

User Manual

SpinnTwinn™ Ultralight Tarp

Introduction

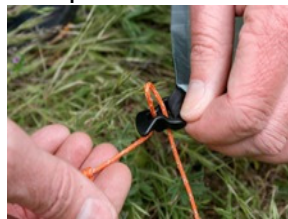
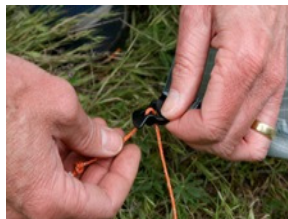
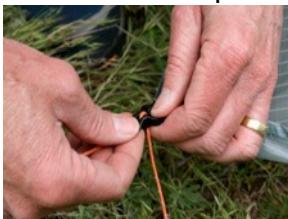
The Gossamer Gear SpinnTwinn was designed to provide all the benefits of a traditional 8' x 10' tarp along with many new and desirable features. All tarp edges benefit from a catenary curve to maximize strength and reduce weight. As with the Gossamer Gear Spinnshelter, the front peak pullout is red and the rear peak pullout is blue so you can easily locate both ends. There are five tie-down loops along each wall to ensure taut pitches, maximize versatility and to help when securing your shelter in high winds. There are also two internal loops located inside the front and rear peaks to string up a clothes line, hang lights, etc. The SpinnTwinn can be pitched using telescoping or fixed hiking poles or with our SpinnTwinn segmented aluminum pole set. Each peak pull out has a reinforced grommet for use with any kind of pole. Finally, you will find that the SpinnTwinn material will not stretch like silnylon does - with extended use, in high winds, or even in rain. We are now including linelocs on each corner and in the middle of each side for easy tensioning should you need to.



Preparation

Included in this package you will find one SpinnTwinn shelter, stuff sack, 25' of EZC™ 1/16" diameter orange cord, and this manual. To prepare the SpinnTwinn for initial set up:

1. Unwrap the orange cord and cut it into the following lengths: 7' for the front peak pullout, 6' for the rear peak pullout, and 6 - 2' lengths for the wall corners (4) and the mid-wall pullout. You may choose to cut the line to your own personal taste, but this guideline will offer many pitching options.
2. Once cut, seal the ends of the cord from fraying by holding the cut ends over a small flame for a few seconds.
3. Next, tie loops in each end of all lines. You can use a bowline knot, figure eight knot, or whatever suits you. Refer to www.gossamergear.com for directions on how to tie common hiking knots. **NOTE:** If you choose to use the linelocs you should thread the line through the loc before tying loops in both ends of the lines for those pullouts.



4. Insert the loop at one end of each line through its pullout – the 7' section on the front peak, the 6' section on the rear peak, and so on. Once the loop is fed through the pullout, feed the other end of the line through this loop, and pull taut. By setting up your lines this way, you can easily remove the line when not in use, or change it out for a different length. This process avoids tying and untying your pitch lines each time you want to change them. **NOTE:** If you are using the linelocs on the corner and side pullouts you only need to do this to the front and rear peak pullouts.



5. Once all lines are attached you are ready to pitch the SpinnTwinn.

First Pitch

Aluminum tarp Poles – If using the SpinnTwinn aluminum pole set, here's how to proceed; start by pitching the rear peak, with the wind at your back. Insert the short aluminum pole into the rear peak grommet and hold it temporarily while you stake the two rear corners to the ground (we will use the orange cord lines shortly). Next, keep the rear pullout orange cord taut in your hand, and walk back away from the tarp and stake out this line. Each of these initial settings need not be sunk firmly into the ground – you will likely be shifting them slightly once the tarp is fully erect to complete the pitch. With the rear pitched, move to the front of the tarp and repeat the process – set the front pole in the grommet, stake the corners while holding the pole, then stake out the front peak pullout line. From here, adjust each of the 6 stakes and tighten the guylines to complete the pitch. Refer to the “fine tuning your pitch” section below for more pitching ideas.



Telescoping Hiking Poles – Set one of your hiking poles so the length is 45” (115 cm) from the handle top to the bottom of the pole, and the other pole so it is 32” (81 cm). Follow the instructions above using aluminum poles, simply inserting your hiking pole tips into the grommets.

Fixed Hiking Poles – From the handle end of one of your fixed poles measure 32” down the shaft and add a few wraps of duct tape to your pole at the 32” point.



This will become your rear pole. To begin pitching the SpinnTwinn, invert the pole so the handle is on the ground and tie two half hitches around this pole just above the duct tape (see www.gossamergear.com for

knot tying guidelines), and follow the directions in the “aluminum pole” section above. For the front peak invert your second hiking pole and place the tip through the front peak grommet in place of the aluminum pole.

Fine tuning your pitch – Unlike silnylon which tends to stretch after pitching, Spinn cloth is much less elastic and will hold a taut pitch better and longer. You might find, however that achieving a very taut pitch sometimes requires a good deal of tension on the lines and walls. Here’ a suggestion to acquiring and maintaining a taut pitch for the SpinnTwinn; as you pitch the front of the shelter, angle the front pole so that the base is approximately 6” – 8” further from the shelter than the peak end of the pole. With the front pole angled, pull your guy lines as taut as they will go. If you are happy with the pitch, leave things as they are and enjoy the extra room at the entrance now that the pole is a bit more out of the way. However, if your pitch is still a bit loose, or if it loosens up later in the night, simply grasp the base of the front pole and move it inward toward the inside of the tarp. This will bring the front pole to a more vertical position and will result in a very taut pitch. You can use this process for tightening your pitch from the comfort of your sleeping bag at any point that you need to –just reach out, grab the front pole, and pull it toward you to tighten your pitch.



Customize your Poles

If you are using aluminum tent poles or fixed hiking poles, one way to allow varying pitch heights is to add small wraps of duct tape to your poles at different heights. Lets say you begin with a set of fixed aluminum poles – the front is 45” and the rear is 32”. To lower the height of the tarp in a storm would be easily achieved by adding some duct tape to the aluminum poles and getting comfortable with using half hitches. By adding a duct tape stopper on the front pole at, say 32’ up from the base, and another stopper on the rear pole at, say, 10-12” up, you could pitch your tarp very low and safe in a storm without having to find an alternate means of poling out the shelter.



Pitch variations

Once you are happy with your initial pitch, experiment with options you might use in the field. If the 2’ sections are in place along the walls, switch the stakes to the end of each of these guylines and you will have both walls staked off the ground approximately 8 – 10”. This open pitch will help with ventilation, offer more room under the tarp and still provide good gear/personal coverage. Experiment as little or as much as you like – you will find pitches that suit your needs and work best for you. Here are some variations to consider:



Side walls pitched to the ground



Storm pitch at foot end



Front end off the ground



Both ends off the ground



Storm pitch rear/open side



Lean – To pitch

Enjoy your new shelter, and email us if you have any questions or if we can help you in any way at info@gossamergear.com.

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