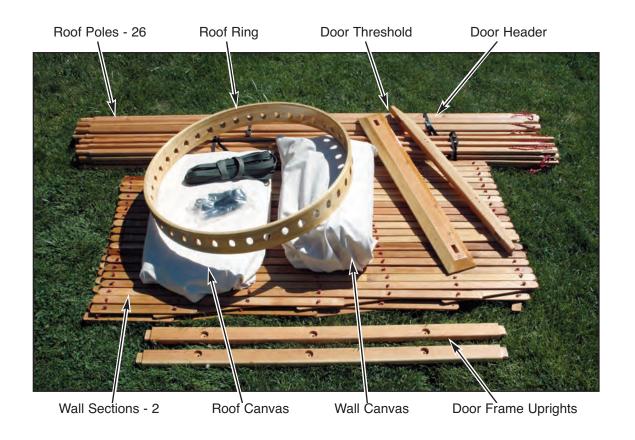
# CampingYurts.com

# 12ft High Wall Yurt Set-up Instructions





Also Included, but not pictured

• Door Canvas with dowels fitted

• Spare Wall Canvas Clips

• Spare Roof Pole

# **Pre Setup Notes**

The three most important aspects of setting up a yurt are;

- 1. Ensure the wall is on a perfect circle.
- 2. Ensure the wall is the correct diameter.
- 3. Ensure the wall height is the same all the way around.

Early on in my yurt making, I didn't realize all three elements needed to be correct to set up a yurt easily. Much to my frustration, I spent a lot of time "tweaking" the wall and roof poles trying to get it right and often found it was best to just take it all down and start over. These set-up instructions are all the tips and tricks I have learned on the way.

If the wall is not a perfect circle or the correct diameter, when you fit the roof poles into the roof wheel and tie the other end to the top of the wall, they will either hang over the wall too far or they will not reach! Often they may only just reach, causing them to fall out of the ring as you position others. Similarly, if the wall height is not the same all the way around, you will run into the same problem as well as distorting the overall shape of the yurt causing the roof wheel to sit tilted and not parallel to the ground.

A yurt is a very simple structure and easy to set up as long as you make sure all 3 elements are correct. So, a little time spent at the beginning, creating a perfect circle on which you will place the wall, will be time well spent - I cannot emphasize this enough:-)

Please note: Some yurt parts may look different in the photos, but the set up is the same.

# Setting up the Yurt - Make a Circle

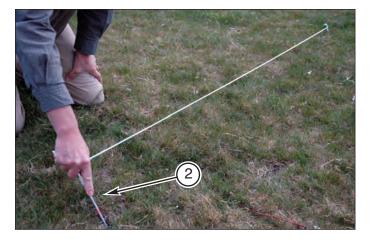
There are several ways to ensure a perfect circle, but the simplest is to score a circle in the ground with a couple of tent pegs and a length of string.

- 1. Stick one tent peg in the ground and tie a length of string to it. Measure out the radius of the yurt on the string and tie in another peg. The radius is half the diameter of the yurt, so for a 12ft yurt the radius is 6ft (72 inches).
- 2. Using the second tent peg score a circle on the ground and this will mark the perimeter upon which you will set the two wall sections. You could tie a can of spray paint instead of the 2nd tent peg and paint a line.

# **Setting up the Wall Sections**

 With the perimeter of the yurt now set, decide where you would like the door and place the threshold on the perimeter line.
 Mark the perimeter line exactly on the opposite side of the yurt. This is where the walls will join together.





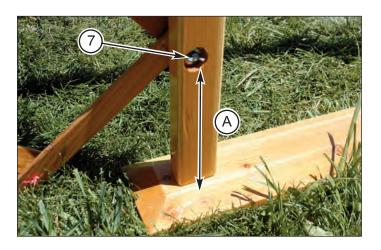
- 4. Open out the two wall sections and place them on the perimeter circle. The ends with the different colored rope attach to the door. Ensure the wall height is the same all the way around. Due to the expandable nature of the lattice wall sections, it is very easy to create an uneven wall height. Spend a little time getting it right.
- Connect the two wall sections together on the opposite side to the door using the five small straps. Wall sections can be used either way up, but there are different ends to the wall sections, connect as shown.
- Make sure the lattice pieces interlock correctly, and route the straps in a square pattern as shown which will force the connecting lattice pieces together.

#### **Door Frame**

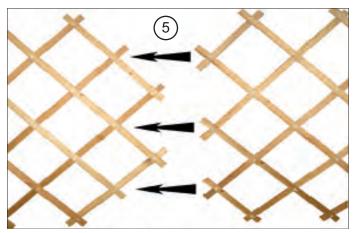
The uprights must go in the right way up (see marks on the top of the posts). Ensure the shorter distance between the end of the upright and the first hole is at the bottom (A).

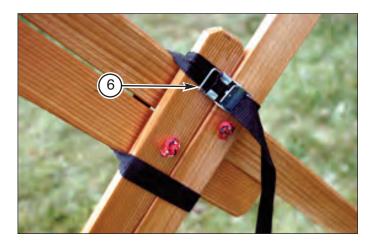
- 7. The recessed holes are off-set, make sure they are on the outer edge of the door ie. closest to the lattice wall.

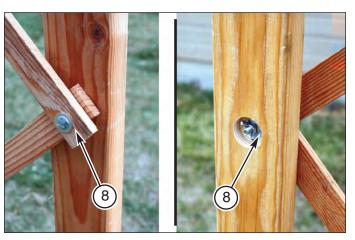
  It is easier to fit the lattice to the unrights and
  - It is easier to fit the lattice to the uprights and then fit to the threshold.
- 8. Connect the lattice wall sections to the door posts with bolts, washers and wing nuts. The lattice wall connects on the inside of the door posts. Fit the carriage bolt & washer from the inside and the washer & wingnut in the recessed holes on the outside.
- If holes in the door posts do not line up with the holes in the lattice wall, expand or contract the wall a little until they do.











# **Tension Band**

- 10. Double loop the tension band over one of the door posts. The strap should lie flat.
- 11. Insert the two uprights into the threshold.
- 12. Run the tension band all the way around the top of the wall to the other door post. Route the strap above the top knots on the lattice wall.

You can temporarily route the strap between a few lath crosses to help support it while running it around the top of the wall (A).

- 13. Place the looped buckle strap, over the first cross on the lattice wall from the door.
- 14. Wrap the tension band twice around the door post and then feed through the buckle. Overlap the strap around the door post (B) so the tension is held by friction on the strap/post and NOT by the buckle.
- 15. Pull the strap through the buckle until the line appears. This indicates that the correct circumference is set.

The 12ft yurt circumference is 37ft 8" (all the way around the yurt, not door post to door post).

#### Caution

Tighten the band evenly around the yurt, DO NOT just pull it at the door as this will cause the wall section closest to the door to rise creating an uneven wall height.

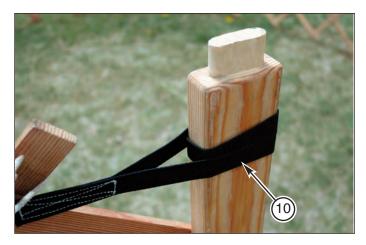
#### Note:

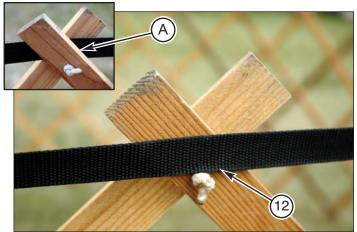
The strap should not stretch, but after a time time, you may notice that the roof canvas is too tight at the base of the roof poles and/or the canvas is loose or baggy around the center ring. Tightening the tension band past the mark will adjust the fitment of the canvas.

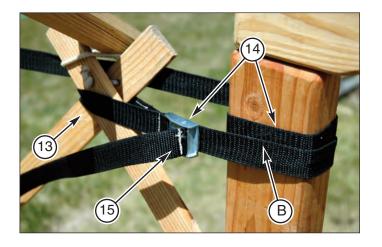
#### **Roof Poles**

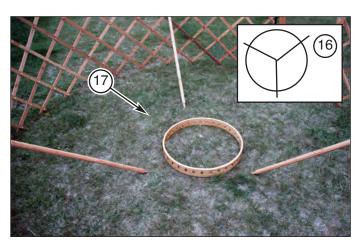
With the wall set up at the correct diameter and height, you can now start fitting the roof poles.

- 16. Imagine looking down on the yurt and visualize it as a pie divided into three equal parts.
- 17. Space three roof poles equally around the wall dividing the yurt into three equal parts.

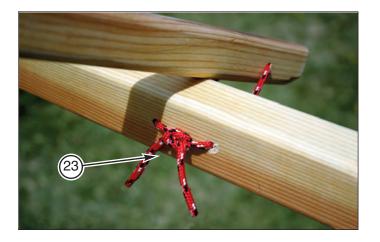


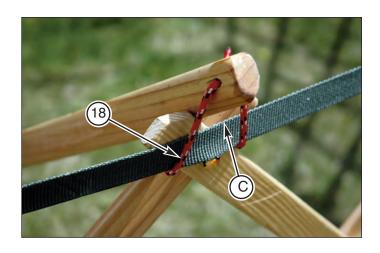


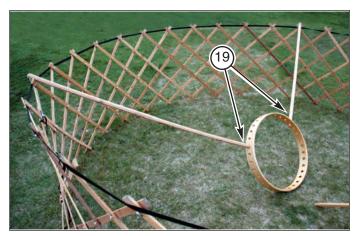




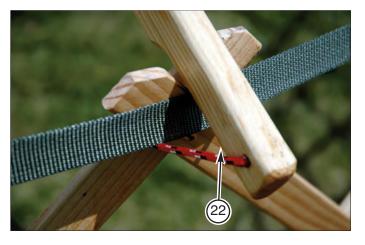
- 18. Tie two roof poles to the "crosses" on the top of the lattice wall. Route the rope under the tension band, around the lattice and tie a knot on the inside. Ensure the "V in the pole sits into the "cross" on the top of the wall (C).
- 19. Insert the tips of the two poles into roof ring. Space them out correctly (in thirds) in the ring. The free holes in the ring should correspond with the free "crosses" on the top of the wall.
- 20. With the 2 roof poles secured in both the ring and on the wall, insert the third pole into the roof ring and carefully raise the ring into position in the center of the yurt. Secure the third pole to the wall as before. Check the position of the poles in the ring. All poles should point to the center.
- 21. Count the free holes in the ring between the poles and ensure they correspond with the free "crosses" on the top of the wall.
  You may have to reposition one or two poles to get the spacing correct.
- 22. With the ring now stabilized, add the remaining poles inserting the tip into the ring and securing to the wall. Make sure the poles are pushed in when tieing the knot, so the pole is tight into the roof ring. Add poles equally around the yurt making sure the "V" sits in the crosses on the wall. Do not load up one side!
- 23. The two shorter poles go on the door header. On the outside of the yurt, run the rope over the header, thread the rope through the holes and tie on the outer surface. Again push in the pole and tie the knot.
- 24. Check all the roof poles tips are tight in the ring and securely tied on the wall. Re-tighten knots if necessary.







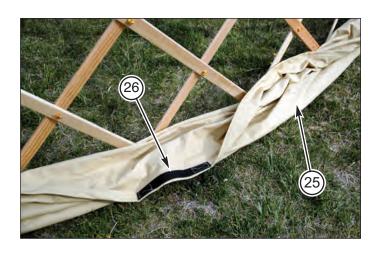


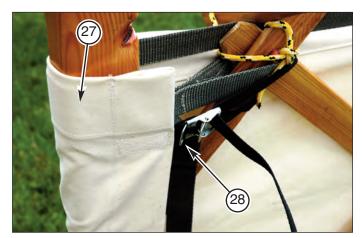


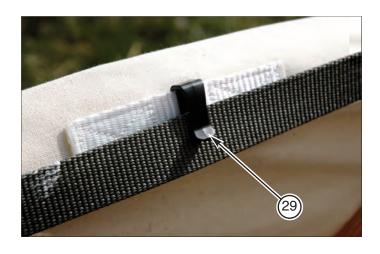
#### **Wall Canvas**

- 25. Open out the wall canvas and lay around the bottom of the yurt wall.
- 26. Make sure the loops in the top hem are at the top and on the inside surface.
- 27. Raise the wall canvas and wrap one end around the door post.
- 28. Secure the four straps to the first row of crosses on the lattice wall inside the door.
- 29. Lift the wall canvas and secure it to the tension band with the clip.
  - Work your way around the yurt, securing all the clips over the tension band.
  - The clips should position themselves between "crosses" on the lattice. This is approximate as the lattice is expandable and may not be the same each time.
- 30. As you run the canvas around the yurt, the top edge tends be tighter than the bottom, so pull the bottom tight as you go, so the canvas hangs vertically.
- 31. When you reach the door again, secure the end of the wall canvas with the 4 straps as before. Tighten the canvas, but not too tight or the canvas will take the strain instead of the tension band.
- 32. If the canvas is slightly short at the bottom edge and doesn't go around the door post, you can reduce the circumference at the base of the lattice wall, by pushing in all the lath crosses at the bottom of the wall. This will give the canvas some slack.











## **Roof Canvas**

33. Throw the roof canvas onto the roof. Make sure it's the right way up!

The buckle in the hem should be on the inner surface and will be positioned on the opposite side of the yurt to the door.

- 34. Using a roof pole on the inside, lift the canvas over the frame and roof ring.
- 35. Position the roof canvas so the two roof strap buckles hang equally on each side of the door.
- 36. Center the canvas on the roof and ensure the center hole in the canvas sits centrally over the roof ring.
- 37. Tighten the roof strap at each buckle so it is snug. DO NOT over tighten.
- 38. Tightening the roof strap causes the canvas to ruck and gather at the door. Spread the rucks out around the yurt and re tighten.
- 39. Make sure the roof strap is tight all the way around. Do not over tighten as this will loosen the tension band making the roof strap take the strain which it shouldn't.











# Door

The door canvas is positioned on the ouside of the door frame. Position the pre-fitted dowels in the door canvas in the holes in the header and threshold.

- 40. Fit the door canvas dowels into the holes in the header and threshold. You will have to tap the header up to fit the dowel.
- 41. Secure the center of the door canvas to the header with the snap button(s).
- 42 The door can be open and closed from both the inside and outside with the double zipper. There are two zips, one on each side of the door.
- 43. In fine weather, the door may be rolled up and secured to the header with a strap. It may also be completely unzipped and removed if required.



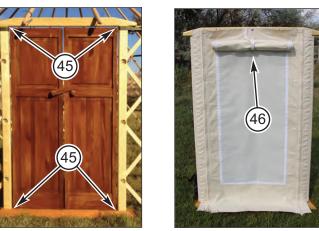
44. If you have screen windows installed, a flap is provided for privacy and can be rolled up and secured with the buckle.

# **Wood Doors**

45. If you have wood doors, the pivot pins in the top and bottom edges of the doors will fit into the holes pre-drilled in the header and threshold.

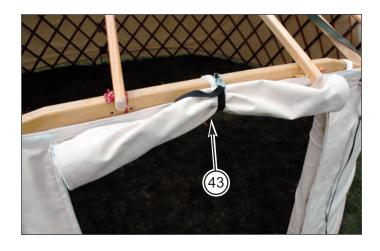
#### **Canvas Doors with Window**

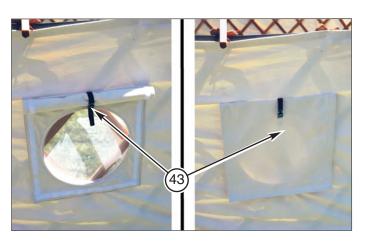
46. If you bought a door with a screen, the privacy flap can be rolled up and secured with the strap. Velcro will hold the flap in place when down

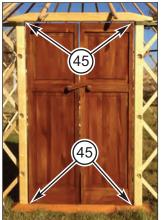








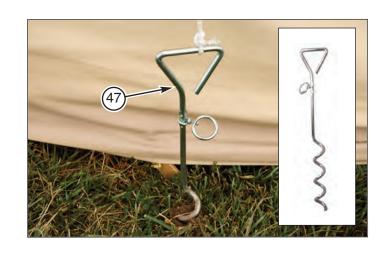




# Tieing the Yurt down

When it is windy it's a good idea to tie the yurt down. The simplest way to do this is to run rope over the yurt and stake it down. Be careful not to trip over the stakes/rope!

47. I sell screw in stakes which are perfect for tieing the vurt down as they can be screwed in close to the wall and not be a tripping hazard. I recommend running a rope over the yurt in a hexagonal star pattern which will provide 5 tethering points around the yurt. It secures the yurt and stops the wind flapping the roof canvas.



#### **Clear Roof Dome**

48. For yurts set-up in a more permanent setting, a great addition is a polycarbonate dome. It can be fixed to the roof ring and will keep out the bad weather.

the yurt so it can be raised to allow the hot air to flow out.



## **Umbrella**

The easiest way to cover the hole in the roof in bad weather or at night time is by using a large umbrella. Just make sure you tie it down or you may loose it in wind!

In good weather, keep the ring open during the day to allow good ventilation. Covering the ring on a hot day will block ventilation and really heat up the vurt.

# **Temperature**

To cool the yurt in hot sun, raise the bottom of the wall canvas in the direction of the prevailing wind. Cool air is drawn in and the hot air exits through the ring in the roof. You can drop the wall canvas completely or alternatively drop sections of the wall canvas while keeping other sections up.

To keep the heat in, cover the roof hole with either canvas or an umbrella.

# Care for your yurt

A well looked after yurt will last a long time. Repair any tears in the canvas immediately and replace any wood parts that get damaged. Clean any scuffs or marks with a mild soap and water. Do not scrub or brush the canvas as this will affect the coating (Sunforger).

#### Canvas

If you bought the natural untreated canvas and you intend using the yurt in a damp climate or for prolonged periods in wet or persistant damp conditions, I recommend treating the canvas to waterproof it. If the canvas is left in wet or persistant damp conditions, mildew will form. NEVER pack away a damp canvas. ALWAYS make sure it is clean and dry.

#### **Wood Parts**

The wood wall lattice and roof poles will need a new coat of Boiled Linseed Oil every few of years. Make sure the bottoms of the wall lattice get several good coats as they contact the ground. The roof wheel and door frame will need varnishing, especially the bottom of the threshold which is always on the ground and gets the most wear/moisture. The roof wheel MUST be re coated with varnish when showing signs of deterioration to keep out moisture. If moisture enters, delamination of the layers will occur and the ring will loose it's integrity and strength. Adding more varnish over time will increase the diameter of the pole dowels and decrease the holes in the ring resulting in a tight fit. In this instance, you will need to carefully sand the holes and re-coat with varnish. I used Cabot Varnish on the ring and door frame.

#### Caution

Always be careful when handling the lattice and roof poles. Although oiled, they are made with wood and wood can splinter as it dries over time. Wear leather gloves and always remove/sand splinters.

#### **Tension Band**

The tension Band should not stretch, but measure it every year to make sure it hasn't. A stretched tension band will cause the wall to spread and lower the roof ring. This will weaken the overall structure of the yurt and make the roof and wall canvas fit incorrectly.

#### Final note

Thank you for purchasing yurt Yurt. As with all that we ship out, each one is individually made by hand and is unique. No two are the same.

Be prepared when camping, to have the whole campsite pester you to have a look inside. If people ask, please direct them to my website.

I hope you have as much fun camping in your yurt as we do in ours.

Richard Waters CampingYurts.com

# PS

When you have set it up, please take some photos as we would love to create a customer photo gallery and if you have the time, a quick testimonial or review would also be appreciated.