

SET UP INSTRUCTIONS STRATOSPHERE

One person shelter designed to keep out the worst of the elements



1. POLES

Unroll the shelter and locate the pole bag. Separate the poles, then clip the sections of each pole together to make two completed poles.

There are two channels at the head of the shelter that have colour-coded pole sleeves. Loosely inset each pole into the appropriate sleeve.

Next, insert the end of each pole into the eyelet with the corresponding colour tab on the webbing strap. You will need to apply light pressure, to create some tension in the pole, in order to put the other end of the pole into the opposite-side eyelet. Use the outermost eyelet holes. If the canopy is not tight enough once completed, you can move to the inner eyelet holes to increase the pressure.

The appropriate amount of tension needed in the canopy section is “just enough” so that water will not pool, and will channel off the top of the hood section. Too much tension can damage the unit by weakening seams at stress points, so use the minimum tension needed on your poles.



2. PEG OUT

While the Stratosphere may be used without being fully “pegged out”, this design greatly benefits from being put under tension. If you are able to do so, use all 7 pegs to ensure that the fabric is pulled taut. The peg behind the head area is most important, as this allows for proper ventilation. The fabric is moisture (vapor) permeable, but does not allow air to pass through it. So the vent behind the head area is necessary for airflow.



3. POOLING

Proper pegging-out will also help prevent water pooling. There is a possibility of water pooling if there is not enough definition in the shape of the shelter.



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4. ZIP FLAP

After some use, unpacking and packing may result in the zip-flap Velcro closures being mis-aligned. When zipping yourself in, run the zipper up and down several times. Check that the zip-flap velcro attachments align and are correctly connected. The stiffened flap help to make a more effective seal against wind-driven or pooled water.



5. CONDENSATION

Due to the nature of the design - small and compact - and the nature of the moisture vapour barrier built into the fabric, condensation may occur under certain conditions. The moisture vapour “pass through” rate depends on the temperature differential from the inside to the outside. The higher the difference, the more vapour (sweat) will pass through.



6. VENTING

Condensation can be minimized by allowing the shelter to vent. When conditions permit, leave the side zip open to utilize the mosquito mesh to increase air flow. When using the shelter for consecutive days, allow both the shelter and sleeping bag to air out (if possible) to remove any residual moisture.



7. OVERHEATING

Overheating can also cause excess moisture to form within the shelter, so the selection of the appropriate sleeping bag for conditions is important. An over-insulated bag reduces the available space within the shelter, leaving less space for vapour, which than may condense back into water.



TO TAKE DOWN THE SHELTER

Remove and collect pegs. Release both poles from their eyelets. PUSH (do not pull) each pole through its sleeve in order to remove, then collapse each pole. Lay the shelter flat and then roll from the foot towards the head. While rolling, fold the side-edges over to make the rolled shelter the approximate size of the storage bag. Keep the roll tight and allow any trapped air to escape.

WARNING: Suffocation Risk!
User should always use the mesh vent and not seal themselves completely in the Bivvi Bag