

Camping



When it Rains, When it Blows,
When it Snows.

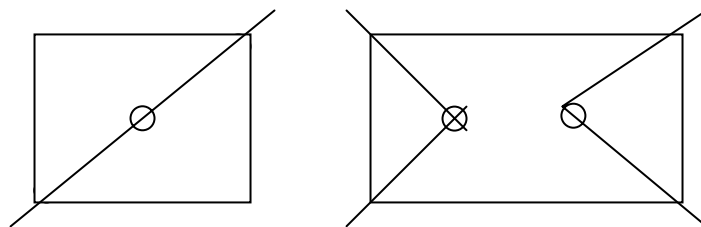
When the weather turns bad in camp, our Guide laws are often tested with our patience, sometimes a little preparation while setting up camp can save time later.



Storm lashing a square tent

In windy conditions or as a precaution, tents can be storm lashed. It is wise to storm lash at any time when the weather is doubtful. Many campers storm lash all tents at all times. There is more appeal in doing it at leisure than in the dark in the middle of a storm.

Storm lashing assists in preventing the centre pole and or side poles from lifting in the wind and thus allowing the tent to collapse. There are a number of ways to storm lash, the most common way is to take a rope across the tent from one corner to the diagonal corner, attaching the storm lashing to the corner poles with a clove hitch and looping over the centre pole by walking completely around the tent with the rope held taut. A rectangular tent can be lashed in much the same way.



Storm lashing a frame tent

A frame tent can be attached to the ground by storm lashing using the same principles as for ridge and square tents. Most frame tents have some form of anchor points to which the storm lashing can be attached. A frame tent with an attached floor is less likely to need storm lashing. In most conditions, with the floor firmly pegged down the tent will stay secure and there is not the problem of pole spikes going through the canvas as wind lifts the tent'



Bell tents if correctly erected rarely need storm lashing.



It is very difficult to storm lash a dome or hike tent and if the weather is really extreme it may be better to move these to a sheltered spot or lower them until the weather lessens.



n the Rain

Canvas tents shrink when wet. Guy ropes on canvas tents should be loosened during rain and tightened again as they dry.

Canvas tents will also leak if touched when wet so keep gear clear of the sides and try not to touch the tent while leaving or entering.

Nylon tents are less likely to leak if the fly is clear of the inner tent.



Remember! No matter what the weather camp should be fun! And a Guide is cheerful in all difficulties.