

# SIERRA DESIGNS

## LIGHTNING



**Your Sierra Designs LIGHTNING 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 tents include stakes for pitching the body and fly under normal conditions. 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 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 carbon poles of equal length. Each pole will have two pre-bent aluminum sections at each end of the pole (Figure 2).

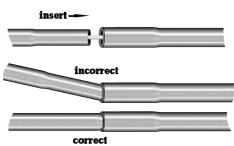


Figure 1: Correct Pole Assembly

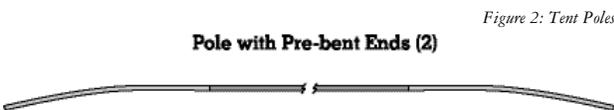
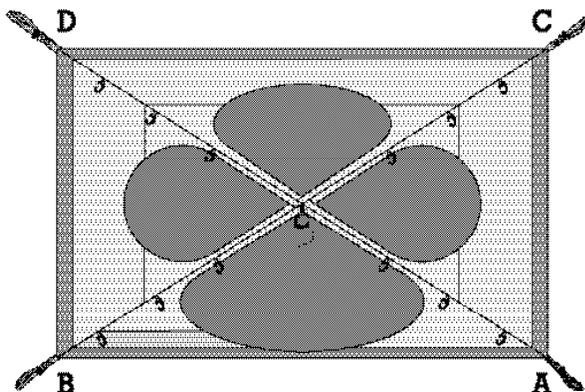


Figure 2: Tent Poles

#### Stake out the Tent Floor

Although the *Lightning* is a completely freestanding tent, we suggest that you always stake out the floor for greater safety and stability, especially in high winds. First stake down the webbing loops at points A and C (Figure 3). Then move to the opposite side of the tent and pull the webbing loops at points B and D until the floor is square and semi-taught, and then stake them down.

Figure 3: Tent Body (top view)



#### Erect the Tent

Insert the Delrin tip of pole #1 into the grommets at points B and C. Clip all the swift clips along the B-C axis. Insert the Delrin tip of pole #2 into the grommets at points A and D. Clip all the swift clips along the A-D axis. Finally, clip poles #1 & #2 into the Clip-Loc (Figure 4) and wrap the bungee cord in the direction crossing the open gate of the clip. Wrap the cord around the pole intersection 2-4 times, depending on desired firmness and then slide the cord into the groove on the backside of the Clip-Loc to hold it taught (Figure 4).

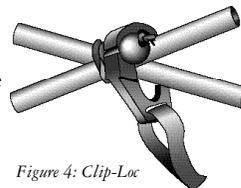


Figure 4: Clip-Loc

#### Fly Sheet

Drape the fly sheet over the tent and position the vestibule zipper over the tent door. Make sure that the royal blue fly attachment piece on the fly is aligned with the royal blue stake loop on the tent at point A (Figure 5). Attach the Velcro to the poles at points H, I, J, K, L, M, N, & O. At points A, B, C, & D are 3/4" side-release "fly clip" buckles (Figure 6). Clip all these buckles into the corresponding mates on the tent & pull the straps until the fly is taught. By clipping the blue webbing strap on the rainfly to a blue webbing strap on the body, you are guaranteed a fast, proper rainfly set-up every time. Now pull out points E & F until the vestibule is taught and stake it down in that position. You can use a guy line to guy out point G, L, N, H, & I for increased stability and ventilation.

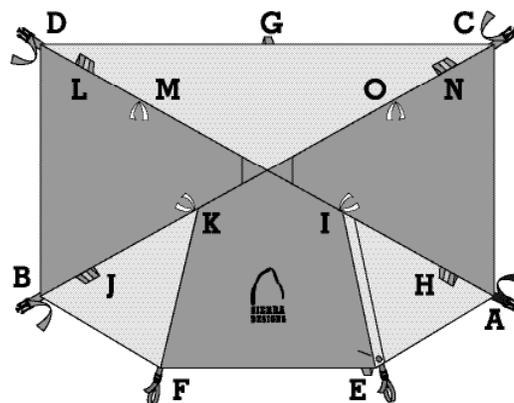


Figure 5: Tent Fly (top view)

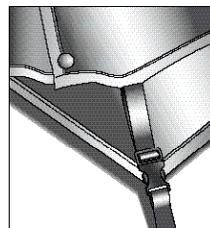


Figure 6: Fly Clip

#### Ventilation

With the rainfly on, several things can be done to increase airflow. In a breeze without rain, one side of the vestibule can be left open. Roll up the unused side of the vestibule and attach the door to the strap. The trick is to open whichever side makes the vestibule into a gigantic air scoop. Pitching your tent so that it is oriented to take advantage of the wind direction will go a long way toward providing a comfortable night's sleep in hot weather. Using the guy out on the backside of the fly, point G provides further airflow.