Your Sierra Designs HERCULES 3 AST (Arc Support Technology) tent is very easy to pitch and maintain. Follow these instructions to pitch your tent quickly, safely and easily.

HERCULES 3 AST TENT CONTENTS

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Additional stakes may be required in severe conditions.

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 rocks and sticks which might abrade or puncture the tent floor. Choose an area that will drain well when it rains.

Unfast the Tent and Assemble the Poles
Unfasten the tent and lay the tent floor on the ground with the door unzipped. There are four hub pole assemblies attached to the tent—one at the corner of each tent. On each hub, insert the two short poles attached to the hub into its corresponding hole in the hub. Lay these down at the corners of the tent, unwrapping the attached webbing. There are also two pre-bent poles of equal length, and one “V-shaped” vestibule pole. There is another Velcro attachment at point M. Wrap this around the pole intersection at point M. At points A through M on the side of the fly there are small release buckles. Attach these buckles to their mates, points 1–4, on the tent body. At points A, G, J, and C, and on M, clip the adjustable guy cords to the tent body. Be sure clipping the blue webbing loops to points A, B, C, and D at the tent ceiling. Secure the other end to the tent as follows: A to 6, B to 5, C to 8, and D to 7. For added strength along the bottom of the tent and working your way up, clip the Clip-Loc™ at point M around both poles. Then, wrap the bungee cord on the Clip-Loc tightly around both poles, and slide the cord into the groove on the backside of the clip, to keep the cord taught (Figure 4).

Flysheet
You now have one remaining “V-shaped” pole. Place the tips of this pole in the grommets attached to the clips at points N and P, or Q and R, or O and B, or Q and T, or Q and U, or T and R, or T and O, or B and O, or T and S, or Q and S, or R and U, or O and B or S and U, or Q and T. Note that the insert of each pole section is fully lead to serious pole damage. Make certain and allow them to slide together. Do not webbing loops at points A and B (Figure 3). Then move to the front of the tent, and take them to their corresponding buckles on the tent body. For these three poles, carefully unfold the shock corded pole sections E, to a. Unfurl the Tent and Assemble the Poles

Select a Site
In order to familiarize yourself with your new tent, we suggest that you “test pitch” it before embarking on a wilderness trip.

Stake Out the Tent Floor
We recommend staking the floor prior to inserting the poles for greater pitching ease. Although the Hercules AST is a totally free standing tent, we suggest that you always erect the tent. There are four hub pole assemblies attached to the corner of each tent. On each hub, insert the two short poles attached to the hub into its corresponding hole in the hub. Lay these down at the corners of the tent, unwrapping the attached webbing. There are also two pre-bent poles of equal length, and one “V-shaped” vestibule pole. For these three poles, 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).

Wrap this around the pole intersection at point M. At points A through M on the inside of the fly there are small release buckles. Attach these buckles to their mates, points 1–4, on the tent body. At points A, G, J, and C, and on M, clip the adjustable guy cords to the tent body. Be sure clipping the blue webbing loops on the rainfly to a blue webbing strap on the body, you are guaranteed a fast, proper tautness set-up every time. Now, working your way around the tent a few times, tighten the adjustable straps until you have achieved the desired tautness in the fly. Next, stake out points S and R away from the tent to improve ventilation. Finally, stake out and tighten down the vestibule loops at points T, U, and AA.

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 vestibule forms an awning over the door, you can often leave the door tied open in a rainstorm, provided the door faces away from the wind. When the door in the rear of the rainfly is left fully or partially open, it effectively improves flow-through ventilation. Additionally, the peppers at the top of the vestibule and the back door can be used to regulate ventilation.

Internal Guy System
Sierra Designs was the first to introduce the revolutionary Internal Guy System. This system remains a very important feature in our Canvetible 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, (flowtighteners may be used but are optional). Some guy cords and line tighteners are provided with your tent, however, you can also purchase the “Internal Guy System” accessory, which uses Swift Clips to eliminate the need to tie knots. There are nine webbing loops sewn to the interior of the tent body; one in each corner of the floor at points A, B, C, and D; four on the tent ceiling at points 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 8 (Figure 5). For added strength along the sides of the tent, run the guy cords between points on the tent as follows: A to 6, B to 5, C to 8, and D to 7. For added strength along the front and rear of the tent, run the guy lines A to 1, B to 8, C to 5, and D to 6 (in this configuration, the Internal Guy System will partially obstruct the doorway). With each guy cord, tie one end to the webbing loop in the ceiling. Secure the other end to the floor webbing loop with a double half-hitch or a line tightener. Please note that 6 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 may be purchased at the store where you originally purchased your tent.