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WALL TENT MAINTENANCE GUIDE

MAINTENANCE
GUIDE FOR
COMMERCIAL &
LONG-TERM USE



Purpose of This Guide

This maintenance guide provides general best practices for the care, use, and storage of canvas wall tents. Proper setup, routine inspection, and consistent maintenance are essential to maximizing tent lifespan and performance, particularly in long-term or repeated-use environments.

Environmental conditions vary, and factors such as climate, site conditions, and maintenance frequency directly affect durability over time.

Successful long-term installations are typically supported by regular inspections, proper tensioning, and seasonal removal and storage during snow or severe weather

Long-Term Success Factors

The most successful long-term wall tent installations are typically those operated by camps or organizations that:

- Perform routine inspections
- Maintain consistent tensioning
- Remove and store tents seasonally (especially during snow or severe weather seasons)

Groups should be prepared to review setup and maintenance instructions carefully and to monitor the tent regularly. If this level of ongoing care is not feasible, a canvas wall tent may not be the best long-term solution.

Environmental Factors

Wind Management & Structural Wear

In areas with frequent or strong winds:

- Maintain consistent tension on all lines
- Inspect attachment points regularly
- Check for abrasion at stress points

Long-term vibration and movement caused by wind can contribute to wear if left unaddressed. Routine inspection allows small issues to be corrected before they result in fabric or structural damage.

Humidity & Moisture

High-humidity and consistently moist environments present the greatest challenges for canvas structures. Mold and mildew can develop rapidly without diligent care and airflow management.

Wall tents can be used successfully in these environments, but doing so typically requires:

- Frequent inspection
- Strict drying and cleaning practices
- Consistent ventilation

In extremely humid regions, moisture management may be a daily consideration.

Environmental Factors

Sun Exposure

Extended UV exposure will gradually break down all outdoor fabrics, including canvas. To set realistic expectations, consider how other outdoor fabric items in your environment—such as patio furniture—perform over time.

Canvas can be re-treated with a fabric protectant as part of long-term maintenance when appropriate. We recommend **303 Fabric Guard** for that. You'll follow the same application as described in the Waterproofing section.

Vegetation

Keep leaves, branches, and creeping vegetation away from the canvas. Organic debris can trap moisture against the fabric, contributing to mold growth or staining.



Mold & Mildew Prevention

The canvas used in wall tents is treated to resist common strains of mold; however, no treatment is permanent, and prevention depends heavily on use and care.

Primary Prevention Measures

- Ensure adequate ventilation, particularly near the roofline
- Avoid trapping warm, moist air inside the tent
- Never pack or store the tent while damp

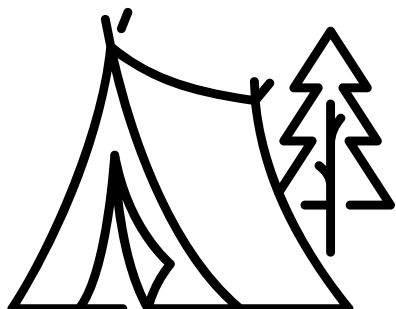
Mold growth inside the tent typically indicates a high-humidity environment combined with insufficient airflow.

Addressing Mold Early

If discoloration or mold growth is observed:

- Address it immediately
- Spot-clean the affected area
- Allow the canvas to dry completely

Early intervention significantly reduces the risk of permanent staining or damage.



End-of-Season Maintenance

RE-PROOFING FOR WATER-RESISTANCE

If you have recently power-washed your tent, treated it for mold, or notice that your guylines are starting to fray from UV exposure. It is time to re-proof your tent to protect the integrity of the canvas.

We recommend using 303 Fabric Guard to restore water resistance. Depending on the fabric condition and the amount of remaining protection, approximately 1 to 3 gallons may be required for full coverage.

APPLYING THE TREATMENT

1. Pour the 303 Fabric Guard into a pump-style pesticide sprayer.
2. In very dry conditions, lightly mist the canvas with water and allow it to mostly dry, leaving the fabric slightly damp and ready to absorb the treatment.
3. Pressurize the sprayer and apply approximately 2 gallons of 303 to the roof, wearing a mask during application. If the tent has been aggressively power-washed, a third gallon may be needed.
4. Let the tent dry completely in direct sunlight.

End-of-Season Maintenance

Cleaning

- Remove dirt and debris from the canvas using water and a soft brush
- Allow the tent to dry completely before storage

Stains

In many cases, one of the most effective treatments is exposure to sunlight. Setting the tent out in the sun, both inside and outside, allows natural UV light to help fade and lift many common stains.

For persistent stains, use water and a gentle cleaner, and apply with a soft brush, like a toothbrush. We recommend Woolite®, Ivory®, or a similar gentle, non-detergent soap, applied sparingly and thoroughly rinsed.

Avoid harsh detergents, bleach, vinegar, or abrasive cleaners, as these can damage the canvas and its protective treatment.

Zippers

- Clear debris from zipper tracks - you can use a vacuum for stubborn dust
- Lightly lubricate zippers if needed - d. We recommend Star brite® or Gear Aid®, though any silicone-based zipper lubricant will work. Apply sparingly to keep the zipper operating smoothly.

End-of-Season Maintenance

Canvas Rips & Tears

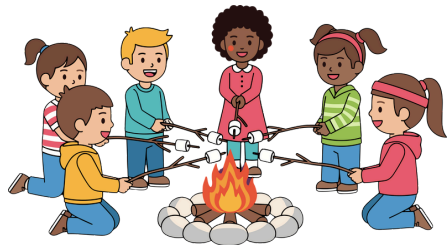
Reach out to Stout Tent for a complimentary canvas patch kit. Kits come with easy-to-follow step-by-step instructions.

For more extensive repairs, we recommend checking with local shops experienced in natural canvas, such as RV awning repair or marine sail repair shops. Stout Tent also has an in-house seamstress and will quote repairs on a case-by-case basis. Shipping is the customer's responsibility.

Screen Canvas Rips & Tears

Most small rips can be effectively repaired using nylon repair tape. We recommend Gear Aid®, though any quality nylon repair tape will work.

For mesh panels, Gear Aid also offers mesh repair patches that are well-suited for smaller holes. Be sure to apply patches to both sides of the damaged area for the best results.



Storage Best Practices

Proper storage is essential to extending the life of a canvas wall tent.

- Store only when fully clean and completely dry
- Choose a dry, well-ventilated storage area
- Avoid locations prone to leaks or standing moisture

Rodents are attracted to stored canvas. Use sealed containers where appropriate and inspect stored tents periodically.

Final Notes

Canvas wall tents are durable structures designed for temporary outdoor use, but they require consistent care to perform well over time. Environmental conditions, frequency of use, and maintenance practices all influence longevity.

If questions arise or site-specific challenges are encountered, guidance should be sought early to prevent avoidable damage.

**Do you have a question we
didn't answer?**

Reach out!



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part of the Stout
Tent Family.**



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