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.

Unsulf the Tent and Assemble the Poles
Unsulf the tent floor flat on the ground with the door unzipped. Carefully unsulf 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 6 poles in total, 4 equal length poles and shorter vestibule pole and the shortest of the six is a curved vent pole.

Stake Out the Floor
We recommend staking the floor prior to inserting the poles for greater pitching ease. Although the Massak is a freestanding tent, we suggest that you always stake out the floor for greater safety and stability, especially in high winds. First stake each of the webbing loops at points G & H, then stake out points E & F (Figure 2). Then move to the other side of the tent, pull the webbing loops at points A & B until the tent floor is squarely and semi-tautly positioned, and then stake them down. Finally, stake the points C & D, again pulling the tent floor semi-taut.

Erect the Tent
Insert the tips of one of the straight poles into the grommets at points B & E, and the tips of a second straight pole into the grommets at points D & G (Figure 2). Pick up pole B – E and hook the Clip-Loc over the pole at points J & K (Figure 3). Do not attach the bungee cord yet. Follow the same procedure for pole D – G, attaching but not engaging the Clip-Locs at points K & L. Now attach the Swift Clips along the B – E & D – G axis designated by the orange webbing, as well as the Clip-Locs at points M & N (do not attach the bungee cord yet). Now repeat this process with the two remaining long poles inserting the pole tips into the grommets at points C & H & A & F. Pick up pole C – H and hook the Clip-Loc over the pole at points L & J attaching the Swift Clips along this axis as you go. The Swift Clips are designated with gray webbing. Follow the same procedure for pole A – F, attaching but not engaging the Clip-Locs at points K & L. Now that all the straight poles have been attached to the tent body, you can engage the Clip-Locs. Attach the black center cord on the Clip-Locs by wrapping the bungee in the direction crossing the open gate of the clip. Wrap the cord around the pole intersection 2 to 4 times, depending on desired firmness, then, slide the cord into the grommet on the backside of the clip to keep it taut (Figure 3).

Fly Sheet
Drape the fly over the tent and position the zippers over the tent doors and so that the navy blue fly attachment is aligned with one of the navy blue stake loops on the tent points B & G (Figure 2). By attaching the blue webbing strap on the rainbow to the blue webbing strap on the tent body you are guaranteed a fast, properly set up every time. At points N, O, P, & M (Figure 4) on the inside of the fly you will find 5/8” side release buckles. Attach these three to their mates on the tent body. At eight perimeter points on the fly are 5/4” LadderLoc fly attachments (Figure 5). These points correspond to the ends of the poles, points A-H. Before you attach the LadderLoc you will need to attach your vestibule pole. Take the longer of the two remaining remaining poles and feed it through the sleeve that is provided on the outside of the tent. The vestibule pole sleeve is located above the vestibule straps located at points S, T, & U. Tighten these to desired tautness. Guying out points M, N, O, P, V, & W can increase strength and stability in high winds as well as increase airflow between the tent body and rainfly.

Ventilation
Proper ventilation is essential for creating a comfortable living space inside your tent and the Massak provides various methods to increase the ventilation of the tent. There are two large roll down mesh panels on each side of the tent that can be opened for increased ventilation. In addition to the mesh panels on the tent body the rain fly has two vents that are located at points Q & R (Figure 4) that can be opened from inside the tent for maximum ventilation. In addition, 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 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 zippers at the top of the vestibule can be used to regulate ventilation.

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 i-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 7/2” lengths or longer (line tighteners may be used but are optional). Some of these items have been provided complimentary with your tent. You may also purchase a Sierra Designs Internal Guy Kit at your local retailer. The internal loops that will be used in this system are the eight loops that are located in the corners of each stake points, A-H, as well as at the 12 internal loops located at points 1-8 (Figure 5). Start by attaching one end of the cord through the webbing loop in the floor at point A. Secure the other end of the cord at point 3 with a double half hitch or a line tightener (Figure 7). Repeat this procedure for lines between points B & 2. Repeat this procedure for lines between points C & 8, E & J, G & H, A & 4, & D & 5.

The Internal Guy System will partially obstruct the doorway. If you want to close the door out of the way when entering or exiting the tent, simply loosen the cord and pass it through the loop in the ceiling.