

# Tarpent MoTrail Setup

With practice, setup is less than 2 minutes. For additional photos and videos visit: <http://www.tarptent.com/motrail.html>

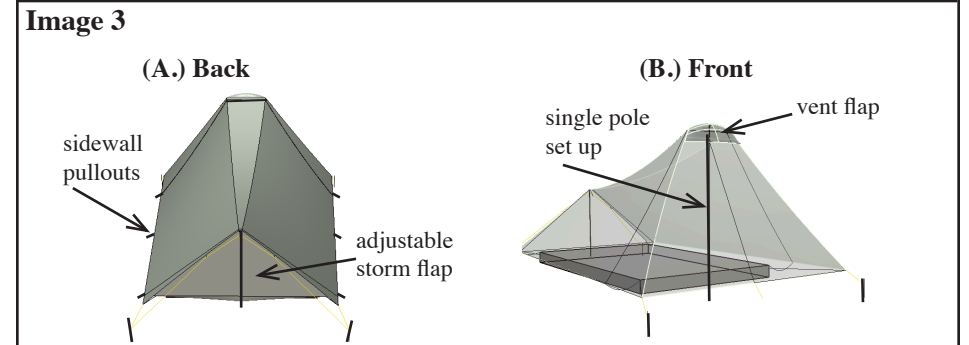
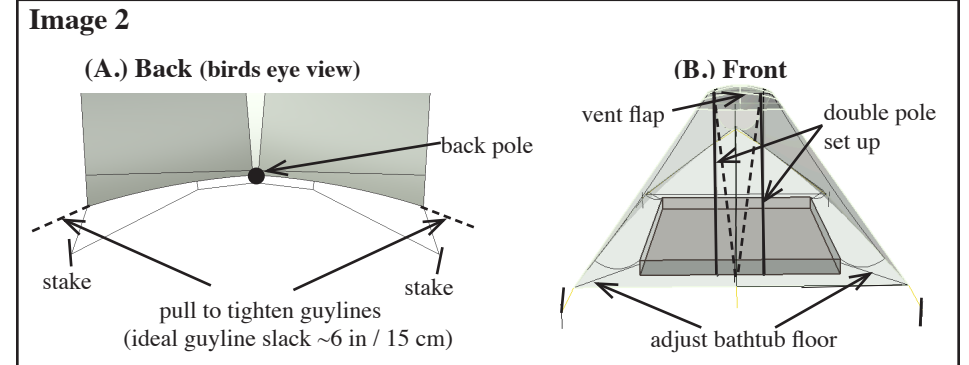
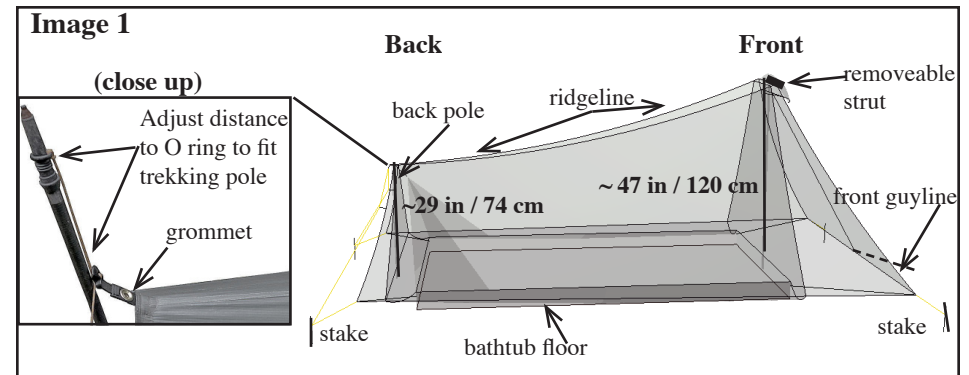
Your MoTrail order includes: stuff sack, tent body and 4 blue stakes. You will need trekking poles OR substitute poles which can be ordered from Tarptent.

## I. Layout and Positioning

1. Before pitching your MoTrail, spread out the tent body with the bathtub floor facing the ground. If using a ground sheet, lay it down first.
2. Remove 4 blue stakes from the bag and have them ready (2 stakes in front and 2 in back).
3. Set one trekking pole to a low setting (~29 in / ~74 cm) -- this will be your back pole (Image 1).
4. You can use one *or* two poles for the front set up (use 2 poles for maximum stability). Set the front pole(s) to ~47 in / 120 cm (Image 1).
  - If you are *not* using trekking poles, assemble substitute poles.

## II. Pitching the MoTrail

1. Starting at the back of the tent, place the back pole tip into the grommet hole and place the pole handle (or head) on the ground (Image 1- Back).
  - If you cannot adjust your trekking pole to ~29 in / 74 cm, place the pole tip instead into the extendable O-ring (Image 1--close up).
  - Adjust the guyline so the distance from the grommet to the ground is ~29 in / 74 cm (Image 1 close up).
2. Using one hand to stabilize the pole, use the other hand to stretch out one back corner and stake when the fabric is fully taught.
  - Repeat with the second back corner. Ideally there will be ~ 6 in / 15 cm of guyline tail/slack (Image 2A). The back should now be standing.
3. Walk to the front of the tent. You can use one *or* two trekking (or optional) poles for the front setup. **If using one pole, skip to step 9.**
4. If pitching with **two** front poles, locate the two **outer** grommets under the front vent flap (Image 2B).
  - Pull grommets firmly forward and center the front of the tent between the rear corners, creating symmetrical ridge lines for an even pitch (Image 2B).
5. Place one pole tip into each of the outer grommets and position the pole handles on the ground next to each other. This V-formation allows two poles to function as one pole. (Image 2B-dotted lines).
6. With one hand stabilizing the poles, use the other hand to stake out the adjacent tent corner. Avoid moving or tilting the poles and keep the ridgeline centered for an even pitch (Image 2B).



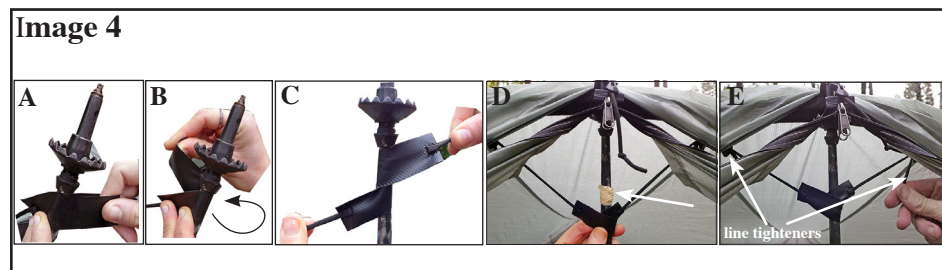
7. Repeat Step 6 for the second front corner (Image 2B).
  - The tent should now be standing.
8. Slide poles to vertical to give additional tension (Image 2 B--solid lines).
  - Adjust guyline tighteners and stake placement as needed.
  - Adjust bathtub floor line tighteners as necessary (Image 2B).
9. If pitching with **one** front pole, first locate the **middle** grommet under the front vent flap . Make sure to center the front of the tent between the rear corners, creating symmetrical ridge lines for an even pitch (Image 3B).  
(Continued on the back)

## Tarptent MoTrail Setup (continued...)

- Place pole tip into the middle grommet and place handle on the ground.
- With one hand stabilizing the pole, use the other hand to stake out the adjacent tent corner. Avoid moving or tilting the pole and ensure the ridge line remains centered for even pitch (Image 3B).
  - Repeat for the second front corner. The tent should now be standing.
- Adjust guylines and stake placement as necessary, starting front to back.
- Adjust bathtub floor line tighteners as necessary (Image 2B).

### III. Additional Adjustments and Features

- Storm flap can be opened or closed from inside the tent (Image 3A).
  - Use sidewall pullouts to further tension fly edge in bad weather (Image 3A).
  - Top strut can be removed if desired for packability (Image 1-Front).
  - Use front vestibule guylines for extra support in high winds (Image 1-Front).
  - The clip below the front vent flap can be used for tying up mesh doors.
- 6. Stabilizing Strap:** To give the one pole front set up additional stability, use the stabilizing strap (Image 4).
- We recommend applying tape, or a line of glue ~6 in / 15 cm below the tip of your pole. This will prevent the stabilizing strap from moving up the pole (Image 4 D--white arrow).
  - Locate the stabilizing strap under the top vent flap.
  - Twist the strap and run your front pole through the opening so that the strap is twisted around the trekking pole, below the tip (Image 4 A,B,C).
  - Push the twisted strap down the pole as far as possible, away from the tip. The strap should be below the tape or glue that you previously placed around your pole (~6 in / 15 cm below the pole tip) (Image 4D).
  - After the strap is correctly positioned, place the pole tip into the middle grommet hole and place the pole handle on the ground (Image 3B).
  - Finally, use the line tighteners to further secure the stabilizing strap, effectively reducing front pole side sway (Image 4E).



### IV. Condensation and Sag

- For a short, animation about condensation and where to pitch your tent visit: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCQuY\\_IAL1Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCQuY_IAL1Y)
- Nylon stretches (and sags) when the humidity goes up, during the night, and/or when it starts to rain. Use the line tighteners and/or boost trekking poles to tighten the fabric.

### V. Key Points to Consider

- The fabric will resist much stress but neither flame nor abrasion. Treat it accordingly.
- To prevent the rear pole from sinking in loose or wet soil, place it on a thin, flat rock.

### VI. Seam-Sealing

Tarptent shelters need to be seam-sealed with **silicone** only!

- Please refer to the seam-sealing instructional video: <http://www.tarptent.com/ttvideos.html>

#### To Seam-Seal your MoTrail:

- Set up tent in a cool, dry, well ventilated area.
- In a well ventilated location prepare silicone sealant by squirting approx. 3 tablespoons of silicone into a tuna can (or a similar disposable receptacle) and mix with approx. 6 tablespoons mineral spirits (paint thinner) or Coleman fuel/white gas. Mix until the solution has the consistency of a thick olive oil.
- Using a small foam brush or rolled up paper towel, paint the solution onto the seams. After the solution is applied, run a paper towel over the seams to help push the solution into the seam holes and to wipe up the excess solution.
- We recommend painting several thick lines of silicone on the interior bathtub floor to form an anti-skid mat.

We hope you enjoy your MoTrail! Feedback is always welcome.

#### Tarptent

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