Tarptent Cloudburst 2 Setup

Setup is very easy. It will take 2 or 3 minutes once you get the hang of it. Please see http://www.tarptent.com/cloudburst2.html for additional photos.

1. Assemble shock-corded rear (semi-curved) and front (straight) arch poles.
2. Locate the rear sleeve—narrower end of tent; 3 guylines into 1—and thread the rear pole into the rear sleeve. The sleeve opens where the webbing goes into tent body. Insert the threaded pole tip into the grommet. Pull the strap to slide the sleeve across the pole and insert pole tip into the remaining grommet. Repeat for front pole.
3. Stake the rear tri-pullout to a single stake (as shown below).

4. Stretch the tent out and stake the two “V” guylines to the ground. Set the stakes about 4 feet apart, centered to the inside of the pole arch (see below).

5. Walk to the back and wiggle/lift the placement of the rear arch to get even tension on both sides. The rear arch should be perpendicular to the ridgeline and tilted back about 12 degrees from vertical.

6. Now walk back to the front and re-stake the “V” guylines hard to the ground as needed for taut pitch. Lift/wiggle front arch pole ends to maximize fabric tension from front to back.

7. Side loops are provided. Use them in a strong side wind/rain or to slightly increase the interior space. Too much tension will pull the ridgeline down.

8. For floorless models, lock the netting to the ground by placing rocks or gear into the interior netting corners and along the sides as necessary.

9. For sewn-in floor, pull and re-knot shockcord at floor junction to stretch and center fabric as needed. Clip/unclip floor walls to suit conditions.

10. For Tyvek groundsheet, a washing machine (cold water) will soften fabric.

11. Front beak clips to guylines, rolls up (see above) when not needed.

12. Unroll and clip sidewall flaps under pole ends as needed in heavy weather; clip up to inside when not needed and to increase ventilation.

Seam-sealing

Stress-point seams must be sealed with a silicone-based sealer. An inexpensive product that works well is GE Silicone II clear sealer, available at most hardware stores in a squeeze tube. In a well-ventilated location, squirt about two tablespoons into a tuna can and mix it with about 4 tablespoons mineral spirits (paint thinner) or Coleman fuel/white gas. The silicone will dissolve and form a semi-viscous solution. Paint the solution on with a small foam brush for easy, smooth application. Add more mineral spirits and stir if the solution gets too thick. Set up the tent and seal the seams at the pullouts and along the arches to protect the stitching (especially at the sleeve entrance seams). For Tarptents with sewn-in flooring, it’s a good idea to paint lines of silicone on the floor—slightly thicker mixture than for the roof—to form an anti-skid mat.

Condensation and Sag

Ventilation and fabric warmth are your best defenses against condensation. Keep the netting open if at all possible and try to set up where it’s breezy. Keep the beak open (or at least partially rolled up). Camp under trees where it’s warmer and set up out of river valleys and lake basins where it’s cool and damp.

Nylon stretches (and sags) when the humidity goes up. This happens as night is falling and/or when it starts to rain. The best thing to do is to restake the front pullouts to retension the material. It will take you 30 seconds but once it’s done the fabric will stay taut until you take the tent down. Sliding cordlocks and line tighteners are provided to make minor tension adjustments.

Key points to consider

- For Tarptents with sewn-in flooring, it’s a good idea to paint lines of silicone on the floor—slightly thicker mixture than for the roof—to form an anti-skid mat.
- Push, rather than pull, the poles through the sleeves to prevent separation.
- The tent is made of strong, lightweight, and flammable fabric. Treat it accordingly. It will resist much stress but neither flame nor abrasion.

Thank you for your purchase and we sincerely hope that you enjoy your Tarptent. Feedback is always welcome.

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