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## How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by Hermit - 2008/02/05 16:04

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Hey, I've read few reviews on couple ways to pack in/out your tents, and pads, other items.

I just curious; I'm getting another Backpack.

The Volume size would range between ( 4600 c.i. to 5200 c.i. )

plus, getting add-ons single pockets ( 600 c.i. )...

Note!, My Full Pack never excess 37 Lbs.

Main problem, and its an issue - Bulkness, and Volume.

So, How do you handle your tent, and pads, and other gear?.

#1. Strap them on the Outside of the pack. And Why?:dry:

#2. Stuff them Inside the Packs.

I can see Strapping the Tent on the outside like exspecting Foul Weather condition during your travels.

I appreciate your Thoughts and responds.

Thank You;

From Old Hermit

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## Re:How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by Cobb - 2008/02/05 17:57

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I only have a few packing methods when it comes to my gear. Jeepman72 actually got me in the habit of packing just about everything in large ziploc bags for compression and to keep items dry. As for the tent, I ditch the storage sack and depending on the weather, I decide weather or not to pack the rain fly. Usually, I'll roll the tent up tightly to about the same width as my pack and stuff it horizontally into the very bottom. I'll then slide the poles down one side or strap them to the outside. I carry a Big Agnes sleeping pad (which inflates and slides into my Big Agnes sleeping bag) and I usually just fold it into a rectangle and slide it in the pack on the side that's against my back, making my lightweight pack more rigid. My only issue with carrying things on the outside is the movement if they aren't attached very tightly.

COBB

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## Re:How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by halfstack - 2008/02/06 08:12

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I always try and put everything inside my pack. I have a Black Diamond/Bibler tent which is very small so getting into a medium sized lightweight pack is no problem. I usually split the tent parts with whoever I'm with if I have a tent mate. My main summer tent has no poles so it makes things easier - I use trek poles. If my pack is pretty full with no sagging I will put my sleep pad into a side pocket. This is easy for me to do b/c I have both a 3/4 Thermarest and a Big Agnes full which roll up very small and compact. All my packs have stretch mesh side pockets so that's usually where I always put my sleep pad and water filter. Easy access while on the trail. If I'm tired and want to sit on something besides a rock, I can grab my pad and then use my Thermarest camp chair with it. If my pack is not quite full and I need more support, then I take my sleep pad out of its stuff sack, fold it and put it against my back. My packs have no frame support so sometimes this is necessary when no completely full. Either that or I have to keep my Platypus full until I reach camp.

Winter is a different story because I use more gear, but I will take a heavier duty pack with more volume and still try and get everything inside.

I personlly don't like lashing things onto the outside of my pack unless it's a cup or something. I have greater peace of mind knowing I'm not losing anything or puncturing something. I have pack rain covers for all my packs so that keeps things dry in case of rain for the things like my sleep pad that are outside my pack.

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## Re:How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by Rocksteady - 2008/02/06 08:56

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I strap my tarp and pad both on the outside of the pack. Main reason is for accessibility, second reason would be for convenience. If the weather is going to be bad, I will put the tarp in a waterproof stuff sack. The pad can easily be covered by a garbage bag that I would be carrying anyway. I haven't carried tent poles in quite some time, but I do carry a fly rod on most occasions. I put it in a homemade pvc rod tube and carry it strapped to a tool lashing point on the back of my pack.

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## Re:How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by Rifleman - 2008/02/12 00:56

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Hermit wrote:

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I appreciate your Thoughts and responds.

Thank You;

From Old Hermit

Hermit,

That's an expedition size pack your getting. You must be going out for a couple of weeks at a time. That big of a pack has got to weigh several pounds. Before you get one that size it might help you to take a look at the weight and volume (bulk) of your kitchen, sleeping bag, tent and clothes bag. I have a Sixmoondesigns Starlite (v.1.0) which with the pad pocket has a total volume of 4100 ci. My hammock (HH Ultra-lite Asym) goes near the top side by side with the food bag. One half of the 3/8 in. thick ccf pad (36"x20"w) I carry goes in the pad pocket. The other half rolls up & goes on top. My crocs go on the front (right side of the large pocket) binered to the pack. The latrine trowel ties on on the other side of the main pocket. Everything else goes in the pockets or in the pack itself. Packs that have big mesh pockets are a plus for me. If I were to go back to ground dwelling I would seriously look at a Henry Shires Tarp tent as they are very light & pack small. Down packs small & generally is pretty light. I use the Snowpeak Ti cup & pot set for heating water. All the cooking stuff goes in the big Snowpeak pot except for the McFlurry plastic spoon, the alcohol fuel bottle (plastic 12 oz drink bottle) & my chopsticks. I use an REI stuff sack/summit pack for my clothes bag & pillow in the hammock. Here's an interesting post (attached)I came across on another forum that might give you some ideas.

Rifleman [http://www.foottrails.com/images/fbfiles/files/\\_200\\_\\_10lb\\_List.doc](http://www.foottrails.com/images/fbfiles/files/_200__10lb_List.doc)

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## Re:How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by Hermit - 2008/02/19 20:02

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c/o: Rifleman:

Here my problem with this Pack I have...

Deuter Aircontact 55+10

<http://www.deuterusa.com/products/trekking.php>

Look at the Dimensions (HxWxD): 30 x 15 x 11 inches.

Not including the single add-on Pockets.

15 inches is the width.

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My TNF Tree-Frog 24 is; (HxD): 21 x 5.5  
My Thermos-Rest Pad & Chair (HxD): 21 x 6  
I don't have the problem with the Height, thats find.  
Diam: 5.5 + 6 inches = 11.5 in.  
Now subtract that from 15 inches only gives me 3.5 inches to  
play with. There really not much room for 3/4 complete days of food to be stored.  
Kitchen set which is small, and clothes, rain gear, first aid, sleeping bag, etc.

Bulkiness of the two, the Tent & Pad sorta takes up most of the pack.  
Don't get me wrong, The Deuter 55+10 work great when using my hammock.

By going with Deuter 75 + 10 pack. Would be perfect and will  
hold everything inside the pack.. Notice the 5" in height gain  
plus, extra inch in width.  
Check the Dimensions (HxWxD) 35 x 16 x 11 inches

Deuter Aircontact 75+10 Pack:  
<http://www.deuterusa.com/products/trekking.php>

My total pack wt. never excess 37 lbs.  
I think this show a more in depth view.  
From  
Old Hermit :blush:

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## Re:How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by Rifleman - 2008/02/19 21:24

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That Deuter 75 plus 10 is a BIG pack. Judging from the materials it's made of you could drop that big boy off a hundred foot cliff & pick it up at the bottom no worse for the wear. The 6 lb 10 oz weight penalty is a little much for me. I believe that if I didn't like my sixmoondesigns starlite so much, this is the packing system I would get: <http://tinyurl.com/4osbjR>.

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## Re:How Do You Pack Your Tent & Pad.?

Posted by Rifleman - 2008/03/13 22:47

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Hermit,

Have you considered a more packable (smaller) tent & pad? Either a Henry Shires Double Rainbow or a Rainbow (<http://www.tarptent.com/products.html>). Both pack 20x4. Or if you're adventurous, a Six Moon Designs Gatewood Cape (<http://www.sixmoondesigns.com/>). I'm not familiar with the Tree Frog but I'll bet you'd definitely loose a lot of weight & bulk with the Gatewood Cape. Use tyvek for your ground cloth. Switching to one of the Pacific Outdoor Equipment Uber-lite series (<http://www.pacoutdoor.com/2005/index.cfm>) might still work with your T-Rest chair. It's definitely going to cut weight & bulk. If I were to go back to ground dwelling I would probably go with a Gatewood cape (dual use item),with the tyvek & look hard at a POE Uber-lite.

I'm sure your kitchen is one pot & one cup (when going solo). I really like my Snowpeak mini-solo cook set (<http://www.snowpeak.com/back/cookware/titanium.html>). All my cooking stuff (short-handled spoon, soda can stove, spices, etc.) goes inside the 3 cup pot. Except for the small alcohol bottle (10 oz)! You could even go lighter & less bulky with a Heineken beer can for your pot (packed inside) & an insulated cup binered onto the outside of the pack.

Don't know what sleeping bag you're using but consider a quilt. I've got a JacksrBetter No Sniveler regular (<http://www.jacksrbetter.com/>). The No Sniveler triples as a serape (It is warm!), a quilt with a footbox, or an underquilt for my HH.They make heavier (more down) & wider ones also. Will probably get a Rocky Mountain No Sniveler when I save up the money. For extreme light weight (& bulk) a blogger (Gardenville) (<http://ultraliteskunkworks.blogspot.com/>) is doing some incredible things with cuben fiber. This is stuff that would blow Ray Jardine's mind!

One thing I've found is that when I'm willing to think out of the box I can really cut the weight & the bulk. Example. What to do when I have to go to ground in the HH? I have the two 25"l x 20"w 3/8" ccf pads. Not much padding there. I went back to Horace Kephart's "Camping and Woodcraft",borrowed the idea of a "browse bag" he used for insulation and padding & took it to the next level. I have a large (40 gal) garbage bag (which I have used) & fill it up with leaves & moss. Good insulation & padding.

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There's always something to re-think. If Grandma Gatewood was able to thru the AT twice (once NOBO & once SOBO) with just a sack slung over her shoulder & keds I can take a look at what I'm carrying & do some mods too.  
R.

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