

Polyester Ridge Tent #2 - Pitching Instructions

This tent is a simple ridge tent, supported by the boom. The aft end of the boom sits on a scissors crutch. You'll probably find that setting up the boom early on will give you space to move about in the boat, but first roll up the mainsail and lash it under the boom with strings or sail ties. Ideally, tie the boom to the mast (and/or tighten the kicker) to avoid the boom falling off the gooseneck.

On a Mk2 Wayfarer (or any boat with a 'gutter' between rear hatch & transom) fit the supplied white rubber spacers to the boom crutch to keep it for'ard of the gutter.

Next, fit the temporary bridle. This consists of four bungees attached by one end to a fluorescent yellow line, a bit like an extended letter 'E'. The aim is to stretch the bungees across the underside of the hull to hold down the sides of the tent. You need the boat to be afloat with the centreboard raised out of the way. Give yourself plenty of time!

Start by unravelling the inevitable tangle of string and shock-cord. Next, unless you conveniently have righting lines fitted, tie a length of blue 2mm string (supplied) fairly tightly along one gunwhale, approximately from shroud to transom. The **free end** of each bungee should then be hooked onto this side string as follows:-

- The shortest bungee (marked with 1 knot) very near the stern.
- The second shortest (marked with 2 knots) level with the rear bulkhead
- The third shortest bungee (marked with 3 knots) amidships
- The longest (marked with 4 knots) near the shroud

Keeping hold of the end of the yellow line marked with a stopper knot, throw the rest of the bridle & bungees overboard on the same side of the boat that you hooked onto. Lead the line **outside everything**, under the bow and back along the other side of the boat. Pull in the bridle line and tie it to the shroud or deck handle, then continue pulling it in to re-discover the attached ends of each bungee in turn, finally tying the other end of the yellow bridle line near the transom. The hooks on the bungees are now within reach, and can eventually be swapped onto the tent.

Next drape the tent over the boom near the mast, identifying the mast collar and the foredeck opening to orientate the tent. (The black neoprene collar goes on top). I recommend first attaching the mast collar and foredeck flap velcro. The very front of the tent is held forward by tying it to the forestay with shockcord, but leave this quite loose for now - it can be adjusted later.

Attach the velcro at the shroud openings and lean under the tent's edges to start hooking the bungees onto the steel tent rings on both sides of the boat, folding out only as much of the canopy as needed. On a fine evening the front half is sufficient to start with, so perhaps just attach the tent back as far as the second bungee.

If you pack away in reverse order, the tent will be ready for next time. Good luck!