



Use and Care of Your Rainier Wall Tent

- **Fabric:** Our tent is made from 100% cotton Army Duck and is treated with the best “dry” water-repellent finish available.
 - **Treatment:** Our cotton Army Duck is treated with Sunforger® to be: Water Repellant, Mildew Resistant, and Flame Retardant (CPAI-84), often abbreviated as WR, MR, and FR.
- **Cleaning your tent:** Always remove caked-on dirt or mud (let mud dry) using a soft bristle brush. A Shop Vac is another way to clean your tent without affecting the WR, MR or FR treatments in your tent. Most dust and dirt can be removed by using the Shop Vac dry method. You can also wet the fabric and use the Shop Vac accordingly.
 - **Washing your tent:** Washing your tent with any kind of soap can affect the WR, MR or FR treatment in the fabric. If you must clean the canvas, use only a very mild non-detergent soap such as *Woolite* or *Ivory Flakes* and scrub lightly with a soft bristle brush. Use a hose and rinse thoroughly with plenty of water. The intent is to *completely remove* any soap residue. Soap residue acts as a sheeting agent and will prevent the fabric from repelling water. A sheeting agent is the opposite of a water repellent.
- **Mildew:** Never put your tent away damp. If your tent develops mildew try setting it up in direct sunlight. If this is not an option, mix 1/2 cup of bleach with 1 gallon of water. Treat only the mildew affected area as the bleach may whiten the fabric and weaken the fibers.
- **Set up location:** Be aware of trees that emit resins and avoid setting up under these types of trees.
- **Zipper maintenance:** If you have a zipper, the door should be unzipped when setting up or removing the tent from the frame. As your tent roof shrinks, the fabric will fit tighter on the frame which increases stress on the door zipper.
- **Storage:** Never store your tent damp. *Always* let the tent dry naturally. Your tent will mildew if stored wet regardless of the mildew-resistant treatment.
- **Shrinkage:** Cotton Army Duck fabric can continue to shrink as much as 4% even after being wetted several times. Dry your tent while still on the frame to prevent excessive shrinkage.
- **Seam leakage:** Some leakage of water may occur at the seams when your tent is new. This will generally stop after the tent has been wetted several times. If there is still seam leakage, rub beeswax on the outer threads.
- **Spray thoroughly prior to field use:** A new tent may allow water to penetrate the fabric. After several exposures to rain the canvas will seal and become more water repellent. Before field use, we recommend setting up your tent (including the frame, ropes and stakes), and hosing with water to thoroughly wet down the roof and seams. Allow your tent to dry thoroughly on the frame to help prevent excessive shrinkage.
- **UV sunlight:** Prolonged exposure to the sun's UV rays will damage canvas tents. A rain fly is recommended to prevent UV damage if you set up your tent for longer than three weeks annually.
- **Tent fly:** A tent fly will provide for additional protection from both the rain and the sun. When setting up a rain fly make sure that it touches the tent only at the ridge. This provides an air space for comfort and air circulation. If the tent fly lies on the roof in constant contact with the canvas, the fabric will stay damp and is subject to mildew. We recommend side poles to keep the rain fly above and beyond the eave of the tent.
- **Internal frame:** It is important to tie off at the eave even when using an internal frame. This method will prevent the eave of the tent from shrinking past the frame and will also stabilize the tent against high winds.

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