



Which is best, a frame tent or a pole tent?

If you are considering purchasing a frame tent, there are a few things we would like to make you aware of so you can wisely choose between a frame tent and a pole tent.

- a) Frame tents are normally more expensive than pole tents.
- b) A pole tent is much more portable than a frame tent.
- c) Pole tents are much easier to install than a frame tent.
- d) Typical installation time for a 20x30 frame tent = 4- men 1.5 hours
- e) Typical installation time for a 20x30 pole tent = 2-men 20 minutes
- f) Typical installation time for a 40x80 frame tent = 10 men 6-7 hours
- g) Typical installation time for a 40x80 pole tent = 2 men 1.5 hours
- h) Frame tents are NOT "Free Standing" as sometimes advertised. They must be staked out just like a pole or tension structure must be. The only exception is for indoor use.
- i) Pole tents will withstand higher wind loads than a frame tent.
- j) The hardware on a frame tent is very specialized, including pieces which are either cast aluminum, or welded steel. If you lose or damage one of these pieces, your frame tent is useless until you can find a replacement part from the manufacturer.
- k) The hardware on a pole tent (poles & stakes) is made of items which in a pinch you can find suitable replacement materials at any building material supply company. Rebar can be substituted for stakes, and a 2"x 4" with a large nail inserted in one end can substitute for a side pole.
- l) Finally, the hardware on a frame tent is SIZE SPECIFIC. In other words, if you own a frame 20x20 and a 30x30, the parts do not interchange. You can imagine how frustrating all this can be when you are dealing with an expensive frame tent!
- m) Frame tents do have some advantages for certain situations which do not allow complete staking.