

Securing Your Tents and Canopies for High Winds in Gillette, WY

Assemble your Tents and Canopies Correctly

You must ensure that you set up the tent correctly. Most canopy tents have quite a few joints you need to connect. If you don't hear a loud click when snapping these pieces into place, the chance of the tent collapsing during the next strong gust of wind rises drastically. Also, make sure you tightly fasten all the hook-and-loop straps on the canopy. Failing to do so might cause the top to blow away without the frame, which will be much harder to catch.

Anchor It Down

Fortunately, most pop-up tents come with ropes and stakes that allow you to anchor them tightly to the ground. These will be the best options for ensuring that your tent stays grounded on those windy days. Start by attaching the ropes to each of the four corners of the frame. If you have a larger tent, you can also put a few on the edges.

Once you hook those on, tie the other end to the stakes. After you've secured the attachments, it's time to hammer them into the ground. Make sure you do this at a length that keeps the rope taut. Some frames also have holes at the base of each leg specifically for stakes. Be sure to also utilize those designated openings when they're available.

Add Some Weight to It

If the stakes aren't enough, add some weight to the base of the frame for extra support. You can purchase weights that fit perfectly around the legs of a pop-up tent. However, sandbags or any other heavy bag can do the trick if you don't have tent weights on hand.

Strategically Use Sidewalls

Some people suggest removing any sidewalls you might have attached to your tent once it gets windy. While this isn't a bad idea, you can actually use these attachments strategically to make your tent even more stable. The problem with wind is it grabs the canopy from underneath and tries to lift it off the ground. However, if you put your sidewalls between your tent and the direction of the wind, you can prevent this issue.

Just bear in mind that if the wind keeps changing direction or gets too strong, sidewalls might make matters worse. In the right circumstances, though, it can be an excellent fix, especially if you're only dealing with light breezes.