First Pitch
In order to familiarize yourself with your new tent, we suggest that you "test pitch" it before embarking on a wilderness trip.

Select a Site
Look for a level spot that is protected from the wind in order to ensure sleeping comfort. Clear the area of debris such as sharp stones and sticks which might abrade or puncture the tent floor. Choose an area that will drain well when it rains.

Unfurl the Tent and Assemble the Poles
Unfurl the tent and lay the floor flat on the ground with the door unzipped. Carefully unfold the shock corded pole sections and allow them to slide together. Do not allow the poles to snap together. This can lead to serious pole damage. Make certain that the insert of each pole section is fully inserted into the next pole section (Figure 1). You will have four straight poles and one shorter brow pole.

Stake Out the Floor
We recommend staking the floor prior to inserting the poles for greater pitching ease. Although the Stretch Dome AST is a truly freestanding tent, we suggest that you always stake the floor for greater safety and stability, especially in high winds.

Insert the Tents & Rainfly
Insert the tent fly into the ceiling at the ridge vents, and allow the fly to drape over the edges. Pull the webbing loops at the back of the tent at points A and B until the tent floor is squarely and semi-tautly positioned, and stake them down. Finally, stake the sides at points C, D, E and F, again pulling the tent floor semi-tautly. Insert the pole sections into the collar sections with the ends of the pole sections at points A and B (Figure 2). Pull the two poles up so they intersect at point I and attach the Clips-Locs® over the intersection at the apex (do not attach the cord yet). Now, following the seams along the poles, attach the remaining Swift Clips®. Next, insert a straight pole at points C and D, arching the pole around the back of the tent. Finally, attach all Swift Clips along this pole's path. Repeat this process for points C, D, E and F, again pulling the tent floor semi-tautly.

Internal Guy System
Years ago, Sierra Designs was the first to introduce the revolutionary Internal Guy System. This system remains a very important feature in our Convertible and 4-Season tents. When installed, this simple system will greatly increase the strength of your tent with the weight of a few guy cords. This system is very useful in extreme weather conditions, but is not necessary under normal conditions.

Installation: All attachments are made inside the tent. All that is needed are 4 pieces of guy cord of 100" lengths or longer, (line tighteners may be used but are optional). Some of these items have been provided complimentary with your tent. There are nine webbing loops sewn to the interior of the tent body, one in each corner of the floor at points A, B, G and H (Figure 6) and one at each of the pole intersection points in the ceiling at points O, P, Q, R and I. Start by tying one end of a cord through the webbing loop in the ceiling at point Q. Secure the other end at point A with a double half-hitch or one of the complimentary line tighteners (See Figure 7). Repeat this procedure for lines between points B and O, G and R, H and Q, and point I is the apex of the tent and it is not part of the Internal Guy System. Use point I as a hang loop. The Internal Guy System will partially obstruct the doorway. If you want to route the cord out of the way when entering or exiting the tent, simply loosen the cord and pass it through the loop in the ceiling.

Ventilation
Proper ventilation is essential for creating a comfortable living space inside your tent. The vestibule door panel can be rolled away for maximum ventilation. Because the rainfly has an awning over the door, you can often leave the door tied open in a rain storm, provided the wind is not excessive. The doors to the vestibule are equipped with two Velcro® attachments that can be used to regulate ventilation. Staking out the center back of the rainfly (point N) further enhances ventilation by increasing airflow under the fly.

Tent Body & Rainfly: 1
Line Tighteners: 12
Pole Sections: 5
Corner Instructions: 1
Swift Clips: 12
Line Sacks: 4

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