

# General tips for tent use and maintenance and canvas cleaning.

All tents need maintenance, however strong and weatherproof they may be. Your tent will serve you longer if you apply these tips.

- Allow water to drain easily from the tent by ensuring it is correctly tensioned.
- Regularly remove dirt deposits by wiping clean the (dry) canvas with a brush. Mud skirts and windows are best cleaned using a sponge and a dry cloth specifically reserved for this purpose.
- Allow stains in the canvas to dry thoroughly before removing them. First, use a brush and if that does not work try using tepid water. Certainly never use detergents (soap) or other chemical agents as they can damage the water-repellent qualities of the canvas. If absolutely necessary, use a special canvas cleaning agent. Where required, please contact your specialist dealer.
- Mould formation prevention advice:
  - Good ventilation, even if the tent is rarely or never used.
  - Avoid cooking in the tent or ensure adequate ventilation to remove any condensation from cooking.
  - Before packing away the coated tent, gently clean it with slightly chlorinated water (ratio 1:10). Then allow it to dry thoroughly.
  - Only pack away the tent when it is completely dry.

- Do not hang washing, or wet tea cloths or towels in or over the tent. These may contain soap residues which can be transferred to the canvas and damage its water-repellent qualities. For the same reason, never clean mud skirts or ground sheets with soap.
- Do not touch the tent with greasy hands (suntan lotion, cream) as grease can damage its waterproof qualities.
- Do not place chairs or suchlike against the canvas. Chafing can lead to damage which causes leakage.
- Do not touch the canvas while it is raining. Water can easily remain 'suspended' at spots where the canvas has been touched, increasing leakage potential.
- Never roll up the tent when wet. If this cannot be avoided, ensure that the tent is unrolled and dried out as quickly as possible, at least within 24 hours.
- Cotton canvas may initially allow moisture through. However, the canvas becomes saturated during its initial soaking, causing it to 'close' and become waterproof.