

# SIERRA DESIGNS

## Alpha



### Your Sierra Designs

**ALPHA tent is very easy to pitch and maintain. Follow these instructions to pitch your tent quickly, safely and easily.**

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\* Sierra Designs tent s include stakes for pitching the body and fly under normal conditions. Additional stakes may be required in severe conditons.

### 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 tent 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 two straight poles of equal length and one pre-bent pole.

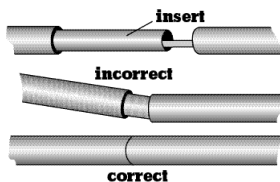


Figure 1: Correct Pole Assembly

### Stake out the Tent Floor

The *Alpha* is a completely freestanding tent. It is not necessary to stake down the tent floor in order to pitch it. However, we recommend that the tent be staked down at points A, B, C and D for stability, especially in high winds (Figure 2).

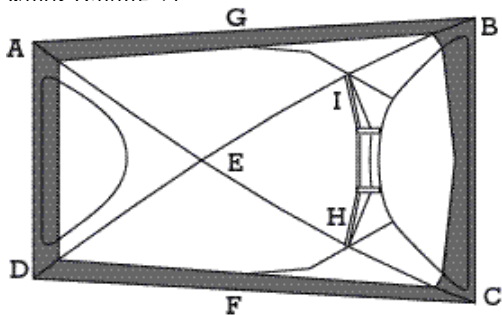


Figure 2: Tent Body (top view)

### Erect the Tent

Insert the metal tips of one of the two long poles into the grommets at points A and C (Figure 2). Insert the metal tips of the other long pole into the grommets at points B and D. Next hook the Clip-Loc™ at point E (do not attach the cord yet). Following the tent seams between points A and C, and B and D attach all of the Swift Clips™ to their corresponding tent poles. Passing the arched pole over the



two long poles, place its ends into the grommets at points F and G. Once the arched pole is in place, hook the Clip-Locs at points H and I, with the open gate of the clip pointing towards the rear of the tent. Now attach the cord at points H, I & E, by wrapping the cord in the direction crossing the open gate of the clip. Wrap the cord around the pole intersection two to four times, depending on desired firmness, then slide the cord into the groove on the backside of the clip to hold it taut (Figure 3).

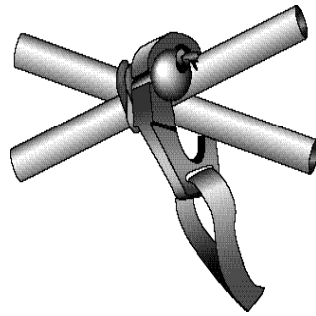


Figure 3: Clip-Loc

### Fly Sheet

Drape the fly over the tent making sure the zippered, vestibule end is over the front door (Figure 4). At points H, I, J, K, L and M on the inside of the tent fly you will find small side release buckles. Attach these points to their mates on the tent body. At point N on the fly you will find a Velcro® attachment. Attach this to the apex of

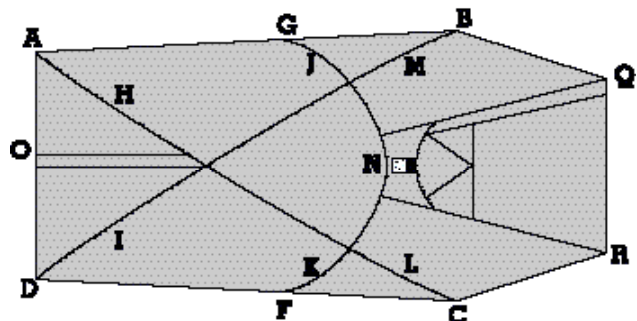


Figure 4: Tent Fly (top view)

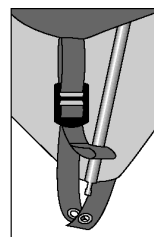


Figure 5: LadderLoc

the arched pole. Now at points A, B, C, D, G and F you will find 3/4" LadderLocs with adjustable grommeted webbing straps. Slip the grommets over the pole ends at these points (Figure 5). Now working your way around the tent a few times, slowly tighten these adjustable straps until you have achieved the desired tautness. Point O may be staked out to increase ventilation. Lastly stake out points Q and R to form your vestibule.

# SIERRA DESIGNS

## The 2 Modes of the Alpha

### 4-Season Mode



#### 4-Season Mode

In full 4-Season mode the *Alpha* is capable of withstanding some of nature's toughest onslaughts. At 8 lbs. 1 oz. the *Alpha* is one of the lightest 4-Season tents on the market.

#### 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 both 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.

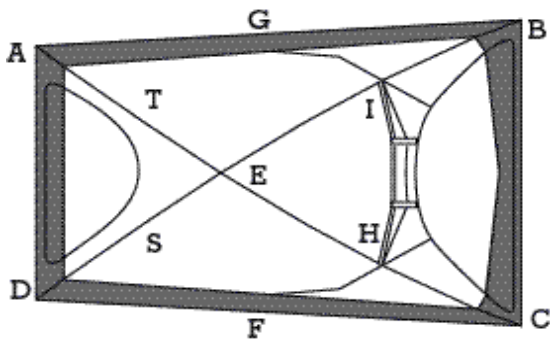


Figure 6: Internal Guy System

Installation: All attachments are made inside the tent. All that is needed are 4 pieces of guy cord of 72" lengths or longer (line tighteners may be used but are optional). Some of these items have been provided complimentary with your tent. The internal loops that will be used in this system are the four loops in the corners of the tent at points A, B, C and D as well as four of the seven loops in the ceiling at points S, T, H and I (Figure 6).

Start by tying one end of a cord through the webbing loop in the floor at point C. Secure the other end at point I with a double-half-hitch or a line tightener (Figure 7). Repeat this procedure for lines between points B and H, A and S (or H in extreme conditions) and D and T (or I in extreme conditions). The Internal Guy System will partially obstruct the doorway. If you want to stow the cord out of the way when entering or exiting the tent, simply loosen the cord and pull it through the loop in the ceiling.

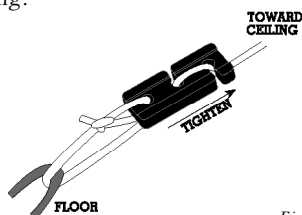


Figure 7: Line Tightener

### 3-Season Mode



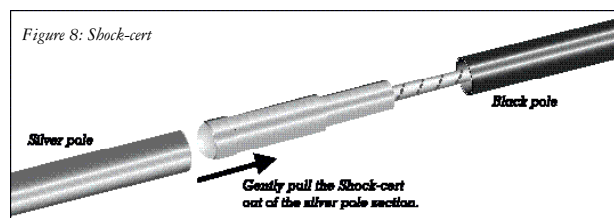
#### 3-Season Mode

In 3-Season mode you are able to leave two pole sections at home for a weight savings of 6 oz. In addition to a weight savings, there is a large ceiling panel which folds back to give you a tremendous amount of ventilation. The front and back rip-stop doors can also be folded away to reveal a large no-see-um panel for venting.

Please note that 9 tent stakes and 6 guy cords were provided with this tent as a courtesy. If you choose to use more than this when pitching your tent, additional stakes and cord may be purchased at the store where you originally purchased your tent.

#### Converting the Alpha into a 3-Season Shelter

The *Alpha* can easily be transformed into a lighter, well vented 3-Season tent. To begin, simply remove the black-color pole segments on the sides of the tent by pulling the Shok-cert out of the silver pole section. To do this, first remove the black pole sections from the grommets and undo the Clip-Locs along the silver-black pole. Next, pull the black sections downward until the shock cord appears. Grasp the shock cord and pull gently to completely remove the Shok-cert (Figure 8). Repeat for the other silver-black pole sections and place the silver pole ends into the pole buckets at points I and H (Figure 2).



Finally to maximize ventilation in warmer weather conditions, the *Alpha* comes equipped with a large ceiling panel. Unzip the panel and undo the hooks connecting it to the mesh. Then roll the panel toward the back of the tent, secure by fastening clips. Double doors of mesh and nylon panels allow for variable ventilating as well.