

AHKI TIPI MANUAL

Materials included:

1. tipi cover
2. smoke flaps
3. door flap
4. tipi carry bag
5. Lace pin set (Included with packages or Fire Certified)

Additional materials needed:

1. 40'-50' length of rope (pieces?)
2. 13-17 poles (depending on size of tipi)
 - length = 4' longer than the diameter of your tipi
3. ground stakes +3 added to tipi size. (18 ft tipi = 21 stakes) galvanized recommended
4. Hammer/mallet

Assembly Instructions:

**Recommended to set up in place with as much sunlight as possible. (unshaded)*

1. Select the 4 thickest poles to create your base quadpod
 - a. Two of these poles are to be placed 5' apart from each other, where you want the door entrance to be
 - b. Two remaining pole are to be spaced evenly, opposite from the doorway
 - c. Tie these 4 poles together ~15" lower than height of your tipi diameter (ex: for a 20' diameter tipi, tie at 18'9").
 - d. **Tie a little looser than you'd think. When tipi is raised the tie will tighten. Too tight will snap poles.*
2. Stand up quadpod by walking under the poles. Spread poles to be evenly spaced along the circumference of the tipi
 - a. Long end of rope will hang down into center of tipi, we'll get back to it later
3. Inserting the rest of the poles:
 - a. **save 2 longest poles for your smoke flaps*
 - b. Lay each pole around the base approx. 3-4 ft apart
 - c. Wrap the rope around the cradle every two poles
 - d. Starting at entryway, stack rest of poles to rest in the cradle at top of tipi
 - i. **butt of poles should be placed by bottom of the cover*
 - e. Make sure one extra pole space is directly opposite door entry (between poles from 1b); this is called your "lift pole"
4. Unpack tipi cover:
 - a. On a dry flat surface, take tipi out of shipping bag.
 - b. Stand 20' away from rear poles of tipi. Leave top of canvas here and roll back towards your rear poles
 - i. **base of tipi has a double stitched center loop strap. Make sure this is centered directly opposite doorway opening.*
 - c. Tie your lift pole (from 3e) to the cradle (top) of tipi with a 2' piece of rope.
 - d. Unfold cover from both sides exposing the underside (finished side on the ground) keeping tie at top exposed
 - e. Set the bottom of the lift pole into center loop strap
5. Cover installation:

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- a. Have someone hold lift pole in place on ground while you lift top of pole (w/ cover attached) into the open spot opposite doorway into the center of the top cradle
 - i. **much easier if you lift cover separately from lift pole (?)*
- b. Wrap canvas around frame to front of tipi... now its starting to look like tipi!
6. Install Lace Pins:
 - a. starting at top, place lace pins in overlapping holes that hold the front of cover together (? Buttons on a jacket?)
7. Ground Stakes:
 - a. Stake the bottom out and adjust poles until cover lays tight & stretched. Poles are pushed out/in/over until evenly spaced and snugly fit to cover.
 - b. **troubleshooting will make itself known here...*
8. With long end of rope, bring outside cover through smoke flap opening, and walk around tipi three times; lace rope back through same smoke flap opening back inside.
 - a. **if in a high wind area, use a stake to secure long end to ground in center of tipi*
9. Smoke Flaps (with your two remaining poles from 3a):
 - a. Insert each pole into pocket at top of smoke flaps
 - b. Tie rope through loop straps at bottom of smoke flap to ground & secure with stake
 - c. Open position: Criss-cross smoke flaps around rear of tipi to extend them out
 - d. Closed position: wrap poles around towards entrance so that flaps overlap around cradle
10. Attaching Door Flap:
 - a. Materials to have on hand:
 - i. 3 @ ¾" x 4' wooden dowels
 - b. Insert dowels into pockets of door flap
 - c. Tie 6' length of rope across two straps
 - d. Loop around bottom lace pin to secure door
 - e. Bottom straps can be secured if you want, or door can hang freely over entrance

Waterproofing your tipi:

Materials needed:

**measured for 16' tipi, adjust accordingly for larger models*

- 1-gallon Thompson's Water Seal
- 1-pint mineral spirits
- pressure sprayer (must be good quality; like the one you'd use to fertilize your lawn)
 - **make sure to clean sprayer system thoroughly before and after use; hose will clog if not rinsed after use*

Instructions:

1. easiest when laid out on flat ground
2. spray evenly on outside of tipi cover, straps, flaps, etc.
3. let dry for 6 hours
4. set tipi upright & allow to dry further overnight

**this treatment should last one year even if you leave your tipi up year-round*

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****if you plan to leave tipi outside for longer than 48 hours, or in a damp climate ever, waterproofing and/or painting treatment is strongly recommended***

Painting your tipi (ONLY AFTER WATERPROOFING):

1. easiest when laid out on flat ground
2. water-based or acrylic paint ONLY.
 - a. **do not use enamel or oil based paints*
3. material is very absorbent and may take several coats to achieve desired effect

Mildew info:

- the most common tipi killer is mildew; it's very destructive to the cotton canvas cover
- most often forms when cover is stored damp, but can also develop out in open air
- to kill/stop growth of mildew:
 - o preferably dry tipi in hot sun
 - o additional options:
 - 1 bottle cap of bleach mixed into 16oz. water in spray bottle
 - Lemon, cut in half & rubbed on mildewed areas
 - If possible, leave out in sunlight & open air to dry after treatment