

June 2021

# Big Top Setup Guide



## **A big big thank you!**

Thank you so much for choosing a DAS Outdoors shelter.

Are you ready for more outdoor adventures?

This document will help guide you through setting up your large shelter the first few times.

After that, you'll be an expert.

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## **Tools you will need:**

1. Friends, ideally 2 or 3
2. 1-2 peg hammers
3. Adjustable spanner

## **You will receive:**

1. Kit bag containing the Big Top Shelter.
2. Optional Extras:
  - a. 1 x 100ft x 12mm Ridgeline rope
  - b. 2 x 60 ft x 10mm Haul lines
  - c. 4 x Stainless steel screw gate clips

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## Site requirements: Ridgeline

1. Your site MUST have trees sufficiently strong and high enough to support a ridgeline and pegged down the shelter.
2. Ridgeline height should be approx 25-30 ft off the ground.
3. Distance between trees should be a minimum of 40 -45 ft apart.
4. The footprint of the shelter fully pegged out will be approximately 40 ft x 30 ft.
5. Take a look at this video for tips on [How to set-up a ridgeline](#).
6. **Important: Before you tie off the other end of the Ridgeline Connect the 2 large triangular screwgate clips to the ridge line with the haul lines threaded through and connected to the haul loops on the Big TOP.**
7. Using the ADJUSTABLE SPANNERS tighten the screwgate clips shut.
8. Tie off the loose end of the haul line to a peg or tree. This is to ensure that when you pull the ridgeline tight, there is no possibility of the haul line slipping out of the ridgeline clip. Leaving the screw gate 30ft in the air and hauling rope on the ground.
9. Now you are ready to throw the other end of the ridgeline through the trees as per video.

## Erecting the shelter

1. Lay the Big Top opened out and flat on the ground.
2. Position the 2 suspension loops on the Big Top directly underneath the horizontal ridgeline. Connect the 2 haul lines hanging vertically from the ridgeline to the haul loops on the Big Top.
3. Make sure that the shelter shape is parallel with the ridgeline and the haul lines are vertical from the haul loops up to the ridgeline.
4. There are 6 panels each with 4 coiled guy lines. **Untie the 2 Outside** guy lines from each panel. Leave the 2 middle guy lines coiled.
5. Place a peg diagonally/ 45 degrees and approx 5 ft from each corner.
6. Loosely ties off each peg.
7. Now haul the shelter up to the ridgeline. You will now get a good idea as to the shape of the Big Top and whether you need to, raise it more ( extending the guy lines) or lower it ( shortening the guylines).
8. You may need to reposition the pegs to get a good tight ( no flapping) even shape of the material allowing good water run off.
9. **It is essential that the corner guy lines are pulled tight and away from the ends.**
10. When you are happy with the height of the Big Top and the tensioning of the corner guy lines, you can uncoil the 2 middle guy lines from the rest of the panels.

## Tensioning the guylines

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No matter how tight you tension the ridgeline and guy lines when first put up. Everything will stretch and loosen up. You will need to do 2 -3 tensioning routines before things bed down.

**Keep everything tight and the water will runoff!**

Enjoy yourselves and have a blast.

Mick