



BETTER TENT.
BETTER ADVENTURE.

Bell Tent

Assembly Instructions

For bell tent models including:

- Ultimate 4M (13 FT), 5M (16 FT), & 6M (20 FT)
- Pro 5M (16 FT)
- Stargazer Pro 5M (16 FT)
- The Overland Sunforger 5M (16 FT)



Tent features vary per model.

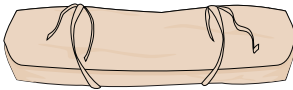
IMPORTANT:

Before starting, lay out all components and confirm quantities match the parts list below. If anything is missing or damaged, contact Stout Tent before proceeding.

See Safety Warnings and Care and Maintenance at the end of this guide.

In the Box

A Canvas Tent Body (x1)



B Folded Center Pole (x1)



C Tri-fold A-Frame Pole (x1)



D Rain Cap (x1)



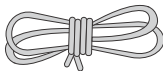
E Metal Stakes (x12)



F Large Rebar Stakes (x12)



G Reflective Guy Ropes (x12)



H Metal Sliders (x12) *(Come pre-threaded on guy ropes)*



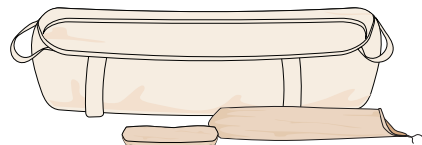
Tools (NOT INCLUDED):

Hammer or
Stake Mallet



I Carrying and storage bags

A reusable tent bag, pole bag, and stake bag are included.



(bag types/designs vary with tent models)

Video



Scan QR code
for a Step-by-Step
video.

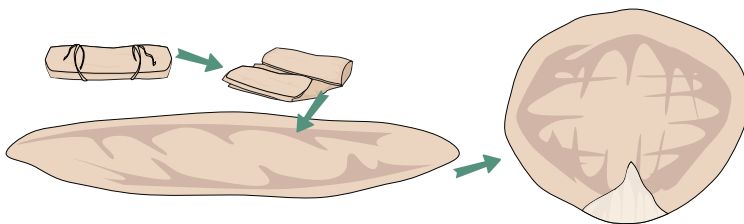
NOTE: The setup video follows a slightly different order of steps. Either method will result in a properly assembled tent.

1. Clear the ground

Fill any holes and remove rocks and other debris from the area where you plan to set up your tent.

2. Unfold & position the tent

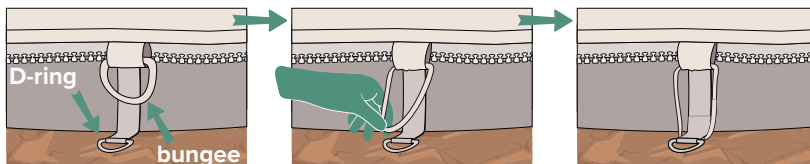
Remove the canvas tent from the bag, and unfold it completely. Stretch it out in your desired location. **DON'T FORGET** to arrange the tent entrance so that it is facing in the direction in which you prefer.



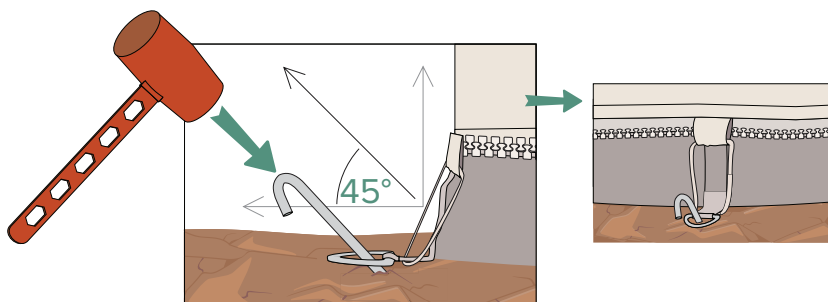
3. Stake the groundsheet

The order in which you stake down each D-ring is important. Refer to the diagram on page 3 for an example of an acceptable staking order.

a For each D-ring you stake down, you will want to start by pulling the bungee down under the D-ring first.



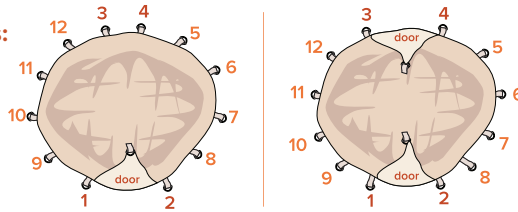
b Use the smaller metal stakes (E) to stake down the groundsheet. Hammer them, with a stake mallet or hammer (*not included*) into the ground at a 45° angle with the top angled away from the tent as shown below.



c

Start with the D-rings on either side of the door. Once the front is staked, move to the rear of the tent and locate the center D-ring (or two center D-rings, depending on your model). Pull the canvas taut and stake it down. The canvas should form a V-shape, confirming you're centered. From there, continue working your way around the tent until all D-rings are staked.

Staking order examples:



4.

Install the center pole

Snap the center pole together, take it inside the tent and raise the tent.

a

Remove the folded center pole (B) from the storage bag and connect each of the center pole pieces together.

Note: The section with the loop (lantern hook) connected to it is the section that goes **up**.



b

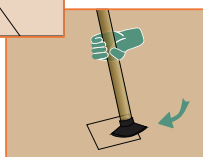
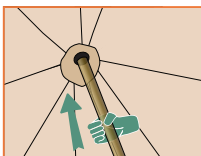
Unzip the door and take the assembled center pole **inside** with you.



c

Inside the tent, locate the center of the tent on the underside of the roof. With the pole oriented right side up, place the top end of the pole up against the center of the roof and push up to raise the tent. Next, locate the center of the groundsheet and swing the bottom of the pole into place by moving it onto the center marking on the tent floor.

(center of tent roof)



(center of tent floor)



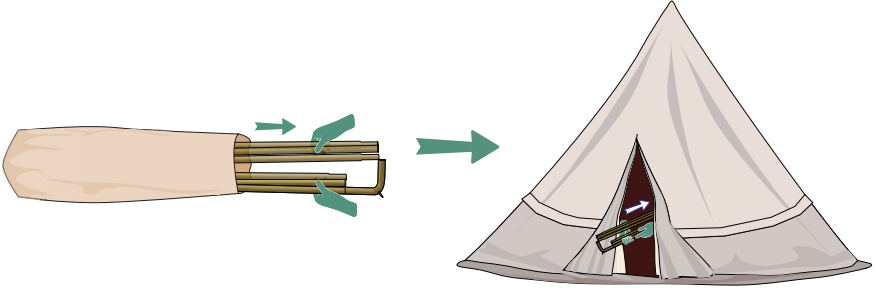
5.

Install the door support frame

Take the pole inside the tent, snap the pieces together and install it in the tent.

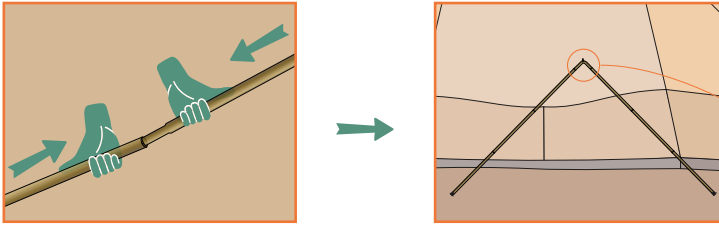
a

Remove the folded a-frame pole (C) from the storage bag and take it inside the tent with you.



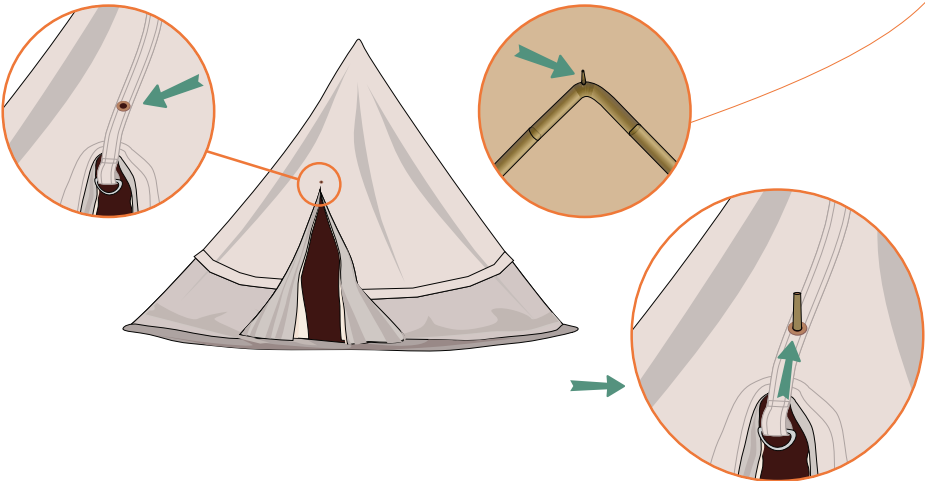
b

Assemble the a-frame **inside** the tent. When you get all the pieces together it will resemble an "A" as shown below.



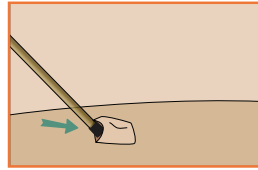
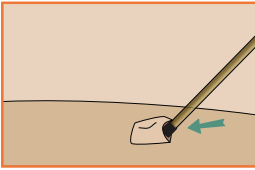
c

Find the grommet (*metal ring*) located above the door. While still inside the tent, carefully insert the a-frame metal spike through the grommet.



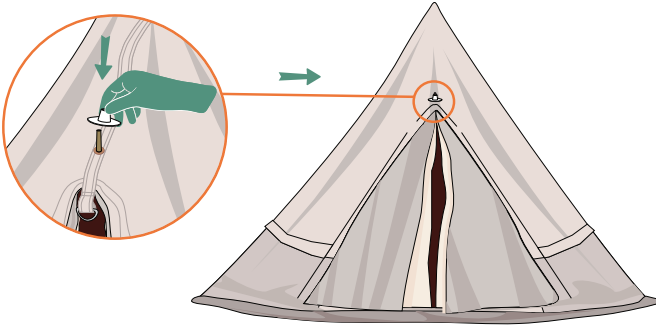
e

Slide each of the feet of the a-frame into the pockets located on the ground-sheet on either side of the door.



f

Exit the tent and locate the rain cap (D). Place the rain cap on the metal spike outside the tent.



6.

Stake the tent

Start with the a-frame D-ring(s) before moving onto either side of the door(s). Finish with the remaining ropes around the rest of the tent.

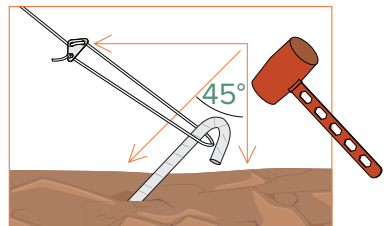
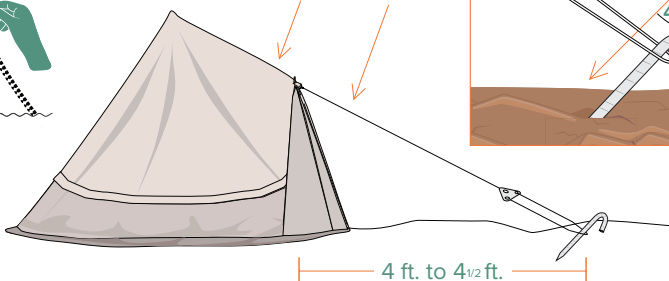
First time setting up your tent? You will only need to tie the guy ropes to the tent the first time. Once tied they can be rolled up and stored tied with the tent. (See page 6 for bowline knot instructions.)

a

From outside the tent, zip the door(s) closed. Take the rope that is attached above the door and go out 4 ft. to 4½ ft. Hammer a large stake (F) into the ground at a 45° angle with the top leaning away from the tent as shown below.



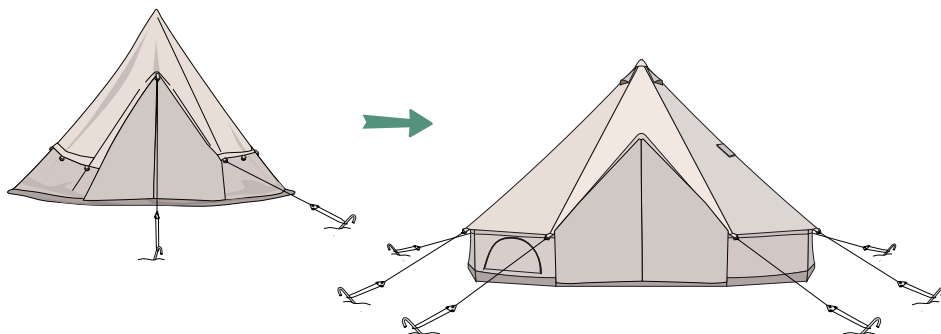
(The ropes should follow the same angle as the tent)



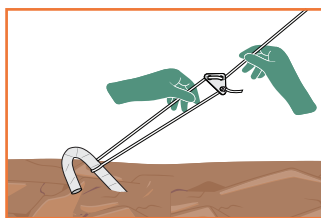
IMPORTANT: Do not skip this step. If the top of the tent is not secured with a guy rope, the a-frame could fall over and rip the tent.

b

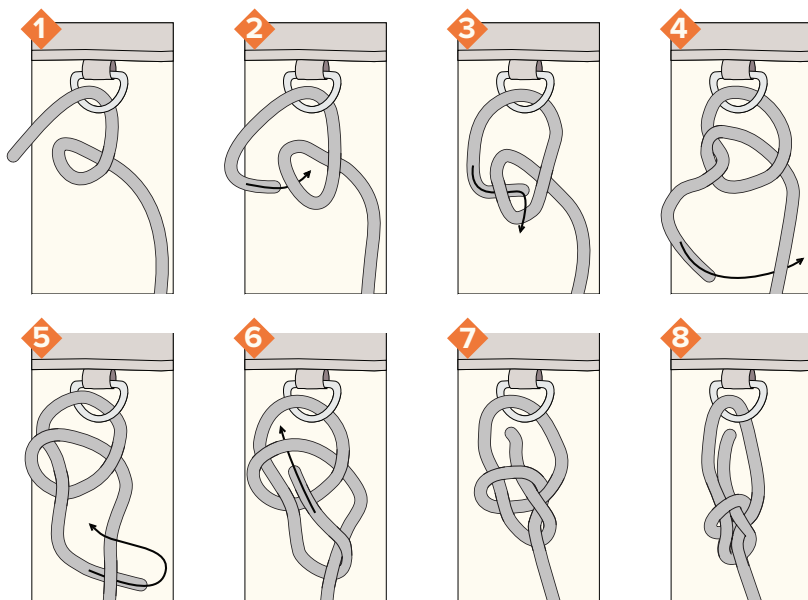
Next move on to staking down either side of the door(s). After that is secure you can continue to work your way around the entire tent adding stakes for all the remaining d-rings.

**c**

Finish by tightening all the guylines using the sliders.



Bowline Knot

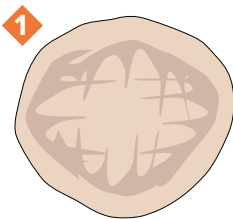


Taking Down Your Tent

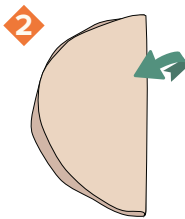
Taking down your tent:

1. Pull all of the outer rebar stakes out and put in stake bag.
2. Pull out the A frame pole and center pole and put both in the pole bag.
3. Pull smaller inner stakes and put in stake bag.
4. Throw the ropes on top of the tent.
5. Fold tent in half on the door - window to window, d-ring to d-ring.
6. Move the tent from the spot it was set up in and then sweep the back side of the tent.
7. Once it is dry, flip it over and then sweep the other side.
8. Fold the curved top of the tent over to make a rectangle about the width of a pole bag.
9. Place the pole and the stake bags on opposite side of the door and roll towards the door.
10. Roll tight using your arms and legs and place the tent in the proper bag.

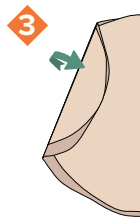
How to Fold Your Tent



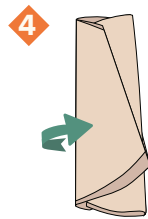
Lay out flat



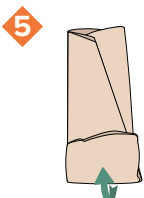
Fold in half



Partial fold



Fold in half again



Fold one of the ends up a 1/4 of the way.



Take the other end and fold it over a 1/4 of the way.



Bag the stakes & place on one of the ends.
(as shown above)



Roll everything up.



Put back in the carry bag.

Safety Warnings

Site Selection: Set up your tent on level ground away from potential hazards such as dead trees, overhanging branches, steep slopes, and low-lying areas prone to flooding. Check for underground utilities before driving stakes.

Weather Awareness: Do not attempt to assemble or disassemble the tent during high winds, thunderstorms, or lightning. If severe weather approaches while the tent is in use, secure all guylines, close windows and doors, and consider seeking more substantial shelter if conditions escalate.

Staking and Guylines: Always secure all stakes and guylines before occupying the tent. Loose guylines and exposed stakes create tripping hazards — use the reflective guylines provided and position stakes at an angle away from foot traffic areas. In high winds, proper staking is essential to prevent the tent from lifting or collapsing.

Fire Safety: Canvas fire resistance varies by model — refer to your product specifications before using any open flame, heater, or stove near or inside the tent. Keep all heat sources at a safe distance from the tent walls and roof. Never leave heating equipment unattended.

Ventilation: Always maintain adequate airflow when occupying the tent, especially when using any fuel-burning heat source. Carbon monoxide is odorless and deadly — open windows or doors to ensure fresh air circulation. Never use gas-powered generators, grills, or charcoal inside or directly adjacent to the tent.

Pole and Frame Assembly: Assembly is easiest with two people. Use caution when raising the center pole, as the tent canvas can shift unexpectedly during setup. Ensure the a-frame door support is fully assembled and secured before occupying the tent.

Occupancy and Load Limits: Do not hang heavy objects from the center pole or canvas. Do not allow children to climb on the pole or a-frame. Avoid placing excessive weight on the roof from snow accumulation — brush off heavy snow buildup to prevent

Care and Maintenance

Cleaning the Canvas: Your canvas can be cleaned with a garden hose or power washer on a low setting. For spot cleaning, use a soft brush with mild soap and water. Avoid harsh detergents, bleach, or solvents as these can degrade the waterproofing and mold-resistant treatments. Allow the canvas to dry completely before storing.

Drying Before Storage: Never store the canvas while damp or wet. Even with mold and mildew-resistant treatment, prolonged moisture exposure during storage can lead to odor, staining, or degradation. If you must pack up in wet conditions, unpack and dry the canvas thoroughly as soon as possible — ideally within 24 to 48 hours.

Pole and Frame Care: Wipe down the center pole and a-frame components with a dry cloth after each use to remove dirt and moisture. Store all poles in a dry location to maximize their lifespan.

Inspecting Before Each Use: Before setup, check the canvas for tears, worn seams, or damaged grommets. Inspect guylines for fraying and stakes for bending. Verify that all pole connections are secure before raising the tent.

Reproofing: Over time and with heavy use, the water-repellent treatment may diminish. If you notice water soaking into the canvas rather than beading on the surface, apply a canvas waterproofing treatment appropriate for your canvas type. Refer to your product specifications to confirm the correct treatment. Follow the product instructions and allow adequate drying time.

Storage: Store the canvas loosely rolled or folded in a breathable bag or container — avoid airtight plastic bins that can trap residual moisture. Keep in a cool, dry location away from direct sunlight, rodents, and chemicals. Close all zippers before storing. Apply zipper lubricant periodically to keep them operating smoothly.

Troubleshooting Tips

Water is leaking through the canvas: First, check whether the leak is at a seam or grommet — these areas are most vulnerable and may need seam sealer applied. If water is penetrating the fabric itself, the waterproof treatment may need refreshing (see Reproofing above). Also ensure guylines are tensioned properly, as sagging canvas can allow water to pool rather than shed.

The center pole feels unstable: Verify that all pole sections are fully connected and that the pole is seated properly at the center of the roof and floor. Check that the tent is staked securely at all D-rings. Uneven ground can also cause instability — reposition to a flatter area if possible.

Canvas is sagging: Adjust guyline tension using the metal sliders to pull the roof and walls taut. Ensure the center pole is fully extended and all D-rings are staked down. Sagging often occurs when guylines are too loose or stakes have pulled up from soft ground — use longer stakes or anchor reinforcement in sandy or loose soil.

Mold or mildew odor: This usually results from storing the canvas while damp. Set up the tent in direct sunlight and allow it to air out completely. For visible mildew, clean with a solution of one cup white vinegar to one gallon of water, scrub gently, rinse thoroughly, and dry completely before storing.

Condensation inside the tent: Condensation occurs when warm, moist interior air meets cooler canvas. Improve ventilation by partially opening windows or doors, even in cool weather. Avoid bringing wet gear inside and minimize moisture sources.

Stakes won't hold in soft or sandy ground: Use longer stakes, stake anchors, or bury a horizontal "deadman" anchor (a log or weighted bag tied to the guyline and buried). In rocky ground where stakes can't penetrate, use heavy rocks or weighted bags as anchor points.

Warranty and Returns

For complete warranty and return information, please visit our website at <https://stouttent.com/warranty-information/>

