

# Care Instructions



Dear Bell Tent Owner,

Thank you for purchasing a Psychlone bell tent.

If you look after this tent it should serve you for many years to come. We've included a few tips to help you care for your canvas product. Canvas is a natural fiber and does need some care :)

## CARE TIPS

The most important tip is **never pack away your tent when it is still wet**. If you have to pack it away wet then make sure to unpack it and let it dry properly before storing away for any period of time. Another thing that is worth mentioning is what people call **'wetting in' the canvas**. A new canvas tent needs to be 'weathered', meaning it must be wet down thoroughly and allowed to air dry a couple of times to both SHRINK the canvas and tighten the canvas around the stitch holes. The primary reason is to shrink it tight at the needle hole locations. (This weathering, in addition to the good quality poly/cotton thread being used, will prevent leaking, as the cotton in the thread itself will swell when wet). The best method is to put your tent up and let it get a thoroughly good soaking from the rain, then let it completely dry. Another way is to thoroughly soak it through with a hose (from a soft spray, not a forced spray) a couple of times. This is the final part of waterproofing your canvas. This expanding and shrinking locks the fibers and will ensure that your tent remains waterproof for many years to come.

If you want to be extra sure you can apply a **waterproofing spray** to the seams after weathering your tent. These sprays are available from our website.

If you are planning on using your bell tent regularly, in humid conditions or set up permanently, we highly recommend using Stimex water proofing spray or liquid. This will maintain the high quality and durability of your tent and will extend the lifespan by adding UV stabilisation to the fabric and reducing the risk of mould and stains.

## CLEANING TIPS

- It is in your best interest to keep the canvas as clean as possible and remove stains when they first appear.
- When dealing with fungus, use a soft brush or sponge and a lot of fresh water and vinegar – and then a waterproofing agent such as Stimex is applied if necessary.
- Dust and dried mud is better wiped away with a soft brush before a cleaning agent – and then waterproofing agent is applied if necessary.
- Only use specialised tent cleaning products to remove difficult stains as other domestic chemical products can cause the cotton to degrade.
- If using your bell tent frequently, for long periods of time or in humid conditions we recommend a waterproofing treatment such as Stimex to be applied once tent is weathered in.
- If using your bell tent frequently, or for long periods of time, a cleaning and waterproofing treatment may be applied more frequently.

Although caring for your bell tent is extremely easy, general maintenance is necessary to keep your tent looking tip-top and to prolong the life span of the canvas.

To find out more about Psychlone products please visit our FAQ on the website.

We hope you get many years of enjoyment from your tent.



Happy Camping!

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# Australia's Provider of High-Quality Canvas Bell Tents

## HOW TO SET UP YOUR PSYCLONE TENT

### 1 UNPACK AND UNROLL YOUR TENT

Unpack the bell tent onto a flat surface and roll it out, spreading the floor evenly. Find the door and rotate the groundsheet so it's facing the desired direction; we always recommend placing the door at the lowest point, facing downhill as to avoid drink spillage and flooding out your sleeping area.

### 2 PEG THE GROUND SHEET

Take out the tent pegs. Pull the groundsheet tight and zip shut the door. Using a hammer or mallet, hammer in the pegs around the base of the tent. Be sure to place each peg through their loop on the tent before hammering. We highly recommend pegging out either side of the entrance first, then the opposite pegs at the back of the tent. Then work your way around the tent pegging the opposite sides and adjusting for even tension – similar to changing a car tyre.

### 3 INSTALL THE CENTRE POLE

Bring the ONE straight pole through the door, stepping into the centre of the tent. Be sure to place the top of the pole in the reinforced centre section of the roof of the tent. Find the centre of the cone and push the pole and tent up until it is standing straight and vertical. **Be sure to place the rubber ends on both ends of the centre pole to avoid ripping the canvas.**

### 4 INSTALL THE A-FRAME IN THE DOOR

Next, slide the A-frame pole into the door frame, making sure that the spike at the tip of the A-frame is inserted into the eyelet hole in the top/centre of the door and the two legs go into the loops on the inside of the tent. On the inside of the tent there are two ties either side of the door that should be tied around the A-frame pole to secure it.

### 5 TIE AND PEG OUT THE GUY ROPES

Move to the outside of the tent and **zip the door shut**. Take the guy ropes out of their bag (if setting up your tent for the first time). Making sure your knots are secure and do not utilise too much of the rope – tie on the first longer guy rope above the front door and peg it into the ground. **Please note this rope is an integral part of keeping your tent safe as the canvas may be damaged by the A-frame in strong winds if not secured properly.** Tie the rest of the guy ropes around the whole tent and peg them in, one at a time.

### 6 ADJUST THE GUY ROPES

Once all the pegs are in, adjust the guy ropes to create the desired tension. We recommend tightening the front/centre guy ropes first. Then go around and peg and tighten each guy rope accordingly.

**Job done! Don't forget to deck it out with your personal touches and you'll be camping with style!**

### GUY ROPE & TENSIONING TIPS:

All of the guy ropes need to follow the lines of the seams in the roof. Adjust the guy rope tensioners so you have approx 50cm of loop to the peg – this allows for adjustment in both directions.

It is important to make sure the bell tent stays symmetrical and that the tension is evenly spread. By doing it this way – and following the seam lines – your bell tent will look perfect and will not have any creases.

If the door seems too tight to close, adjust the two guy ropes on either side of the door to relieve some tension.

### WANT THE WALLS UP? (FOR TENTS WITH REMOVABLE FLOOR ONLY)

If it's a hot day, there is nothing better than rolling the walls up and letting the breeze in. If you have a bell tent with a removable floor, you can roll up the whole tent or just a section. Simply unzip the section you want up, roll the wall up from the inside and tie using the strings provided. We usually use a slip knot (loop through loop) to save time and effort when it's time to roll them back down again.

### ENJOY YOUR PSYCLONE TENT! AND REMEMBER – PLEASE ONLY STORE IT BONE DRY!

### FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US WITH ANY QUESTIONS

### HOW TO DISASSEMBLE YOUR BELL TENT AND GET IT BACK INTO ITS BAG

Here are some tips on packing up your bell tent after use. As stated on the Care Tips, it is VITAL that your bell tent is stored bone dry otherwise it will get attacked by mould. It's fine to take it down slightly 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 from the centre hanging loop. Basically, it just needs some air. Please also read the enclosed **Cleaning and Care Tips**.

- 1 Take all the poles and pegs out of the tent whilst keeping the canvas upper off the grass – then without standing on the canvas, fold half of the tent over so you have a half moon or taco shape, canvas to canvas, with the groundsheet facing up.
- 2 Let that half of the groundsheet dry out and you might want to wipe off any mud. 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 floor touching floor 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. We find it is a good idea to move the tent off its original spot to avoid putting the condensation back onto the first half.
- 3 Once the tent is dry, fold the half moon over on itself again, so that 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. Next, lift one end and slip the bag over the tent. Bingo – you're done!

