



4.050 Dealing with the effects of Rain

Do you have drips in the night? If using a canvas tent, run your finger firmly down from the leak to the eaves. This pulls the threads together and if the leak remains, it will be at the eaves.

If you are camping in the spring or fall when there is a higher likelihood of rain, you may also wish to consider the use of tarpaulins over your tents. Use tarpaulins that allow an adequate overhang on all sides, to carry the water well away from the tent.

At the first rain drops, don't rush to lower your brailings. Your baggage should be stacked on racks slightly away from the tent walls. If the wind is blowing the rain in, just lower the windward side.

Check your pegs occasionally. They have a tendency to become loose and may need to be knocked in further. If this doesn't help, you may try placing a small sand bag or large stone on the guy line leaning against the peg. Sometimes a second peg helps. Place it right behind the original one.

If striking a wet tent is unavoidable, clearly level it to remind yourself to pitch and dry it before storing, otherwise the canvas will mildew. If using tents made of synthetics, these should also be properly dried - frequently components such as zips are made of materials which will mildew and deteriorate.

4.060 Tent Care - Storage

Canvas must be stored in a dry place off the floor to allow for air circulation and to prevent rodents making nests.

If the canvas is stored for a number of years, it should be taken out once a year, pitched, aired, brushed, and inspected before storing again.