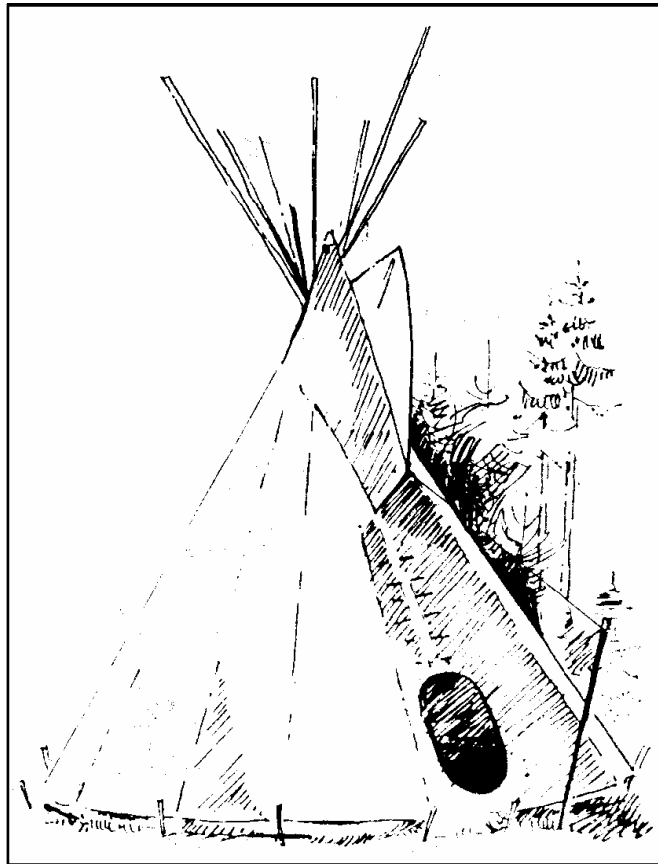


# Setup Instructions Tipi



## The Tipi

A tipi is traditionally used as a home by the Plains Indians. The conical tent is perfectly suitable for living in the great outdoors. Since it is light weight, cool in the summer, warm and comfortable in the winter, rainwater runs out well, and is very wind resistant. With little practice the setup will be easy to handle.

And as soon as you sit around the camp fire there will be nothing more enjoyable than living with a tipi in the great outdoor.

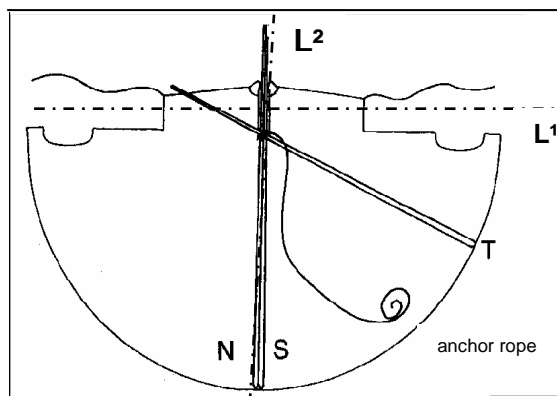
## Material

A tipi is made with wooden poles that meet and cross at the top, an outside tarp, a lining (inside tarp), and an entrance. For visual effects the poles can be 1.50 metres longer than the diameter of the tepee, so to say: a tipi which is 5 metres long needs poles with a length of 6.50 metres. The number of poles depends on the size of the tipi as well.

As wood for the poles we use spruce which is cut and dried and then used without branches as building material for the poles. Other kinds of wood are possible, too.

The thickness of the poles depends on the size of the tipi. The upper ends are pointed finger's breadth. The outside tarp is held together with little wooden sticks. The tipi is fixed to the ground with wooden tent pegs.

## Setup



The setup of a tipi is easy, needs a little practice nevertheless.

Traditionally, the entrance of the tipi is setup towards east – turned away from the weather side (Please also mind the wind direction).

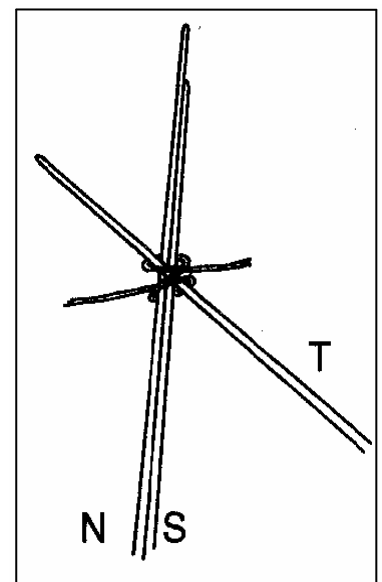
In the following we name the poles according to the cardinal points.

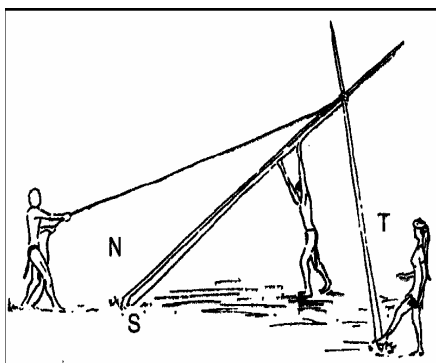
Look for an even place with sufficient space. Spread out the tipi cover with the outside to the ground.

Put the north and south pole in the center of the tarp so that the lower ends of the poles reach approx. ca. 10 to 12 cm over the hem.

Lay the entrance pole (T) on top and right next to the entrance (see fig.). Let it stick out about 10 to 12 cm as well. The poles cross at the top. Tie the tripod where line L<sup>1</sup> and L<sup>2</sup>. Tie the 3 poles (tripod) with the strong rope.

The rest of the rope (anchor rope) you later wrap two to four times around all of the poles and tie them. Therefore it has to be at least twice as long as the pole.



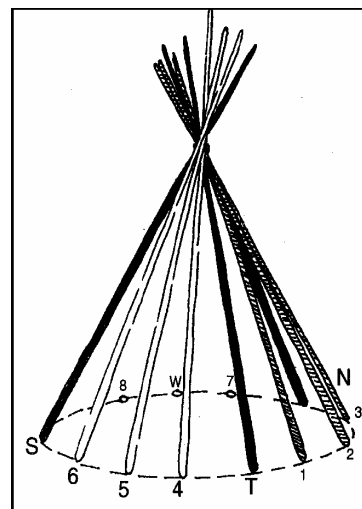
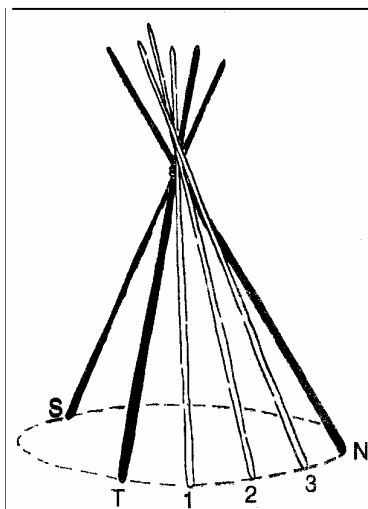
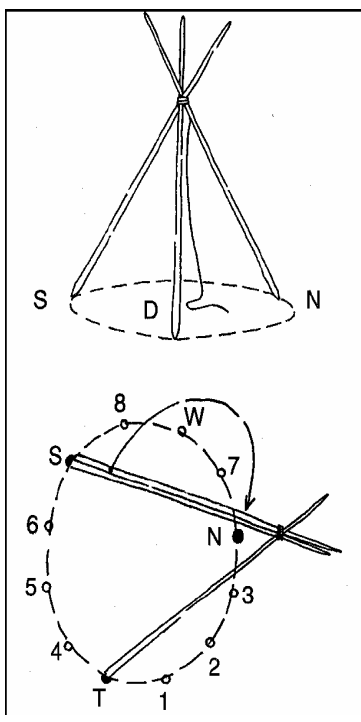


First, lift the tripod.

Position the entrance pole – turned away from the weather side – where the entrance should be. It can be right or left from the entrance.

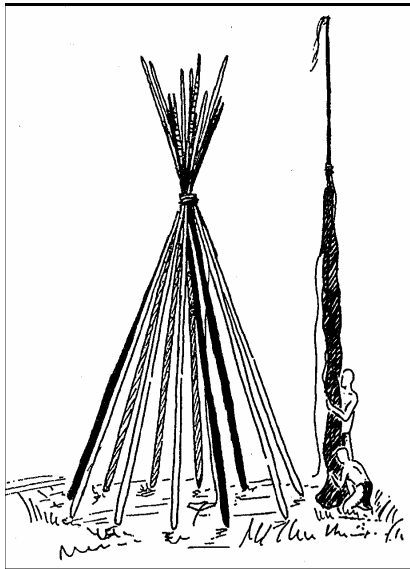
Then you apply the second door pole either to the right or the left of the entrance. Afterwards, lay the remaining poles in the forks of the tripod - start at the entrance pole and proceed in the same way from the rear, between north and south pole.

A space is left for the lift pole (W) which is later used to lift the tipi cover.



Take the anchor rope and wrap it around the pole cluster. Flip the rope up as you go around 4 times, pulling it snugly as you go. Then tie the end of the anchor rope to a peg behind the fire area or run it down one of the tripod poles and anchor it there.

Setup a smaller tipi construction than the original diameters of your tent to guarantee that the cover fits around the frame.



Now, lay the lift pole in the center of the outspread tarp and let them stick out 15 to 18 cm of the cover.

Secure the tie tongue to the pole. Fold the right and the left side of the cover against the pole. Pay attention that the smoking flaps are outside.

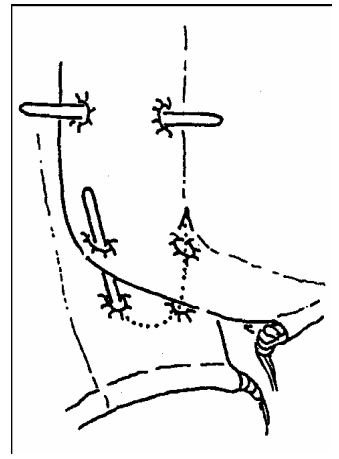
Wrap it snugly with the ropes of the smoke flaps to keep the cover from slipping down the pole when lifted.

Two people are needed to lift the cover and pole. After the butt is placed west, raise it into the crotch. Then pull the right and left side of the cover around the poles.

Close the cover at the front with lacing pins (see figure).

Poke tips of slender poles into the pockets on the smoke flaps. Arrange the smoke flaps with the wind direction.

Push the poles from inside outward to tighten the cover. Notice that a tipi is conical which means that the cone becomes steeper on the backside.



Hammer in pegs around the bottom starting in front, then the back, the left and the right with two pegs each. Then tense up the tipi clockwise.

## The lining

The lining is important for a comfortable atmosphere inside the tipi. It fulfills many functions: it improves the smoke outlet, protects the inside from rain and humidity, and insulates against heat and cold.

First, tie the lining rope to the door pole with a secure knot and then proceed to wrap the rope around each pole one or two times around the poles a little higher than the height of the lining itself. Since most of the linings are three pieces, start with the right or left part on the entrance and knot it overlapping in the back. Then fix the upper part of the lining. Now fix the bottom end with pegs in the course of the tipi poles. For a perfect insulation, the lining should lie on the ground.

**The setup of the tipi is now finished and you can start decorating it.**

## Tips

You can tie light ribbons or pieces of cloth on the top of the poles. This looks very nice and also helps you to define the wind direction.

Rain can run down the tent poles. Tie two pieces of wood under the rope of the lining. This keeps rainwater from the inside.

Another possibility is to create a "spider." Therefore, a string is fixed to every pole and bound together in the center. From here, a string can be fastened to any object on the ground.

If you consider the wind direction with the smoke flaps very little rain gets into the tipi although the smoke outlet is very big. You can close it with the smoke flaps. The opening for the smoke is big enough but still the wind direction should always be taken into consideration. The fire place should be between the center and the entrance. This creates more space in the back the living area of the tipi.

## Care instructions

Cotton is a natural product.

All of our fabrics are water resistant and mildew-resistant impregnated and do not have to be treated in the near future.

A fire in the tipi will make it more waterproof and more resistant to deterioration.

Do not overstretch or tighten too strong.

Check pegs from time to time for secure hold.

Always setup the tipi in a dry place and keep grass short.

Air well on sunny days and keep the smoke flaps closed on rainy days.

Always store in a dry place. Should there be humidity in the fabric after the dismount, dry well before packing and storing.

If you follow these instructions your tipi will have a long life.