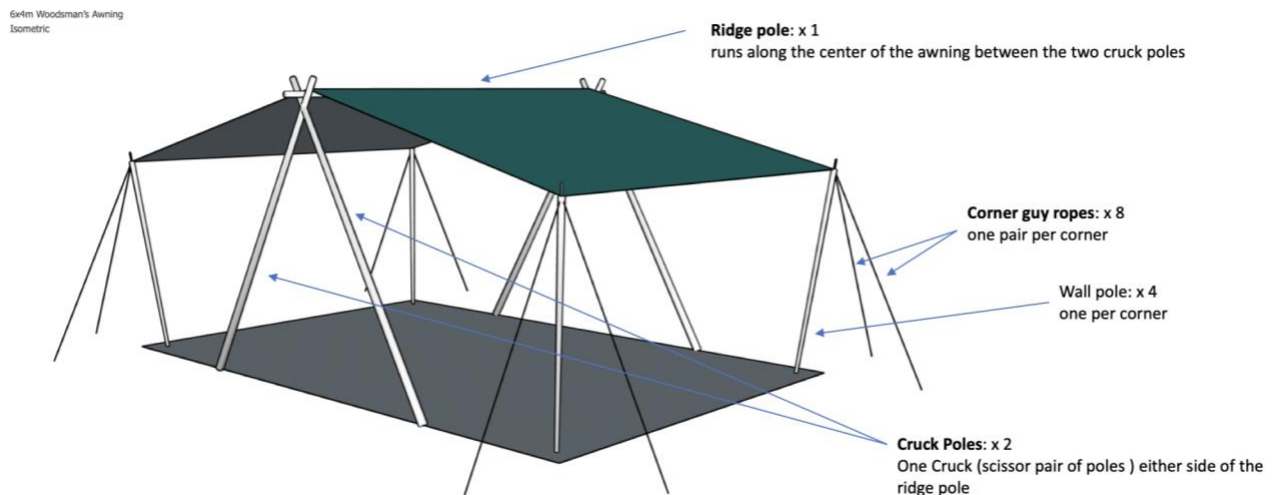




Awning safety checklist

Whether you've just set up your Woodsman's Awning for the first time, or you've done it lots before, we recommend that you always go through this safety checklist to ensure it's been erected safely.



1. **Check that the ridge pole is horizontal** and running true along the centre of the pitch in relation to your peg positions (not just the canvas).

If it's not, fix this by making that sure the ash pegs (4 x wooden pegs at the base of the cruck poles) are evenly spaced either side of the ridge pole. This will ensure that the cruck poles are splayed evenly to support the ridge pole in a horizontal position.

2. **Visual check of cruck poles.** Sight along the 6m side of your awning to check that the crucks are standing vertically (– not leaning in or out from the centre of your awning).

If there is a lean, fix this using the guy ropes.

If you have the storm guys on, adjust the crucks by tensioning these evenly.

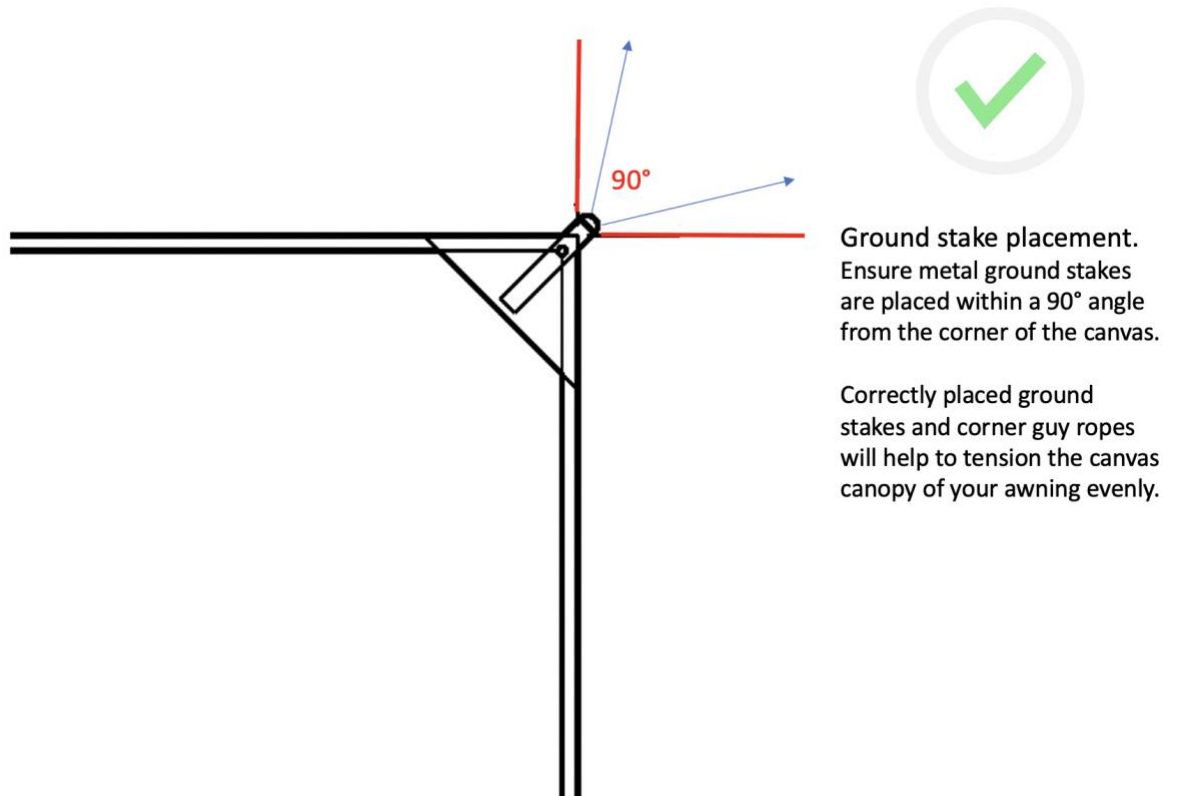
If you aren't using storm guys, adjust the cruck by adjusting the 8 x corner guy ropes until the crucks stand vertical.

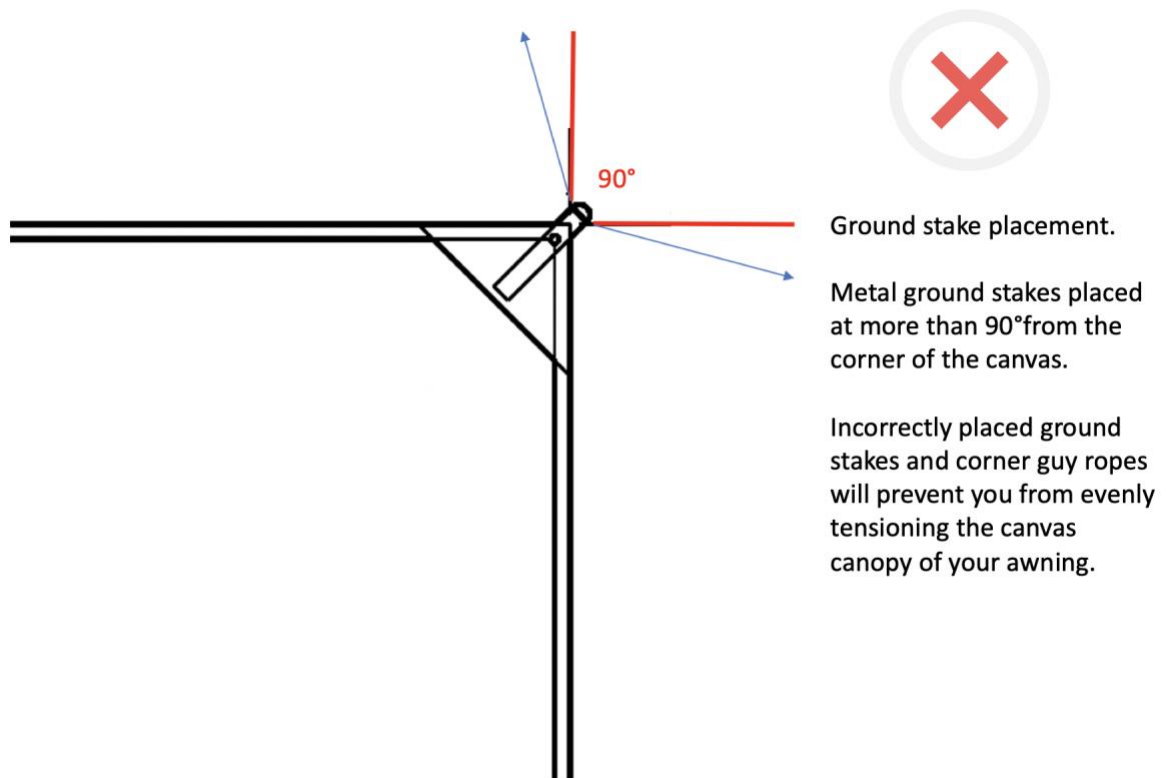


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- 3. Visual check of the canvas canopy.** If the awning is tensioned correctly, the outer edge of the canvas should be taught all the way around. Wrinkles/creases are a sign that the canvas isn't tensioned enough or isn't tensioned evenly. Fix this by evening out tension in your guy ropes. If the guy ropes have been evenly tensioned and the canvas still isn't taught, increase the tension on the corner guy rope associated with that edge. The awning is really strong, so you can really pull hard on the guy ropes to tension them up.
- 4. Guy rope check** – Ensure that your corner guy ropes aren't pulling against each other.





Once that's done, check that all the guy ropes are taught. You can really pull hard on these guy ropes to tension them up.

As you adjust the guy ropes, check that the load on the guy ropes is evenly distributed. On each corner, there is a pair of guy ropes – check that both are equally tensioned (If one is one tight and one slacker, the tension is uneven and needs to be evened out).

If you have any questions or concerns about your Awning please don't hesitate to get in touch! We're here to answer any questions about set-up and can help you figure things out via phone or email. Feel free to send us photos of your Awning when you've got it set-up, and we can let you know if there are any tweaks or adjustments you could make to improve set-up.



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Checking your awning after wind

If your awning has been up during windy conditions, it may need to be tensioned. Go through the steps outlined above to ensure its safe to use.

These Awnings are very robust and durable. For peace of mind, after severe wind (gusts over 25mph) also check the following:

- Check poles for latitudinal cracking (cracking across the grain).
- Check canvas for tears in the canvas or damage to the stitching.

If you discover any damage to your Awning please stop using it immediately and get in touch to check if it's safe to use and to arrange replacement parts.

If you have any questions or concerns about your Awning please don't hesitate to get in touch! We're here to answer any questions and can help you figure things out via phone or email. Feel free to send us photos of your Awning set-up, parts of the canvas or the frame and we can help with visual checks.



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Taking your Awning out of storage

As long as your Awning was packed away dry and your storage conditions are dry and free from condensation, your awning should be in great condition and ready to go.

To prolong the life of your Woodsman's Awning, we recommend following our simple guidelines on caring for and maintaining your awning. The guide is available via the link on our website, or email us and we can send it to you.

Before erecting your Woodsman's Awning for the first time after its been in storage, it's always worth doing the following safety checks.

Is the woodwork in good condition?

Visual check for latitudinal cracking.

Thin cracks running along the length of a pole (in the direction of the grain) are natural in round wood poles and will not compromise the strength of the pole.

Latitudinal cracks (across the grain) will affect the strength of the wood. Poles with this kind of damage will need to be replaced. Please do not erect your Awning. You can contact us to arrange replacement poles.

Visual check for rot.

Any discoloration in the wood may suggest damp storage conditions. Surface discoloration can be easily sanded or cleaned away. However, if you find any soft areas in the wood this may be a sign of rot, which can affect strength of the frame and therefore its safety. Please contact us about replacement parts.

Is the canvas in good condition?

Our Regentex canvas is very high quality and extremely durable when used and stored correctly. We currently use awnings that are 11 years old and they're going strong!

Visual check for mildew on the canvas.

Black spotting on your canvas is a sign of mildew, which suggests damp storage conditions. Unfortunately, it's very difficult to remove mildew staining from canvas, however, as long as the mildew is not too extensive, the canvas will still hold up.

If the mildew is extensive, the performance and safety of the canvas will be compromised. Please do not erect your awning. You can contact us to arrange replacement parts.

If you have any questions or concerns about your Awning please don't hesitate to get in touch! We're here to answer any questions and can help you figure things out via phone or email. Feel free to send us photos of your canvas or frame and we can help with visual checks.



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