

SIBLEY® 300 STANDARD SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

Hello and thanks for buying one of our Sibley 300 Standard tents. Here is the best way to put up your tent. The basics are the same as putting up any Sibley tent, it's just slightly different when it comes to fitting the main pole as the 300 range has a three pole system which means you don't have a center pole in the middle stopping you to use a double bed. 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 Sibley 300 Standard tent

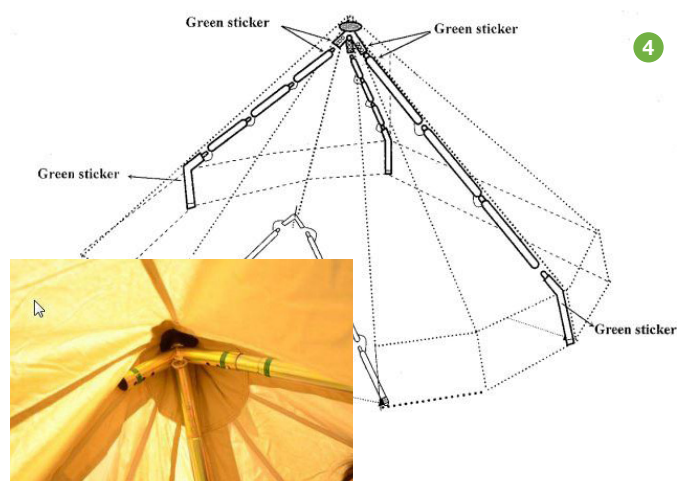
1 Unpack the tent and lay the groundsheet on the ground. Find the door and rotate the tent so it's facing the desired direction. The door side of the groundsheet is the longest side.

2 Take the small pegs and pulling the groundsheet tight peg it out all the way round. Then put the canvas on top of the groundsheet and match the door up. Taking the next size peg up go round pegging the bottom of the canvas right next to the corresponding groundsheet peg.

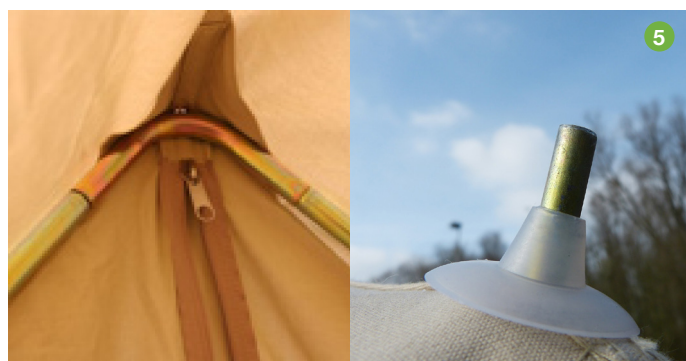
3 When putting up your tent for the first time, you'll have to attach the guy ropes;



4 Now you are going to create the structure below but inside the Sibley 300 tent. Looking at the crown of the tent you'll notice two of the legs have tape on. Match these with the legs with tape and the leg without the tape goes at the back of the tent opposite the door.



5 Next assemble the A-frame but leave one of the top sections unclipped as this will make it much easier to get it through the door and into the tent. Once inside open the A frame fully and put the metal spike, which is on the top of the frame, through the matching hole in the canvas above the door and tie it into place using the cord attached. Now edge the A frame forward until the legs are just off the ground sheet and then push them slightly back against the edge to stop them slipping.



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6 Zip the door shut and fit the plastic rain cap to the A frame spike. Using the large pegs attach the first guy rope above the door. Then do the guy ropes around the whole tent without putting any of them under too much tension as you don't want the tent leaning.



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.



7 Once all the pegs are in then go round adjusting the guy ropes to create the desired tension. By doing it this way and following the seam lines your Sibley tent will look like this: perfect and without creases.

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.

8 Now go back inside and make sure the three legs of the center frame and matched up with the seams and secure them in place using the ties.

9 Finally, from the inside of the tent you can go around taking one ground-sheet peg out at a time, pulling the wall flap underneath to match the holes up and re-peg for a good seal.



There you go. Job done!

Walls up?

If it's a hot day there is nothing better than rolling the walls up and letting the breeze brush over you. You can roll up the whole tent or just a section.

Simply unzip the section you want to pull up, roll the wall up from the inside and tie using the strings provided.



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How to pack up a Sibley tent and get it back into its bag!

Here are some tips on packing up your tent after use.

As stated all over the set up instructions, it is VITAL that your tent is stored bone dry otherwise it will get attacked by mould. Its fine taking it down damp, however you MUST ensure you hang it up to dry within 24 hours.

You don't have to set the tent up again, just hang it on a washing line, over a car or over some chairs. Basically, it just needs some air.

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.

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 tent, 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 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.