

A Historical Note

We have included the information on this page to show you one traditional way that the Native American used to determine the proper tripod pole measurements. We call it the **step-off method**. If you have a tipi and do not know what size it is (or if you lose this set up booklet), you would use the method explained on this page to find your exact tripod pole lengths. It is simple and it works every time. We include this page as an interesting historical reference and we encourage you to use it. If you cannot lay your tipi out this way, we also provide measurements. The complete instructions that you will follow to set up your Nomadics tipi begin on page **4**.



THE STEP-OFF METHOD

In order to establish the proper position and length for the Door Pole, start at **A** and walk around the edge of the tipi cover to point **B**. Walk toe-to-heel one foot in front of the other and count your steps from **A** to **B**. Let us say for instance that you count 30 steps from **A** to **B**.

Simply divide 30 by 1/3. This gives you 10. That means that you start again at **A** and walk toe-toheel around the edge of the tipi cover 10 steps, going towards **B** again. Stop at 10 steps and place the end of the Door Pole (**D**) at that point on the edge of the tipi cover. Your three tripod poles should now look like the drawing above. The North and South Poles going side by side down the middle of the tipi cover, the Door Pole placed **1/3** of the way from **A** to **B**, and the Door Pole crossing the north and South Poles at **Z**.

We prefer to have our tipi cover about 2"- 3" off the ground when it is finally set up. As we pull the butt ends of the North Pole, South Pole and Door Pole about 4" beyond the edge of the tipi cover, we lay these tripod poles on the cover for measuring the tripod. This will create a 2" gap between the ground and the cover, which allows better air flow up behind the liner. This is also helpful even in the winter. It does not make the tipi cold.

Instructions for Setting Up a 3-Pole Tipi

Please view our set-up instructional video on our website www.tipi.com

Greetings from the Nomadics Tipi Makers

These tipi set-up instructions are complete and detailed in every respect. Although you may be familiar with setting up tipis, you must use the exact measurements that we provide here. If you use the correct tripod pole lengths and the ground plan distances, your Nomadics tipi will set up tight and wrinkle free. Additionally, a secure, properly tied clove hitch is the only acceptable knot for ensuring a strongly tied tipi tripod. Always read the entire section of a set-up phase before beginning that particular part of the set-up process.

If you are setting up your tipi for the first time, please watch our set-up instruction video on our website page http://www.tipi.com/tipi-set-up/. It is a professionally filmed and edited 70 min. documentary aimed at preserving all the details and historical notes of pitching a 3-Pole tipi. You will also find the individual segments as shorter video clips - Two people who have never set up a tipi before should complete the cover set up for an 18 ft. tipi in 2-3 hours. The tipi liner will take 1-2 hours; allow more time for the larger tipis.

Although it is rarely necessary, we are always happy to help you trouble shoot issues that might arise. Call us at 1-541-389-3980 or e-mail pictures to nomadics@tipi.com.

Tools you will need:

Optional tools:

- 25 ft. tape measure
- Pocket knife or sharp scissors
- Hammer
- Hand saw or hatchet
- Short step ladder or equivalent
- Black felt marking pen

- optional tools.
- 1/2" to 3/4" Electrical staples
- Matches or lighter
- ³⁄₄" or 1" Tack or short nail
- 10 ft. of 1/4" wooden dowel

INDEX

Preparing your Tipi Poles	3
Laying out the Tripod Poles	4
The Tripod Set Up	5
The Tipi Ground Plan	6
Laying in All the Tipi Poles	8
Putting on the Tipi Cover	10
Putting up the Tipi Liner	15
Putting up the Tipi Ozan	
The Tipi Door Cover	
Using Your Smoke Flaps	
Dealing with Rain; Rain Cap; Rain Catcher	23
Floor Solutions and Building a Deck	25
Care of Your Tipi	27
At Home in the Tipi / The Open Fire	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SETTING UP A 3-POLE TIPI

Set your tipi up on level ground and ideally that is slightly higher than the surrounding area - this prevents drainage problems in wet weather. Avoid erecting the tipi directly under old trees that might drop dead branches on your tipi during wind storms. Try to choose a tipi site that will get maximum sun in the winter. If you choose to set up your tipi on a deck or would like to explore other floor solutions, please see page 25.

PREPARING YOUR TIPI POLES

If you have purchased tipi poles from us, the poles have already been peeled. You may need to smooth out any remaining rough spots or branch nodes. Use either a sharp flat blade hatchet, a draw knife, a hand or small electric planer or an electric belt sander using progressively smoother grades of sandpaper. Cracks in the poles, as shown in picture **2** are natural with lodge pole pine poles. They do not interfere with the structural integrity of the pole.



Once your poles are smooth, you need to treat them with a wood preservative. This will ensure that they will last you 10-15 years and will also help keep the natural light color of the wood. For an organic treatment we prefer a brew of 50% boiled linseed oil (it comes that way from the store) and 50% turpentine. Apply this mixture up to three times, allowing complete drying in-between coats. An excellent commercial product is Maximum from a company named Olympic. Buy it in a clear, natural color and apply 1-3 coats. This product will soak in instantly and you can set up your tipi the same day. Using a rag rather than a brush speeds up the process.

If you are getting your own tipi poles, any species of tree will do for a tipi pole. The important requirements are that it be 3"-3.5" in diameter at the butt and taper to 1.7" in diameter where the cluster of poles cross. Of course the straighter the tipi pole the better. If a pole is a little bowed, twist the pole so that the bow is against the tipi canvas once the tipi cover is around the poles. If your pole choice is limited, it is better to get poles that are 2.5" at the butt rather than having poles that are too thick.

If you gather your poles in the spring then you may be able to simply pull the bark off with you fingers. Poles should be as dry as possible before putting up your tipi. The sooner you remove the bark from the poles the easier it will be to get it off. Be sure your poles are laid flat for drying, the first few days being critical. If you don't have time to dry your poles before putting up your tipi, twist each pole 180° each day for about 10 days or so. This will continually compensate for the bow that wants to develop in the poles. You cannot do this with your tripod poles. They are locked up tight. Likewise, you cannot do this if your tipi liner is up. Leave it off until your poles are sufficiently dry.



Your poles can extend beyond the top of your tipi as far as you like. However, if you are trying to keep them short for easy transportation then they only need to be 2 ft. longer than the stated size of your tipi, i.e. 20 ft. long for an 18 ft. tipi. For the proper installation of a rain cap, your poles should not be more than 4 feet longer than the size of your tipi. Cut your poles at the top and round the tips.

LAYING OUT THE TRIPOD POLES

Select your three sturdiest poles for the tripod poles. Then select the two shortest, smallest, and least straight poles for your smoke flap poles. Set them aside for now. Spread the tipi cover out flat on the ground with the inside of the cover facing upward toward the sky as in illustration **1** (Our address label is sewn on the inside of the cover).



on the left side. We refer to the left side of the tipi as the side to your left when you are standing in front of the tipi, facing the door hole. See illustration **8**.

To measure the tripod poles for tying, please refer to the measurements on page 5. You can also use the step-off method explained on page 1. The North Pole (**N**) and the South Pole (**S**) are laid down the middle of the cover, side by side. The Door Pole (**D**) is now laid across the north and South Poles and crosses them right at the base to the Lift Pole flap (**Z**).

IMPORTANT: You do not need to do this layout, measuring and tying on top of the tipi cover itself. The poles can be laying wherever is most convenient, preferably at the exact tipi site, with the butt of the Door Pole (**D**) exactly where the door will be when the tipi is set up (see illustration **8** dotted graphic). Lay the Door Pole across the north and South Poles at the approximate angle that you seen in illustration **1** & **8**.

THE TRIPOD SET UP

Cotton is a pliable material, therefore tripod measurements cannot be exact all the time. As your tipi ages, your tripod measurements can change due to the stretching of the fabric. The most accurate way to determine the tripod measurements is the step-off method explained on page **1**. The measurements given below are for new tipi covers and should be used if you cannot use the step-off method. These measurements include 4" extra pole length beyond the bottom cover edge. **Z** refers to the point where the North Pole, South Pole, and Door Pole are tied together.

TIF	PI SIZE	Z to N	Z to S	Z to D
	12'	10'7"	10'7"	11'7"
	14'	11'5"	11'5"	13'5"
	16'	13'8"	13'8"	15'5"
	18'	15'10"	15'10"	17'6"
	20'	18'2"	18'2"	19'6"
	22'	20'	20'	21'2"
	24'	22'6"	22'6"	24'11"
	26'	23'2"	23'2"	24'11"

TYING THE TRIPOD POLES TOGETHER

You will need 45 ft. of good quality 1/2" manila rope. Straw rope will also be suitable. Synthetic rope will not do. Synthetic rope slips against itself and will not grip the poles. Begin by tying the three tripod poles together with a clove hitch as in illustration 6. Start with about 7 ft. of rope so that when the clove hitch is tied, you have 5 ft. of rope left over on one side of the knot and about 38-40 ft. left over on the other side of the knot. Now starting just below the clove hitch, wrap the 5 ft. of rope around the poles three or four times and finish it off with another clove hitch, see illustration 7. This ties the tripod poles together. The other long end of the tripod rope will be used to raise the tripod - Do not cut it off! Your three tripod poles should now look like illustration 1.

POSITIONING THE TRIPOD POLES

Now, being very careful not to let any of the poles slide at the knot, carry the tripod to your tipi site maintaining the relative positions of the tripod poles.





To set up the tripod on the proper location, place the butts of the North and South Poles near the black dot S in illustration 8. Place the butt of the Door Pole at the black dot D. The dotted lines in illustration 8 show the position of the tripod poles on the ground.



THE TIPI GROUND PLAN

and 26 ft. tipi requires 18 poles in the framework.

TRIPOD DISTANCES ON THE GROUND

The measurements given here show exactly how to position your North, South, and Door Poles on the ground. Find the size of your tipi on the left column and then measure out the three distances **S** to **D**, **N** to **D**, and **S** to **N**.

The measurements are made along the ground from the inside of the pole butts. You will notice that the tripod poles form an isosceles triangle. An isosceles triangle has two equal sides.

TIPI SIZE	S to D	N to D	S to N
12'	10'5"	10'5"	8'10"
14'	11'8"	11'8"	10'2"
16'	13'	13'	11'10"
18'	15'10"	15'10"	12'10"
20'	18'2"	18'2"	16'2"
22'	19'	19'	17'
24'	20'3"	20'3"	19'4"
26'	23'5"	23'5"	22'

RAISING THE TRIPOD

Photo 9 shows how one person puts their feet at the base of the **N** and **S** poles and pulls on the tripod rope as the other person walks up under the poles, pushing up slowly as they are raised. Then, while holding the poles in a near vertical position, push the North Pole out and away from you approximately 6 ft. Release the tension on the rope allowing the tripod to sit on the ground. The tripod is now stable and you can begin moving each pole out to its correct position according to the **GROUND PLAN** and measurements given on page 6. Take the North Pole and slowly spread the poles into a tripod by swinging the North Pole away from the South Pole and placing the butt of the North Pole at the black dot **N** in illustration **8**. See this sequence in photos **10, 11, 12** and **13**.

PLEASE NOTE: If your clove hitch has been properly tied, there should be a reasonable amount of resistance from the knot as you swing the North Pole into position. You should hear definite creaking and squeaking of the rope as the clove hitch clamps down on the tripod poles. The tripod is now locked into position. At this point you can test the strength of your tripod by swinging from the tie rope. It should easily support one or two adults. See photo **14** (This is Jeb in his younger years).

Once your tripod pole distances are correctly set, it is best to never move them. Since the tipi is an asymmetrical cone, you will throw the (10 11 entire set up out of proportion if you move one pole. N (12) (14) 13 D

Because the tipi is not a perfectly symmetrical cone, the Door Pole has to be longer in order to tilt it to the rear. In the illustration here the dotted lines represent a perfect cone. The longer, more angular front slope to the tipi helped brace the tipi against the west winds and also afforded more head room at the back of the tipi which is the main living space. This also accounts for the tipi floor being egg shaped.

LAYING IN ALL THE TIPI POLES

Select your sturdiest pole and set it aside. This will be your Lift Pole. It is used to lift the tipi cover into place after all the poles have been laid in. When carrying a tipi pole around, carry it straight up and down, perpendicular to the ground. See **21**.

Now look again at illustration **8**. Small circles are drawn to indicate where the butt of each pole goes. The numbers **1** through **11** indicate the proper sequence in which the tipi poles should be laid into the three tripod poles. **Note:** The 14 ft. and 26 ft. tipi have a different number of tipi poles and pole positions than the other tipis. See the Ground Plans in illustration **8**.

Select a pole and place the butt of the pole at the "1" position as indicated in illustration 8. I am placing the number **1** pole in position in photo 15. Put your feet at the base of the pole as you lower it slowly into the front crotch of the tripod poles. It is very important that poles 1, 2, 3, 4 and poles 5, 6, 7, 8 all be placed in this front crotch. I have placed arrows in photo 15 to indicate the "V" that represents this front crotch of the tripod. This front crotch "V" is formed by the North Pole and the South Pole. When the number 1 pole is in proper position, the distance between the butt of the Door Pole and the butt of the number 1 pole should be about 3 ft. This is where the tipi door hole will be. See 8. Also look at 39. In 39 you are looking at the door from the inside of the tipi. Notice that the Door Pole and number 1 pole



run right along-side the door hole. This gives the door hole good taut support and helps hold its shape.

In the same manner, and using the illustration **8** as your Ground Plan guide, place poles number 2, 3 and 4 in position. See photo **16** and **17**. Now lay poles 5,6,7 and 8 in the front crotch as well. In photo **18** we are laying in pole number 5. Photo **19** shows poles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 all properly laid in the front crotch and position correctly.



Caution: Poles 7-8 can slip out of the crotch easily. (for a large tipi this is poles 8-10) Have someone hold them in place until you wrap the poles with the cover rope.

Before laying in poles 9, 10 and 11, go around to the back of the tipi and look up at the cluster of poles. See 20. You will notice the opening outlined in black and white dots in 20. This is the back crotch. Lay poles 9,10 and 11 in the back crotch. Notice in 8 that you do not place a pole in the position marked **L**, between poles number 10 and 11. This is for the Lift Pole. In 21 and 22 I am laying in pole number 9. Pole number 11 is being laid in place in photo 23. Note the space to my left where the Lift Pole will be placed. Once poles 9, 10 and 11 are in the cluster should look like photo 24 when looking at the pole cluster from the back of the tipi.

Now see **25**. Take the long rope and wrap it around the cluster of poles. Walk clockwise around the tipi. Keep the rope taut but do not pull so hard as to shift any of the poles off the ground. Continue around the tipi 4 times whipping and snapping (see picture **1**) the rope up into tight coils around the cluster of poles. When you have finished wrapping the rope around 4 times in this manner, bring it over the North Pole and let it hang free toward the ground.







PUTTING ON THE TIPI COVER

Before putting on the tipi cover you might want to treat your canvas with an additional protective finish if you live in extreme climates. Please refer to **Care of Your Tipi Cover** on page **27**.

Take the pole you have chosen for the Lift Pole and lay it on the outstretched tipi cover directly on top of the Lift Pole flap (**26**). At the bottom center edge of the tipi cover extend the butt of the Lift Pole off the tipi cover about 4". Using a 2'6" piece of small rope, run the rope through the loop in the Lift Pole flap. Have one person hold the bottom edge of the tipi cover tightly against the tipi Lift Pole with 4" of tipi pole extending beyond the edge of the canvas as just explained. The other person, at the Lift Pole

flap, pulls the canvas gently but steadily to stretch the canvas flat against the pole. Using the rope that has been put through the Lift Pole flap slot bind the Lift Pole tightly to the pole. See **Z** in illustration **1** and also in the illustration at right.

PLEASE NOTE: If your tipi slips down from its original tie point at any phase of your tipi set-up process, the tipi will not fit perfectly. If it slips as much as 2" or 3" or more you will have wrinkles in the back and that will not come out. Therefore we suggest you hammer a small, ³/₄" or 1" tack or nail through the Lift Pole flap at the rope loop and into the Lift Pole. The Lift Pole flat is four layers thick and this small hole will not weaken it at all or encourage a tear that enlarges over time. First, bind the Lift Pole flap down as explained before. The tack is an additional aid. The reason why securing the Lift Pole flap to the Lift Pole is so important is because of the sheer weight of the tipi cover



itself. An 18 ft. tipi weighs 55 to 65 lbs depending on the fabric you choose. We highly recommend using a tack with the 22 ft. or 26 ft. tipi because of their excessive weight. The moment the tipi cover is spread over the poles all stress is relieved from the tack.

Take your staking cord and prepare the staking loop as explained on page 13. Divide the rest of the rope into two equal length cords. These are your small flap lines.

Now tie a "smoke flap line" to each of the smoke flaps at the bottom of the Cheyenne extension. Wedge a stick into your smoke flaps so that they stay open. This will be helpful once you try to put the smoke flap poles into it. See W in 1. Use the peg loop provided for the smoke flap line in the corner of the flap at W (illustration 1). These lines will then be tied to a stake in front of the tipi as in photo (75+78). Now, with the tipi cover still on the ground, fold each side of the canvas in towards the Lift Pole until the tipi is one long bundle laying along-side the Lift Pole. See photo 28.



With the heavier tipis, or if you are raising the tipi by yourself, we suggest some additional support techniques. Using the smoke flap rope, bind the tipi cover to the lift pole by wrapping it with the smoke flap rope. Use a slip-knot of some sort and leave a long enough tail that you can reach it and release it from the ground. Now grip the canvas very tightly against the Lift Pole and raise the entire bundle in the air as in 28. It is very important not to let the weight of the tipi cover "hang" from the Lift Pole flap where you have bound it to the Lift Pole. Place the butt of the Lift Pole at L in 8. and slowly lower it into position in the back crotch. See 29, 30 and **31**. When you are lowering the Lift Pole into the back crotch, the back crotch should look like 24. Twist the Lift Pole so that the tipi canvas is on the backside or outside of the Lift Pole.

Spread the cover around the poles and bring it together between the Door Pole and the number 1 pole. It helps to billow the canvas as you walk towards the front. This helps "float" the canvas around the poles rather than jerking and pulling it across the surface of the tipi poles themselves. See **31** and **32**.

When you have brought the tipi halves together at the front, go inside and tie the short smoke tie ribbons together. They are at the top of the pinning flaps - Y in 1. Tie them together as shown in 33. You will need a short step ladder or equivalent to reach the ties.













PINNING YOUR TIPI COVER TOGETHER

Lacing pins should be ½" in diameter and 14" long each. You will need to sharpen one end of each lacing pin. The pointed end makes it much easier to work the lacing pin through the four button holes at each lacing pin location. Do not put a super sharp point on the end of the pin. A sharp point could potentially pierce the tipi cover fabric if you accidentally poked the fabric with the pin.

IMPORTANT: When standing outside the tipi, the left Pinning Flap should go over on top of the right Pinning Flap **(34)**.



Put the lacing pin through the button holes going from right to left as shown in the illustration. It is very helpful to first prepare each button hole - while the tipi cover is on the ground - by putting a pin in it and widening the hole. Work the pin in a circular motion four or five times to stretch the hole a little bit. It is best to twist or "screw" the pin as you maneuver it through the two holes on the right and then out the two holes on the left. There are two holes on each side because the two pinning facing are on top of each other in order to bind them together securely. Begin at the top of the pinning facing just under the smoke flaps as shown in photo **33** and **36**. For lacing the pinning facing together properly, see photos **36**, **37** and **38**.



Once the pinning flaps are laced together you are ready to adjust the tipi cover and stake it down. First, move the number 1 pole so that it runs along side the door hole as in **39**. If the tipi cover is very wrinkled all around the sides and it is 6" or more above the ground in most places, move all the

poles *inside* about 6". To do this, twist the pole back-and-forth and push it upwards as you move it inside, toward the center of the tipi.

Please Note: Do not try to move the tripod poles very much. A few inches is the most you should ever move them if you move them at all. Moving the other tipi poles inward slightly will allow you to pull the wrinkles out of the canvas and give the cover a uniform appearance. If you have too much canvas near the ground, then simply move some of the poles to the outside a few inches. At this point you should not be trying to get the tipi cover super tight. Just get all the major wrinkles out by adjusting your poles in and out.





PREPARING YOUR SMOKE FLAP POLES

Now go back to the two tipi poles that you set aside for use as smoke flap poles. You will need to cut them off so that they are two feet longer than the size of your tipi. For example, for an 18 ft. tipi, the smoke pole length needs to be 20 ft. long, for a 20 ft. tipi, they need to be 22 ft. long etc. Whatever amount you need to cut off should be cut from the small end of the pole. The cut end should be rounded and smoothed so that it is not abrasive to the canvas in the smoke flap pocket. Now, place the two smoke flap poles in the smoke

flap pockets and cross their butts behind the tipi as in **40** and **41**. The ends that go into the smoke flap pockets should be very blunt. The butts of the smoke poles should be 2 ft. to 3 ft. from the edge of the tipi. See **35**. Do not put a lot of pressure on the smoke flaps just yet. Just support them enough to take any major wrinkles out of the smoke flaps themselves.

STAKING THE TIPI COVER DOWN

If you purchased our plastic tent stakes, you have received staking cord as well. Count the number of peg loops on your tipi cover and cut 30" lengths, for each peg loop (it is best to melt each end of the cut cord to prevent fraying.) Tie the 30" pieces to each peg loop as is shown in the next photo. NEVER PUT YOUR TENT STAKES DIRECTLY THROUGH THE TIPI PEG LOOPS. If your tipi is securely staked down, the tipi will withstand very strong winds, assuming your smoke flaps are closed tightly. For sandy or loose soil, we recommend larger stakes. For rocky soil, please use metal stakes

Before you stake your tipi down, there are two things that you need to check. First, go inside the tipi and check the way the cover looks for uniformity. It is OK at this point to have a few wrinkles but they should be essentially the same on both sides of the tipi. The usual causes for an uneven set-up are poles that have slipped, three or four poles sinking particularly deep into the ground, an uneven ground or incorrect ground plan measurements. Also be sure that the door hole opening is between the Door Pole and the number 1 pole.

Ideally the cover should have no wrinkles but be draped loosely and uniformly around the poles. Now be sure that none of your poles are tight against the canvas. Move your poles so that they are about 4" to 6" inside of where you think their final position will be. This is strictly an "eyeball" affair. At this point, notice that the canvas will be a little tight across your three tripod poles and may even be a little high on them also. That is OK. Do not move the tripod poles in. We are essentially going to move all the other poles out to meet them in the final finishing stage of the set up. What you are looking for now is a uniform draping of the tipi cover.

Now stake the tipi down. To do this, pull the peg loop *down and out away from the poles*. Pull *out* as hard as you can. Position your tie stake about 4" from the peg loop. Drive the stake in the ground *about half way in* and tie the cord to the stake. See photo **43**. When the cord is taut, hammer the stake all the way into the ground. See **44**. Start your staking at the front of the tipi and go towards the back side, doing both sides at once. When your tipi is finished being set up, the bottom edge of the tipi cover should be about 3" off the ground. Don't worry if your cover is even 4" to 6" away from your poles. See photo **45**.



When the tipi is completely staked down, go inside and push the poles outward against the cover as hard as you can. Again, twist each pole and pull down on it as you push it out again the cover. See photo **46**. Attach the smoke flap lines to the pole in front of the tipi and pull them taut. This stake should be 6 ft. tall and placed 6 ft. in front of the door hole. Now push the smoke poles up taut in the smoke flap pockets. Your tipi should now look like illustration **46** and the color photo on the back cover of these set up instructions.

A properly staked down tipi <u>before</u> the tipi poles have been pushed out against the cover to their final positions. Note that the tipi is staked about 3" off the ground.



Final set up after the tipi poles have been pushed out to their final positions. Now look around the tipi and space the poles evenly but not necessarily equidistant.



TROUBLE-SHOOTING: Most problems arise from an incorrectly positioned tripod. If your tipi is full of wrinkles at the top but has none at the bottom you have probably spread the tripod poles out too wide. It is also likely that your Lift Pole Flap has slid down the Lift Pole. Check your mark on the Lift Pole. Move all the tripod poles in about 4" to 6" and try again. If you have a lot of wrinkles at the bottom of the tipi but the top seems OK then move the tripod poles out a few inches. Remember! The tripod poles should only be moved if all else fails. Normally all the wrinkles can be easily straightened out by simply pulling on the tipi canvas and moving the other poles in and out a few inches. If your cover is wrinkle free except for the very top, your tipi poles may be too large at the point where they all cluster together.

SECURING THE CRITTER GUARD

If you have ordered your tipi with critter guard, it is already sewn onto your tipi cover bottom. (unfortunately, we cannot retrofit it). Once your cover is staked down, secure the critter guard to the poles with a staple gun or nails (47), and weigh it down onto the ground from the inside. Anything heavy will do, such as bricks, logs, stones, tiles or our sand snakes, which you can fill with sand so they fit exactly between poles. Another alternative is to use heavy horse mats. Measure the distance between each pole and cut 4"-6" wide strips that fit right between the poles. Place them onto the critter guard from the inside of the tipi. See photo **52**.



PUTTING UP THE TIPI LINER

Put your tipi liner up only after your tipi cover is put up wrinkle free. Liners for all size tipis always come in three sections. Each section has a certain number of panels, e.g. 12ft: 3-4-3, 14ft: 3-3-3, 16ft: 3-4-3, 18ft: 4-4-4, 20ft: 4-6-4, 22ft: 4-6-4, 24ft: 6-6-6, 26ft: 6-8-6. - Notice that the biggest section always goes in the back. Hang this section first, then hang the two side sections.

INSTALLING THE LINER ROPE

To hang the liner, you will need to install the liner rope first. Put a continuous rope around each tipi pole, starting at one door pole and ending at the other door pole. You will need 3 horizontal lines for a 6ft liner, 4 horizontal lines for a 9ft liner. An alternative to wrapping the liner rope around each pole is to drill eye screws into each pole, off center (**48**). Pull the rope very taunt from pole to pole as you go around but do not pull so hard that you move the poles. We suggest putting a ½" to ¾" electrical staple in every other pole to keep the rope from sliding up or down, or loosing its tension.

If you choose to wrap your liner rope around the poles instead of using eye screws, we suggest that you insert two small dowels, small sticks or nails underneath the liner rope at every pole on the top, as a rain channel (**49**). If you wrap your liner rope around each pole it will cause a tight cover to bulge and stretch, as seen in picture **50**. These stress points can weaken the canvas, especially in high wind areas where the canvas is moved a lot. This is not necessary if you have a raincap or interior raincatcher or if you are in an area with little rain.



Use the 50' long 1/4" sisal rope for your liner ropes. Attempt to place the bottom rope as low to the ground as you can (**52**). Drilling the holes for the eye screws might be challenging so close to the ground, so you might opt to wrap the rope around the poles for the bottom rope, then use eye screws for the middle and top ropes. Once the bottom rope is in place, mark every pole at 32" up for the middle rope and at an additional distance of 39" up for the top rope. For a 9ft liner, mark the second row at a 32" distance, add another line at 38" distance from the second row, then finish off with a distance of 39" for the top rope. Using these measurements, you are assuring that the liner rope will be above the line of ties at the back of the liner, which enables you to pull the liner upwards when tying it to the liner rope. Pulling the liner upwards will create a taunt liner. Keep your measuring tape flat against the pole when you measure, as the angle of each pole varies.





HANGING THE LINER

Find the center section of your liner. If you have a painted liner, it is the liner section that is painted all the way from left to right. The side sections of your liner have an unpainted panel that is the one that gets wrapped around the door poles. If one of your three liner sections is longer than the other two, then this is the section you begin with. Lay it down on the tipi floor and center it at the back middle with the bottom liner ties up against the bottom liner rope. Start at or close to the lift pole and work your way outwards. Pull the bottom of the liner gently from tie to tie to keep the canvas smooth and wrinkle free. Do not tie the liner ties to the tipi poles even though some may align directly in front of a pole. When the bottom is finished, do the same process for the middle and top ties.

Once the back section is up, smooth out any wrinkles by sliding the ties outward on the rope. See **54**. Hang the remaining two sections in the same manner making sure that the edges of the liner sections are as close together as you can get them. Overlap the ties at the end of the liner to create an additional shingle effect. See **53**.



The back center section of your liner should look like this when properly hung. Notice that the top liner rope is higher than the liner ties.

When you are finished, the left front liner section and the right front section should look similar to illustration **55.** There will be access liner fabric when you reach the door poles on both ends. Wrap the extra fabric around the door poles for a finished look (**56**). Use an utility knife to cut a small slit into the liner fabric if you need to tie the door flap or the door snake to the poles.





SEALING THE TIPI LINER

If you aren't going to be moving your tipi too frequently, sewing your liner sections together will make your liner one solid insulator. This is normally not necessary, but it helps reduce the cold air drafts when you plan to live in your tipi in the winter. Just sew the edges together by hand after you have put the liner up. Sewing ½" wide Velcro on each side works very well also.

It is very important to seal the area where the liner meets the tipi floor. As explained earlier, the bottom of the liner has 6" of extra fabric intended to be used to make this seal. Be sure that this seal is a permanent, snug "weather-stripping". If you plan on having a carpet as your flooring, wedge this 6" lip between your ground cloth and the carpet (**57**). If the carpet is heavy, this might be all you need to do. If your floor solution is a deck, a concrete pad, a tile floor, gravel or the ground, then you will want to weigh this 6" lip down. You can use bricks, stones, or logs rolled into a blanket. A very clean solution is using our sand snakes and door snakes.



Our sand snakes are 6ft long tubes made out of the Sunforger canvas. They have a sturdy velcro closure and when filled with sand, they weigh about 30lbs. You would need to purchase the sand and a little shovel and fill each tube. Close the velcro tightly and place the snakes on top of the liner lip (**59**). To cover the gap beneath the door entrance (**56**), we have engineered a door snake. It is a 3ft sand snake that fits right between the door poles (**60**). It has a fabric flap for extra coverage that can be tied to the third lacing pin in the same manner you tie the door flap, See page 19, picture **68** & **69**. You might not need to tie the flap ends to the poles, it might be enough to just tug them in between the poles and the cover.







PLEASE NOTE: If you are using a ground cloth as a moisture barrier, it should not act as a "gutter" that collects rain that drips off the bottom edge of the tipi cover. Check to be sure the floor tarp does not extend outside the tipi onto the ground. If you purchased the ground cover from us, it is a 16 mil PE tarp, that can be cut easily with a utility knife or scissors.

PUTTING UP THE TIPI OZAN



The ozan goes in the back middle of the tipi at the height of the top of the tipi liner. It extends about 1/4 to 1/3 of the way into the tipi space at this height. It should not extend so far into the tipi that it traps smoke underneath it from the fire. See illustration 61 and Photo 63. Begin your set-up by tying the middle or center of the arc of the ozan to the liner rope at the very center back of the tipi. You will notice that there is about 6" of extra material beyond the ozan tie. Do not be concerned with this fabric at this point. Continue to tie the ozan to the liner rope around the back circumference of the tipi. When you are finished, slide the ozan ties along the liner rope as needed to assure a smooth, snug fit.

The extra 6" of fabric is provided to create a shinglelike roof effect over the top of the tipi liner. See illustration **62**. To customize this ozan function, you now need to slit or cut this 6" flap right at the center of each tipi pole. The ozan is constructed in such a way that this slit will not weaken the integrity of the ozan fabric. After you cut the slits, then drape the 6" flap sections over the top of the liner rope and down behind the tipi liner. See illustration **62**. Now go to the long straight front edge of the ozan. You will notice



a tie loop in the center of the edge. Run a long rope from one side of the tipi to the other side of the tipi through this tie loop. Attach the rope to any tipi pole that seems to best accommodate this



support line. Your tie points on the tipi poles must be high enough to create a slight backward angle to facilitate the flow of small amounts of rain water back to and over the top of the tipi liner. When finished, your ozan should look like photo **63**.

THE NOMADICS TIPI DOOR COVER

We designed this door cover after many experiences with deep snow, heavy rains, and coastal storms. The top of the door cover passes up *underneath* the top of the tipi door hole and is tied up *inside* the tipi as shown in the drawing at the bottom of this page (**67**). A shingle effect is created between the top of the door hole and the door cover. Any rain or melting snow that runs down the tipi cover to the top of the door hole will drop onto the door cover and continue on down to the ground. Notice that there are ties on each side of the door cover that correspond to the loops sewn onto the tipi cover itself. When the door cover is tied directly to the tipi in this way, the door will remain secured to the tipi even in gale force winds. See Photo **64**.



The ties are also designed so that you may have either a right-hand or left-hand opening door. By tying a short stick to one side of the door cover a useful door handle is made. This helps keep animals from "nosing" their way into the tipi. Generally a right-hand door is best since the prevailing winds are from the left to right when the tipi is facing east. See **64** and **65**.

On the inside of the tipi, the door cover is tied to the tipi poles that are on each side of the door hole. The door cover tie located at the top of the door cover is tied to the backside of a lacing pin above the door. See the illustrations below as well as photos **66** and **69**. This is usually the second lacing pin above the door hole. It is easiest to gently pull this lacing pin out until the pointed end just reaches the gap in between the two sets of button holes. Slip one strand of the top tipi door cover tie behind the lacing pin and push the lacing pin back to the correct position. Now tie the top door tie and snug the top of the door cover up to the lacing pin. See the illustration **68**. Whenever door ties are tied around tipi poles be sure to place the two small sticks under the tie to allow rain to run down the pole. See photo **49**.





USING YOUR SMOKE FLAPS

The smoke flaps are essential in eliminating smoke from the tipi. If properly used there will be no smoke in your tipi. By creating a partial vacuum between the two smoke flaps, smoke is encouraged to rise to the top of the tipi cone. As smoke reaches the top of this partial vacuum between the two smoke flaps the smoke is quickly sucked out of the tipi. It is essential that the smoke flaps *always be angled down wind*. The following photos assume that your tipi door hole is facing east. The prevailing winds are usually from the west and south. It is always best to face the tipi to the east because of these prevailing west winds.

Photos **70** and **71** show the smoke flaps set for a west wind. Since the tipi door is facing east, the wind is blowing from directly behind the tipi. Your smoke flaps will probably be in this position most of the time. Notice that the right smoke flap (as you look at the photo) is angled out to the right just a bit. This compensates for any occasional change of wind direction from the south or southwest.



With the smoke flaps set in this position your smoke flap poles will appear as in photo 72 as seen from behind the tipi. Notice that the poles are crossed and that they have a slight bow in them as they pass around the tipi. Using small, limber poles for your smoke flap poles help keep a aentle tension on the smoke flap.

Photo **73** shows how to change the setting of the smoke flaps. By moving the butt of the smoke pole the smoke flap will change direction. Do not allow the pole to slip out of the smoke flap pocket when maneuvering the smoke flap.

By moving the smoke poles to the positions in **74** the smoke flaps will be set for a south or southwest wind. This is a very common setting. Notice that the butts of the smoke flap poles are only about 2 ft. from the edge of the tipi. If the smoke poles are too long and the pole



Notice that the smoke flap lines help keep the smoke flaps taut, by securing them to a stake in front of the tipi. See **75**



butts cannot be brought near the tipi edge then they will not fit properly in the smoke flaps and wrinkles will result in the smoke flaps. Your smoke flaps should always be kept taut as in **71** and **75**. When the poles are positioned as in **74** the smoke flaps are set as in photo **75**.



These flaps are now in the proper position for a wind blowing from the southwest. This photo gives you a good view of how the smoke flaps eliminate smoke from the tipi. As the wind blows across the opening of the smoke flaps air is drawn out from between the two flaps. This creates a relative absence of air in this area. Air from the inside the tipi then moves upward to fill the space between the flaps and is then sucked on out through the smoke flaps. This is the primary way in which smoke is eliminated from the tipi.

This also demonstrates how the smoke flaps prevent rain from

coming in the smoke hole. Assume rain is coming from the left to right in photo **75**. The left hand smoke flaps is simply angled over the smoke hole to

whatever extent is necessary to prevent rain from coming in the smoke hole. The right hand smoke flap is then angled farther to the right to maintain an adequate opening for smoke to go out. Most major storms come from the southwest. If winds get too strong you may want to tie the smoke flap lines along the north side of the tipi to prevent the lower portion of the smoke flaps from being whipped and torn by strong winds. See photo **76**. Notice that an adequate smoke hole opening still remains. For added security during storms tie your tripod rope



to a long stake driven deep into the ground just behind the fire pit. See **77**. This is the same 45 ft. rope that you



used to wrap around your tipi poles to hold them together. This is also a good idea if you are leaving your tipi for a few days. If you live in coastal areas or in areas that receive strong blasting wind storms then a few additional guy wires are a good idea. See **78**. Tie $\frac{1}{2}$ " rope around the cluster of poles and stake it to the ground 10 or 20 ft from the tipi facing into the wind direction.

If your tipi is staked down well there is virtually no chance of it being blown over. The anchor rope and the guy wires are necessary for extreme circumstances only. Occasionally the wind may shift and blow from the east. This is the only time smoke elimination can be a problem. Photo **79** shows how to set your smoke flaps for an east wind. The smoke flap lines are tied around the opposite sides of the tipi. As the wind blows directed into the flaps it is directed upward across the top of the crossed flaps. This creates the partial vacuum necessary for good smoke elimination from the lodge. If you are leaving home for a few days you will want to close the tipi completely as in photo **80** and **81**.



Walk your smoke poles around to the front of the tipi and lay them on top of the smoke flaps. Again, do not let the smoke pole slip out of the smoke flap pocket as you are maneuvering the poles. Notice that the left flap goes on top of the right flap – just in case a south wind kicks up while you are gone. Notice the smoke flap lines tied to a tent stake on the right side of the tipi.



DEALING WITH RAIN

The tipi is a unique structure that allows you to be in nature while remaining sheltered from the weather. The opening at the top is necessary to build a fire inside of your tipi and to ventilate it during hot days, but it also allows rain to come in. Most of the time rain can be dealt with by simply



maneuvering the smoke flaps (see page 20-22). If rain runs down the poles, it may start dripping from the cover rope or from the inside of the poles and along the pinning face or through the door opening. Smoothly sanded and oiled poles will help to eliminate most of the dripping as the rain runs down the poles, behind the liner and onto the ground. Be sure to keep any ropes or hooks away from the inside facing part of the poles (see photo **49**). A gravel walkway leading from the door to the fire pit will help catch water running down the front and will keep your tipi clean from dirt that you might otherwise track inside (**82**).

EXTERIOR RAIN CAP

If you want to avoid any rain coming into your tipi, we suggest a raincap that can be placed on top of the poles. We offer 9 ft. or 12 ft. canvas raincaps. For them to work properly, however, you must cut your poles to a length of 4 ft. longer than the size of your tipi. For example, the poles for a 18 ft. tipi should only be 22 ft. long. Cut off the tips, not the butts. Round the tips or use

old tennis balls (84) that you stick on top of each pole. Attach 8 ropes to the loops on the raincap and use the smokeflap poles to hoist the cap over the tip of the poles. Then flare out the cap as much as possible and tie the ropes to trees (85), railings (102) or stake them into the ground (83). As an alternative, you can also use an interior rain catcher.





THE NOMADICS INTERIOR RAINCATCHER

The Nomadics interior Raincatcher is our own invention and it eliminates about 90% of the rain coming in once the smoke flaps are closed. You can purchase just the canvas pan with a parts list to make your own raincatcher, or you can get a fully assembled Raincatcher from us. You will need a long ladder that allows you to reach the interior top.



First, firmly connect the drip tube to the raincatcher spout (87). Climb up the ladder and thread the S-hook through the cover rope that holds the poles together (86). Take the long zip ties and put them around each pole with the end facing into the middle, where the raincatcher will be (86). These will be your drip lines which are catching the water that runs down the poles. In addition, you may also choose to use natural fiber rope and lead the ends into the drip pan.

Once all drip lines are in place, grab the raincatcher by the electrical tape that holds the white starter cord together, climb up the ladder and hang it onto the S hook. Undo the electrical tape just before you hang it, then pull on the loose end of the cord and adjust the raincatcher. Use a shorter zip tie to loosely guide the drip hose to a pole, because the movement may change the position of the raincatcher. Now angle the raincatcher slightly towards the spout with the drip tube. If you pour a glass of water in the drip pan, it makes it easier to adjust the angle (**88**). Use the small zip ties to connect the drip tube to its final position on the side of a pole and check the angle of the raincatcher again. If you are happy with the position, tie the end of the white rope to the rain catcher. Using the zip ties, guide the drip tube down the pole, behind the liner and outside the tipi.

For the raincatcher to work, your smoke flaps need to be closed tightly. First push the right smoke flap pole along the left front of the pole cluster and tie the smoke flap line to a peg loop on the left side of the tipi. Now overlap this with the left smoke flap pole, which you push along the right side

of the pole cluster, and tie the smoke flap line to a loop on the right side (89). Climb up the ladder inside and assure that the top of the pinning face is fully covered by the smoke flaps (90).

An ozan is an additional item that you can install to protect your bedding area from any drips. The ozan is an interior ceiling that hangs above the liner, see page 18.

FLOOR SOLUTIONS

There are many ways to create a tipi floor. If you do not want to leave the ground as it is, you can choose wood (91), stone or tile (92), brick or concrete (93-94), gravel or a tarp and a carpet (95).

For any solution that does not extend outside the tipi but elevates the inside floor, you will need to set up your tipi cover first, then build your floor inside of it (**91**). If you stay flush with the ground and the poles can slide from your inside floor to their final position after you have staken down your cover, you can build the floor first (**92-93**).

Rugs on top of any of these bases will add a cozy, warm touch to it. We offer a sturdy tarp as a moisture barrier and base for a carpet, as well as different 4' x 6' wool rugs and backrest chairs.

BUILDING A TIPI DECK

The deck should be larger than the tipi. This illustration uses an 18 ft. tipi as an example. The deck should be 2 ft. larger than the tipi on the sides and at the back of the tipi. You should allow a 3 to 6 ft. "front porch" in front of the door hole (**69**).

In dry climates pressure treated 2x4 or 2x6 boards can be used as floor joist and be placed directly on the ground. In damp climates or for permanent locations it is best to elevate the joist using concrete blocks or concrete pads (**98**). The supporting beams under the joist should be 4x4 or 4x6 depending upon the distance between concrete supports (**99**). Consult a builder for suggestions on joist size and joist spacing ratios.

You will need to cover the joist with plywood or 1" or 2" decking (**97**). Decking thickness depends upon the distance between joists.

The deck must slope outward from the middle so that rain will run off of the deck (**100**). Only a slight outward slope is necessary. The surface of the deck should slope down 1/8" for every 1 ft. of horizontal distance.

To prevent the tipi poles from sliding on the deck, place wooden stop-blocks against each pole. Nail the block into the deck once the final pole position has been established.

To secure the tipi to the deck, use heavy eye screws as anchor points (**101**). Loop the tie cord through the peg loops as shown on page 14. Then pull the canvas down and out away from the poles and mark where the eye screw should be, about 4" from the peg loop. Let go of the canvas and drill a pilot hole, then screw the eye screw firmly into the deck. Repeat this procedure one at a time, starting at the front of the tipi and move towards the back side, doing both sides at once. Continue as described on page 13-14.

CARE OF YOUR TIPI COVER

The tipi cover is the outer skin that is exposed to the environment and it is therefore the first item that will show signs of wear. We make our tipis out of 100% organically grown cotton because it provides a natural feel, breathability, translucency and authenticity. To help prevent the slow weakening of the cotton fiber, all our cotton fabrics are treated with a "Sunforger®" treatment, which is a patented protective finish that is the best treatment available for commercial fabrics. All reputable awning, tent and tipi manufacturers are using fabrics treated with the Sunforger® finish. While the Sunforger® treatment includes mold, mildew and fungi inhibitors, the effect is only temporarily and only affects the most commonly found species of mold and mildew spores in the Continental United States. You will find a more detailed explanation of the limitations of this protective canvas treatment on our website www.tipi.com / Care of your tipi.

There is a direct relationship between the way you care for your tipi and the years of enjoyment you will get out of it. With excellent care, you can get five to eight years or more out of your tipi cover. By contrast, if you set your tipi up and only stay in it a few weekends in the summer and fall and then come back to it in the spring, you might find that after one or two years, it looks old and worn. The main factors that contribute to premature aging of your tipi cover are:

1) High elevation (above 4000 ft.) and other areas with high UV radiation

Locations above 4000 ft. in elevation and places with a depleting ozone layer may have strong UV radiation that affects the tipi fabric. Your canvas could break down after 1-3 years, initially on the south side. If you are in high elevation, a shady location will help prevent the premature breakdown. If you cannot avoid 'baking' your cover in the sun, treat your canvas once a year with Ray Bloc.

2) Wet/humid or hot/humid climates where mold is a known issue

Mold and mildew can form on your fabric within only a few weeks despite the Sunforger® treatment on the canvas, as it only protects against the most common mold spores known in the USA. If mold and mildew is a known issue in your area, use No More Mildew even before you set your tipi up for the first time (**104-105**).

3) Prolonged rainfall or dampness

Mold and mildew can develop if the tipi cover does not have a chance to dry out. Be sure to put an electric heater in your tipi when you get rainfall over several days, or make a fire in it. An electric or solar powered ventilator also helps move the air around, so that mold and mildew spores

do not settle on the canvas. Also, cut down wet grass around the bottom of your tipi.

4) Snow pile-up on the canvas and around the bottom

After a heavy snowfall, brush off the snow, so the heaviness of it does not sag or stretch the canvas. Remove the snow around the bottom of the tipi in order to maintain the ventilation function created by the cover-liner gap. After all snow is removed from the tipi, heat it from the inside to dry out the canvas.

5) Coastal locations with high humidity, salty air and high winds

Treat your cover with a water repellent finish that will shed the water and salt off of your cover. Stake your tipi down firmly to the ground, close the smoke flaps when you expect high winds (62) and stake the cover rope into the ground inside the tipi (59).

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR CANVAS

The size of your tipi determines the square feet of canvas you will need to treat:

12ft: 225sqft / 14ft: 310sqft / 16ft: 400sqft / 18ft: 510sqft / 20ft: 630sqft / 22ft: 760sqft / 24ft: 900sqft / 26ft: 1060sqft.

Be sure to read the instructions for each product. Using a pressure spray bottle is recommended (available at home improvement or landscaping stores). Calculate 4-12 hours of drying time without exposure to rain. It is best to treat your canvas while it is on the ground. Let it dry thoroughly while you prepare the pins and widen the lacing pin holes, prepping the staking cord and putting up the pole structure. If your tipi is already up, use a ladder to reach the upper parts. However, treating the first 3ft. at the bottom is the most important area.

The following products have been recommended by our customers – just search these names on the internet to find online suppliers:

Protecting your fabric:

No More Mildew (www.natlallergy.com) - for mold and mildew protection Ray Bloc (www.raybloc.net) Aqua-Tite (www.sailrite.com)

- - for protection against UV
 - for renewing the canvas' water repellency
- 303 Fabric Guard (www.goldeagle.com) for protection against UV, bird stains

Cleaning your fabric:

Clorox "My Ultimate Care" Bleach NAS-12 (www.natlallergy.com) Wet&Forget (In rainy areas)

- for cleaning mold and mildew
- for cleaning mold and mildew
- for cleaning dirt, mold and mildew

Please review our page 'Care of Your Tipi' on www.tipi.com for further information and videos.

Due to the unpredictable nature of environmental influences, we cannot guarantee our fabrics against mold and mildew formation or breakdown due to excessive ultraviolet radiation.

AT HOME IN THE TIPI

Tipi living is very different than having a tipi as a place to gather with friends or to disappear into your own quiet world for a day (**63+95**). When living in a tipi (**109**), you have to think about kitchen, storage, bathroom and continuous heating, to name a few. We are creating a page on our website that addresses all these questions and invites you to participate and contribute. Please visit www.tipi. com and go to our page about TIPI LIVING. You may add your experience and ideas or get inspirations, tips and tricks from your fellow adventurers.

THE OPEN FIRE

The fire pit should be located underneath the smoke hole. This location is not the very center of the tipi. It is more toward the door hole of the tipi. In an 18 ft. tipi a 3 ft. diameter fire ring would sit 8 ft. from the back but only 7 ft. from the front. To locate the correct spot for your fire pit or stove, stand in the front middle of your tipi and look up through the smoke hole. Move until you are standing directly beneath the center of the smoke hole opening. This is the center of your fire pit. It is a good idea to line your fire pit with fire bricks or stone. It will radiate more heat after the evening fire goes out and help prevent the fire pit from burning itself a larger area over time. Stumps around the fire pit are handy counters and pot stands (**110**). The open fire must be tended constantly. The smaller size wood you use the more flame your fire will have and thus the less smoke it will give off. Pine is one of the smokiest woods. Green wood will smoke more than dry wood. So will rotten wood. Although it will vary by year and location, you will probably need at least 3 cords of wood each winter. We stash our wood just to the left of the door as you walk into the tipi.

Eliminating smoke from the fire is partly facilitated by keeping a small, hot fire that is all flames. This is best accomplished by using small pieces of wood (1" to 2" in diameter) and selecting the correct wood to burn as mentioned above. But the primary way to eliminate smoke from the lodge is accomplished in 3 different ways: 1. Use of the smoke flaps (explained earlier). 2. Maintaining constant air flow under the tipi cover, behind the liner, and up and out the top of the tipi. See 57 and 61. 3. Use your door hole as an air vent. By simply pulling the door cover back just a few inches, air will flow toward the fire, rise with the warm air and help carry smoke upward. An opening of 4" to 6" is sufficient, a larger

opening will not serve as a door flue.

WOOD STOVES

As an alternative to the open fire you can use propane heaters, chimeneas, or wood stoves. If you use a wood stove with a wood stack you cannot run the smoke stack up between the smoke flaps. This is too much heat near the canvas. If you do this the canvas will dry out, become brittle and may ignite due to the excessive heat near the top of the tipi. A smoke stack in an 18ft. tipi should only be 4-5ft. high above the stove (**111**). This way the hot air goes up as it would from an open fire and it cools by the time it reaches the top of the tipi. All smoke stack pipes should be triple wall insulated pipe that is approved by your local building codes. Our tipis are designed for a 2-3 ft. open fire at ground level. **USE COMMON SENSE AND GOOD JUDGEMENT. DO NOT BUILD AN EXCESSIVELY LARGE FIRE AND DO NOT LEAVE IT UNATTENDED.** Also do not use your tipi as a sweat lodge or to smoke meat.

During the summer you may want to remove the lacing pins from beneath the door hole and pull back each side (**112**). This makes a more convenient door opening when snow and mud are not a problem.

SET-UP MISTAKES

The most common set-up mistake is not to read and follow the set-up instructions. The second most common mistake is to leave the set-up to a self-proclaimed "expert" who feels it is not necessary to read the set-up instructions.

One common oversight that new tipi owners make is forgetting to cut their smoke flap poles to the proper length. The proper length is 2 ft. longer than the stated size of your tipi. Another mistake is not using smoke flap poles at all. If the smoke flaps lay on the canvas, mold and mildew will develop very quickly in between the cover and the smoke flaps.

If your tipi gets a tear in the fabric, send us a picture to nomadics@tipi.com or call us at 1-541-389-3980 to discuss the damage, we are happy to give advice and send you a repair kit. You can also purchase fabric glue called "Tear Mender" at local fabric stores.

We would love to hear from you and your experience with your Nomadics Tipi. Please feel free to send us pictures or stories of your tipi - we can keep them to ourselves or share them on our website or social media, whatever you feel comfortable with.

It is our pleasure to be a part of this journey. We wish you many years of peace and meaningful experiences with your tipi.

Your Nomadics Crew

NOMADICS TIPI MAKERS

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