as possible and pin it down with the small pegs to stop it blowing away.
- 4 As this is the first time you've put it up it's a good idea to put the poles together and place them on the groundsheet so you get an idea of how it all goes together before you put the canvas down. There are 3 A frames, 1 for the front door and 1 for each end. The two main poles connect to the cross bar.
- 5 Once you've got that remove the poles and place the canvas on the groundsheet. Find the front door and then find a front corner. Using the middle sized pegs peg the loops on the bottom of walls right next to the corresponding pegs in the groundsheet.



6 Once you have pegged out the whole tent it's time to attach the guy ropes. This takes a bit of time but you only do it once. Firstly you need to sort out the guy ropes into their different sizes. As below you'll see there are three different lengths, the short ones are for the top of the wall, the middle ones are for the tops of the A frames and the long ones are for the top of the tent.

7 Tying the guy ropes on; take the same end and doubling it over create a loop and tie it off. We've shown this below not treaded through the canvas loop on the tent as it's easier to make out but you want to tread it through the tent first so you end up with the canvas loop on the tent being where the thumb is in the right hand image.



8 Now it's time to fit the two central poles and the cross bar. This is the only bit of the build that really needs two people. Saying that we did it with one but it's a bit of a balancing act getting both poles up at the same time while keeping them lined up.



9 Get the A frames and loosen one of the sides next to the top which means both of the sides of the A frame can be put next to each other making it much easier to manoeuvre inside the tent. Unzip the front door and put the first A frame in place inside it. Position the feet of the A frame just off the groundsheet and then push them against the side of the groundsheet. This positions them correctly and helps stop them sliding out of position.

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**10** Leave the tent and zip up the door. Using the large pegs, attach the first guy rope above the door. And then work your way around the tent pegging in the guyropes.

## N.B.

- All the guy ropes need to follow the lines of the seams in the roof.
- Adjust the guy rope slider so you have approx 50cm of loop to the peg - this allows adjustment in both directions.
- It is important to make sure the tent stays symmetrical and that the tension is evenly spread.

**11** Adjust the tension on the guy ropes to make sure the tension is evenly spread.

**12** Finally go inside the tent and tuck the flap/plastic skirt at the bottom of the canvas walls under the ground sheet folding the flap to go round the ground sheet pegs.



## TIP

If the door seems too tight move the two guy ropes either side of the door in towards the middle of the door to relieve some tension.

## Walls up?

If it's a hot day there is nothing better than rolling the walls up and letting the breeze brush over you. Simply unhook the loops at the bottom of the canvas walls from the pegs and roll up (inwards) and tie using the strings provided. It is vital that the walls are rolled back down and attached to the floor if the tent is left unattended for some time (over night etc) With the walls up you have created a massive kite that's just waiting to take off should the wind get up. Don't get caught out and end up with a broken tent.



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

**1** Take all the poles and pegs out of the tent (not the groundsheet) and fold the tent over itself so you have a double rectangle. Keep the tent on the groundsheet and off the ground to keep it clean and dry.

**2** Place the tent bag above the top of the tent so you have a template for how wide you want the tent to end up. Now start folding in from the sides keeping it the right thickness to fit in the bag.

**3** Once you have folded the tent into a strip that is the same width as the bag fold both ends in so you end up all the guy ropes tidied in and a strip of canvas about a meter long. Next take the canvas off the ground sheet. Remember to keep it off grass if the grass is wet).

**4** Now un-peg the groundsheet, turn it over and give it a couple of minutes for the condensation to dry off the bottom. You may want to put a couple of pegs back in to stop it being blow away and it's a good idea to not put it on the same spot as before as you'll get condensation on the new underside.

**5** Once both sides are dry fold the groundsheet in half and in half again so you end up with a strip the same width as the folded tent. Now fold it over on itself until you end up with a square (Sometimes it's not possible to get the groundsheet bone dry in the field, if that's the case roll up the dry tent into it's bag, roughly pack up the wet ground sheet and pop it in something waterproof. Once home dry it out and continue putting the tent away).

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

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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 tent. If a 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.

## Zippers

Zippers 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.