

# **ERECTION INSTRUCTIONS**

## **DAKOTA**

### **BEFORE USE**

**PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ERECTION INSTRUCTIONS. FAILURE TO ERECT THE TENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN DAMAGE TO BOTH FABRIC AND POLE SYSTEMS. SUCH DAMAGE CANNOT BE COVERED BY THE WARRANTY.**

### **WARNING!!**

**DO NOT PUSH TENT PEGS IN BY HAND, ALL TENT PEGS SHOULD BE DRIVEN HOME USING A WOODEN OR RUBBER FACED Mallet OR SIMILAR TOOL.**

TO ENSURE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE WATERPROOFING THE MAIN FLY SHEET SEAMS HAVE BEEN TAPED. SHOULD THE TAPE BE DAMAGED AND PEEL AWAY YOU CAN EFFECT A REPAIR BY USING SEAM SEALER AROUND THE PROBLEM AREA.

WE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT SEAM SEALER IS APPLIED TO UNTAPED SEAMS TO PREVENT LEAKAGE.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU DO NOT ALLOW SEAM SEALER TO CONTAMINATE THE TEETH OF ANY ZIPS AS THIS WILL PREVENT THE ZIP FROM FUNCTIONING CORRECTLY. IF YOU DO USE SEAM SEALER IT IS BEST APPLIED WHEN THE TENT IS DRY. PICK A DRY WARM DAY TO CARRY OUT ANY SEALING AND PLEASE ALLOW 48 HOURS FOR THE SEALANT TO CURE PRIOR TO RE-PACKAGING THE TENT.

FAILURE TO ALLOW THE SEALANT TO DRY FULLY PRIOR TO PACKING THE TENT UP WILL STICK THE FABRIC TOGETHER POSSIBLY CAUSING IRREPARABLE DAMAGE.

### **DURING USE**

TENTS CONTAINING A HIGH PROPORTION OF SYNTHETIC MATERIALS ARE SOMETIMES AFFECTED BY CONDENSATION, THIS SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH LEAKAGE AND CAN USUALLY BE CURED BY ENSURING THAT ADEQUATE VENTILATION IS AVAILABLE BY LEAVING DOORWAYS SLIGHTLY UNZIPPED WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

DO NOT PITCH UNDER TREES, MAKE USE OF NATURAL WIND BREAKS LIKE HEDGES OR WALLS, FACE THE TENT DOOR AWAY FROM THE PREVAILING WIND. USE TWO HANDS WHEN OPENING AND CLOSING ZIPS, THIS WILL HELP PREVENT PREMATURE ZIP FAILURE.

READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FIRE PRECAUTIONS INFORMATION ATTACHED TO THE INSIDE OF THE TENT.

### **CARE OF YOUR TENT *WARNING!!***

TENT FABRICS CAN BE WEAKENED BY PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO SUNLIGHT, UNDER NORMAL HOLIDAY USE YOUR TENT WILL GIVE YOU LONG SERVICE BUT ERECTION FOR EXTENDED PERIODS IN STRONG SUNLIGHT WILL CAUSE DETERIORATION.

IF YOU ARE LIKELY TO USE YOUR TENT FOR PROLONGED PERIODS IT WOULD BE WISE TO USE A SITE WHICH IS A SHADED AS POSSIBLE.

TENTS ARE BEST STORED OPENED OUT, IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE AIR FULLY AND ENSURE IT IS TOTALLY DRY BEFORE PACKING IT AWAY AT THE END OF YOUR HOLIDAY.

STORE YOUR TENT IN A WELL VENTILATED DRY PLACE. LOOK AFTER YOUR TENT AND IT WILL LOOK AFTER YOU.

HAVE ANY DAMAGE TO YOUR TENT REPAIRED AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY.

FAILURES IN FIBERGLASS POLES NORMALLY OCCUR THROUGH INCORRECT USE, MAKE SURE THE POLE SECTIONS ARE FULLY INSERTED INTO THEIR ADJOINING FERULES AND DO NOT OVER STRESS THE POLE BEYOND IT'S DESIGNED CURVE. ZIPS SHOULD BE TREATED WITH CARE TO PREVENT PREMATURE FAILURE AND THE TENT SHOULD BE KEPT CLEAN AND DRY AFTER USE.

## **INSURANCE**

WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOUR TENT BE INSURED AGAINST THEFT AND STORM OR ACCIDENTAL DAMAGE. STORM OR ACCIDENTAL DAMAGE IS NOT COVERED BY THE WARRANTY.

CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT BEFORE GOING AWAY WITH YOUR TENT. ENSURE THAT YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE PITCHING OF THE TENT AND THAT ALL PARTS ARE PRESENT.

YOU SHOULD FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE TENT, INCLUDING ANY LIMITATIONS THAT IT MAY HAVE FOR YOUR PARTICULAR USE.

DOMES ARE PORTABLE STRUCTURES WHICH UNDER MOST CIRCUMSTANCES WILL PROVIDE COMFORTABLE SHELTER AGAINST THE ELEMENTS. THERE ARE HOWEVER EXTREMES OF WEATHER FOR WHICH ALLOWANCES SHOULD BE MADE.

**DO NOT BLAME THE TENT !**

## **ERECTING YOUR TENT**

**PLEASE NOTE THE DAKOTA IS AN EXTREMELY LARGE FAMILY TENT AND WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND IT IS ERECTED BY A MINIMUM OF TWO ADULTS.**

1: REMOVE THE CONTENTS OF THE CARRY BAG AND IDENTIFY ALL THE COMPONENT PARTS.

- INNER TENTS
- FLYSHEET
- POLE BAG AND CONTENTS
- PEG BAG AND CONTENTS

2: SELECT A SITE THAT IS CLEAR OF ANY SHARP OBJECTS, STICKS AND STONES E.T.C

3: IN THE POLE BAG, THERE SHOULD BE A COMBINATION OF SHOCKCORDED FIBERGLASS POLES, ALUMINIUM POLES AND STEEL CANOPY POLES.

ASSEMBLE ALL THE POLES AND LAY OUT ON THE GROUND WHERE THEY ARE EASILY ACCESSIBLE.

ALL POLES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CANOPY POLES WILL BE MARKED WITH A COLOURED STICKER, THIS WILL CORRESPOND TO A COLOURED TRIM ON THE EDGE OF THE SLEEVE THAT THE POLE IS INTENDED TO FIT THROUGH.

4: UNFOLD THE FLYSHEET AND SPREAD OUT ON THE FLOOR SO YOU ARE ABLE TO SEE ALL THE SLEEVE SECTIONS OF THE ROOF.

CHECK THE COLOUR OF THE POLE SLEEVE TRIM ON THE SLEEVES THAT CROSS THE CENTRAL MAIN DOME .

TAKING ONE OF THE THREE RELEVANT MAIN DOME POLES THREAD THE POLE THROUGH THE SLEEVE SECTIONS IN A DIAGONAL FASHION SO THERE IS AN EQUAL LENGTH OF POLE PROTRUDING FROM EITHER SIDE OF THE SLEEVE ENDS.

ONCE THE CENTRAL MAIN DOME POLES ARE THREADED INTO PLACE CHOOSE ONE END OF ONE OF THE THREE MAIN CENTRAL DOME POLES AND ENGAGE THE END FERRULE INTO THE POLE RETAINING FIXTURE. THIS WILL BE LOCATED AT THE BASE OF THE FLYSHEET, NEAR TO THE SEAM RUNNING DOWN FROM THE SLEEVE, IN WHICH

THE POLE IS LOCATED. EACH POLE RETAINING FIXTURE WILL HAVE A METAL RING WITH ONE OR MORE RETAINING PINS ATTACHED TO IT (DEPENDANT UPON MODEL) THE RETAINING PIN IS DESIGNED TO SLIDE UP INSIDE THE POLE ENDS THUS SECURING THE POLE INTO PLACE.

FROM THE OPPOSITE END OF THE SAME POLE CAREFULLY PUSH THE REMAINING POLE THROUGH THE SLEEVES SO IT ASSUMES A SEMI-CIRCULAR SHAPE. WHEN THE END FERRULE IS LEVEL TO THE POLE RETAINING FIXTURE ON THIS SIDE, ENGAGE IT INTO PLACE AS BEFORE. PLEASE NOTE ON SOME MODELS THERE MAY BE AN ADJUSTABLE WEBBING LOOP CONNECTING THE RING TO THE BASE OF THE FLYSHEET. THIS LOOP SHOULD BE OPENED UP TO ITS FULL LENGTH WHILE ENGAGING THE PIN ON THE RING INTO THE POLE END. ONCE THE PIN IS INSERTED THE WEBBING LOOP CAN BE TIGHTENED SO THE POLE IS FIRMLY LOCKED INTO THE POLE END.

AT THIS POINT YOU MAY FIND IT EASIER FOR THE SECOND PERSON PRESENT TO GO INSIDE THE TENT AND PUSH UP FROM THE CENTRE HOLDING THE TENT UP AND THEREFORE MAKING IT MUCH EASIER AND QUICKER TO LOCATE THE POLE ENDS ONTO THE PIN SECTIONS.

REPEAT THIS WITH THE REMAINING CENTRAL DOME POLES.

*ENSURE CARE IS TAKEN DURING THIS PROCEDURE, NOT TO ALLOW THE ENDS OF THE SHOCKCORDED POLES TO DAMAGE SLEEVES OR FLYSHEET MATERIAL.*

RUNNING DOWN THE SEAM, FROM THE SLEEVE, ON EACH SIDE OF THE TENT YOU WILL NOTICE THREE FLYSHEET TO MAIN POLE WEBBING CLIPS. ALL THESE, SHOULD SIMPLY BE CLIPPED TO THE MAIN SHOCKCORDED POLES ALLOWING THE FLYSHEET TO TAKE FULL SHAPE. *PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE ARE NOT INTENDED AS GUY POINT FIXINGS*

IF IT IS WINDY YOU MAY FIND IT HELPFUL TO TEMPORALLY PEG OUT THE CENTRAL DOME WITH THE GUYS PROVIDED, PLEASE REMEMBER THOUGH THESE MAY NEED TO BE ADJUSTED OR RE PEGGED LATER.

5: NOW LOCATE THE FIVE SETS OF BEDROOM POLES FOR EACH OF THE BEDROOM SECTIONS OF THE TENT, AGAIN, THESE CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY CHECKING THE POLE SLEEVE END TRIM ON THE LOWER BASE POLE SLEEVES ON THE BEDROOM SECTIONS.

STARTING WITH THE POLE SLEEVE SECTIONS NEAREST TO THE MAIN DOME THREAD THE RELEVANT POLE THROUGH THE SLEEVE SECTIONS FROM ONE SIDE OF THE FLYSHEET TO THE OTHER, SO THERE IS AN EQUAL LENGTH OF POLE PROTRUDING FROM EITHER SIDE OF THE SLEEVE ENDS. LOCATE THIS POLE INTO PLACE AS PREVIOUSLY INSTRUCTED AND THEN REPEAT FOR THE REMAINING BEDROOM POLE ON THIS SIDE OF THE TENT.

RUNNING DOWN THE SEAM, FROM THE SLEEVE, ON EACH SIDE OF THE BEDROOM SECTION YOU WILL NOTICE THREE FLYSHEET TO MAIN POLE WEBBING CLIPS. ALL THESE, SHOULD SIMPLY BE CLIPPED TO THE BEDROOM SHOCKCORDED POLES ALLOWING THE FLYSHEET TO TAKE FULL SHAPE. *PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE ARE NOT INTENDED AS GUY POINT FIXINGS*

REPEAT POINT 5 FOR THE REMAINING FOUR BEDROOM SECTIONS.

6: LOCATE ONE OF THE FIBERGLASS ROOF PORCH POLES WITH METAL ANGLED SECTIONS ON EACH END.

CHECK AND MATCH THE COLOUR CODING ON THE POLE AND SLEEVE TRIM, THEN THREAD THE POLE THROUGH THE RELEVANT SLEEVE SECTIONS FOUND ON THE ROOF OF THE EXTENDED PORCH OF YOUR TENT. REPEAT THIS FOR THE REMAINING FIBERGLASS ROOF PORCH POLE WITH METAL ANGLED SECTIONS ON EACH END. THE METAL ANGLED BRACKETS SHOULD BE CLEAR OF THE SLEEVES AT BOTH ENDS.

TAKE ONE OF THE ASSEMBLED METAL PORCH UPRIGHTS AND ENGAGE THE FERRELLED END INTO THE OPEN END OF THE METAL ANGLE BRACKET ON THE PORCH ROOF POLE ON THAT SIDE. THE BASE OF THE UPRIGHT POLE THEN ENGAGES ONTO THE RING AND PIN FIXTURE AT THE BASE OF THE FLYSHEET. REPEAT THIS FOR THE REMAINING METAL PORCH POLE UPRIGHTS.

WHEN ENGAGING THE METAL PORCH POLE ENDS ONTO THE PINS PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE FABRIC OF THE SLEEVE DOES NOT GET TRAPPED ON ANY OF THE FIBREGLASS PORCH POLE CONNECTIONS OR METAL ANGLE BRACKETS AS THIS MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE FABRIC OR SEAMS. PLEASE ALSO NOTE ON SOME MODELS IN THIS POSITION THERE MAY BE AN ADJUSTABLE WEBBING LOOP CONNECTING THE RING TO THE BASE OF THE FLYSHEET. THIS LOOP SHOULD BE OPENED UP TO ITS FULL LENGTH WHILE ENGAGING THE PIN ON THE RING INTO THE POLE END. ONCE THE PIN IS INSERTED THE WEBBING LOOP CAN BE TIGHTENED SO THE POLE IS FIRMLY LOCKED INTO THE POLE END.

7: THE FLYSHEET SHOULD NOW BE READY FOR PEGGING. POSITION THE FLYSHEET ON THE GROUND SO THAT THE MAIN DOORWAYS ARE FACING AWAY FROM THE PREVAILING WIND.

CLOSE ALL ZIPS ON THE FLYSHEET AND USING THE PEGS PROVIDED PEG ALL THE FLYSHEET PEGGING POINTS TO THE GROUND.

ENSURE THAT THE OVERALL LAY OF THE FLYSHEET IS SMOOTH WHEN PEGGED. THE FLYSHEET SHOULD BE TAUGHT, BUT NOT OVER-TENSIONED, AS THIS WILL ONLY DISTORT THE FIBERGLASS / METAL POLES AND SUBSEQUENTLY AFFECT STABILITY. YOU MAY FIND IT NECESSARY TO ADJUST THE POSITION OF THE FIVE BEDROOMS AND PORCH SECTION IN ORDER TO GET THE OVERALL LAY OF THE FLYSHEET FABRIC SMOOTH AND FREE FROM WRINKLES OR FOLDS.

IF YOU HAVE TEMPORALLY PEGGED THE MAIN DOME PEGGING POINTS OR GUYS, CHECK AND REPOSITION THESE SO THAT THE MAIN DOME SITS STRAIGHT AND IS WELL BALANCED. PLEASE ALSO BE CAREFULL NOT TO OVER TENSION GUY ROPES AS THIS WILL SIMPLY DISTORT THE SHAPE OF THE DOME LEADING TO INSTABILITY.

ONCE YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH THE OVERALL LAY OF THE FLYSHEET YOU CAN THEN AND ONLY THEN PEG THE REMAINING PEGGING LOOPS INTO POSITION.

ATTACH ALL THE GUY ROPES TO ALL THE GUYING POINTS AND PEG SECURELY, AT A SUITABLE DISTANCE FROM THE TENT. TRY NOT TO PEG TOO CLOSE TO THE TENT AS THIS WILL NOT GIVE ADEQUATE SUPPORT AND MAY CAUSE THE FABRIC UNDER THE GUY POINT ITSELF TO BECOME BAGGY OR LOOSE THUS ALLOWING INNER AND OUTER TO TOUCH.

*THE PEGS PROVIDED WITH THIS TENT ARE STANDARD PEGS, SUITABLE FOR MOST TERRAIN'S. HOWEVER THERE WILL BE OCCASIONS WHEN THE GROUND MAY BE FAR TOO HARD OR ROCKY AND EQUALLY TOO BOGGY OR SANDY. IN THIS INSTANCE SPECIALIST PEGS CAN BE PURCHASED THROUGH YOUR LOCAL RETAILER AND **SHOULD** BE USED*

8: UNFOLD THE GROUNDSHEET OF THE TENT AND CLIP INTO POSITION. THE GROUNDSHEET WILL HAVE LOOPS AND HOOKS ON THE BASE AND SIMPLY CLIPS INTO POSITION.

UNFOLD ONE OF THE FIVE INNER TENTS. PLEASE NOTE ONE OF THE FIVE INNER TENTS WILL HAVE A REAR DOOR AS WELL, WHICH LOCATES WITH THE REAR DOOR IN THE FLYSHEET OF THE CENTRAL BEDROOM AREA. TWO OF THE FIVE INNER TENTS WILL HAVE ZIPPED WINDOW SECTIONS THESE LOCATE WITH THE PVC WINDOW SECTIONS IN THE BEDROOMS EITHER SIDE OF THE FRONT PORCH. PLEASE CHECK YOU HAVE THE CORRECT INNER TENT WHEN FITTING THE INNER INTO THE CENTRAL BEDROOM AREA OR BEDROOMS EITHER SIDE OF THE FRONT PORCH.

ONCE YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED THE CORRECT INNERS TAKE ONE INNER AND PLACE IT INSIDE THE CHOSEN FLYSHEET BEDROOM AREA WITH THE MAIN DOOR FACING TOWARDS THE INSIDE OF THE TENT AND ON TOP OF THE GROUNDSHEET YOU HAVE ALREADY CLIPPED IN. THE INNER TENT WILL HAVE LOOPS AND HOOKS ON THE BASE AND SIMPLY CLIPS INTO POSITION.

AN ELASTIC TOGGLE AND RING SYSTEM SUSPEND THE INNER TENT FROM THE INSIDE OF THE FLYSHEET. THE ELASTIC LOOPS AND TOGGLES ARE FOUND ON THE INNER TENT WHILE THE SUSPENSION LOOPS AND RINGS ARE FOUND ON THE FLYSHEET.

THE ELASTIC LOOPS AND TOGGLES SHOULD BE SIMPLY FED THROUGH THE CORRESPONDING LOOPS AND RINGS ON THE FLYSHEET. OPEN THE DOOR OF THE INNER TENT KNEEL OR CAREFULLY STAND ON THE GROUNDSHEET STARTING AT THE BACK CONNECT ALL THE LOOPS AND RINGS ON THE REAR POLE SECTION WORK FORWARD UNTIL THE INNER IS COMPLETELY SUSPENDED.

REPEAT THIS FOR EACH REMAINING INNER TENT.

PLEASE NOTE THE TOTAL WEIGHT LOADING OF ALL POCKETS ON THE FRONT OF THE INNER TENT SHOULD NOT EXCEED 3 KGS.

YOUR TENT IS NOW READY FOR USE, ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY.

A SET OF UPRIGHT CANOPY POLES ARE PROVIDED WHICH ALLOW EITHER THE FRONT OR BACK DOORS TO BE ERECTED AS A SUN CANOPY IF SO DESIRED.

*AS WEATHER CONDITIONS CAN CHANGE BOTH DRAMATICALLY AND QUICKLY WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU PITCH YOUR TENT READY TO ACCEPT ANY INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS. THE FRONT AND OR SIDE DOOR CANOPIES SHOULD NOT BE LEFT UP OVERNIGHT OR WHILST THE TENT IS UNATTENDED. GUY LINES ARE ATTACHED TO YOUR TENT AND SHOULD BE USED AT ALL TIMES.*

### **TAKING YOUR TENT DOWN**

STRIKING CAMP IS BASICALLY A COMPLETE REVERSAL OF THE ERECTION PROCEDURE.

CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN RELEASING SHOCKCORDED POLES FROM THEIR MOUNTINGS AS THE TENSION IN THE POLE CAN CAUSE DAMAGE OR INJURY IF THE POLE IS NOT DISMANTLED IN A CONTROLLED MANNER.

IT IS ALWAYS EASIER TO PUSH SHOCKCORDED POLES THROUGH AND OUT OF THE SLEEVES RATHER THAN TO TRY AND PULL THEM THROUGH. AGAIN TAKE CARE NOT TO DAMAGE THE SLEEVES WITH THE POLE ENDS OR FERRULES WHILST REMOVING THEM FROM THE FLYSHEET.

IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO STRIKE CAMP WHEN YOUR TENT IS COMPLETELY DRY, HOWEVER THIS IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE.

SHOULD YOU HAVE TO TAKE YOUR TENT DOWN WET, THEN IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT IT IS DRIED OUT COMPLETELY WITHIN 24 HOURS. ***A WET TENT WILL GO MOULDY CAUSING IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO COTTON COMPONENTS.***

### **FOLDING YOUR TENT**

1: IN ORDER TO MAKE A NEAT AND TIDY PACKAGE, THAT WILL FIT EASILY INTO THE OUTER BAG, ALWAYS HAVE THE OUTER BAG CLOSE AT HAND WHILST YOU ARE FOLDING THE TENT UP.

2: IT IS BETTER TO FOLD THE FLYSHEET UP FIRST, INTO A LONG RECTANGLE. MAKE THE RECTANGLE APPROXIMATELY 10 CMS SHORTER IN WIDTH THAN THE OUTER BAG.

3: AFTER BRUSHING OR WIPING THE INNER TENT GROUND SHEET TO ENSURE IT IS CLEAN AND DRY, PLACE THE FLY SHEET ON TOP OF THE INNER TENT.

4: FOLD THE EDGES OF THE GROUND SHEET IN SO TO COVER THE FLY SHEET IN THE MIDDLE, MAKE SURE THAT THE OVERALL PACKAGE IS AGAIN ABOUT 10 CMS SHORTER IN WIDTH THAN THE OUTER BAG.

5: ROLL THE PACKAGE UP, ROLLING TOWARDS THE DOOR END OF THE INNER TENT IN ORDER TO ALLOW TRAPPED AIR TO ESCAPE.  
WHEN YOU HAVE ROLLED THE PACKAGE UP SECURE IT WITH THE ORIGINAL TIE TAPES SUPPLIED.