The Shadebuddy Umbrella is a sturdy and simple solution to the problem of finding shade or shelter from the wind & rain. It should provide you with years of trouble-free service.

**Here are a few tips:**

1. Remove the rubber (or plastic) cap from the tip of the stake before using.

2. Before inserting the stake in the ground, open the umbrella and move it around to see which angle creates the most shade on the spot where you want to be. Take into consideration the direction of the sun’s movement to anticipate how your shade will change over time.

3. Insert the stake in the ground using the foot pedal so that the cylinder will hold the umbrella at the correct angle.
4. Insert the umbrella handle into the cylinder and snap the metal latch over it to hold it in place. Note: The use of the metal latch is optional. You may decide that it might be better if a gust of wind takes just the umbrella.

5. In windy conditions, it might be helpful to prop the vents open (with a bit of cardboard, a Dixie cup with the bottom removed, a short length of pipe insulation, etc.). If the umbrella does blow inside-out, just push it back and it will be good as new.

6. The Shadebuddy also makes an excellent windbreak if set at a 90° angle.

7. Even if you don’t have ground to press the stand into, you can often find something to “bungee” it to like Brian Buckrell (right).