

Seam Sealing Warmlite® Tents

The process of seam sealing a tent is simply to put a durable, waterproof coating in the seams just the same as is on the fabric. It is an easy process that should only take 1-2 hours to complete and 1-8 hours to dry depending on temperature and humidity.

1. Set the tent up tight, so seams are stretched open as much as they would be in use. If sealant bridges a loose seam, later loads may pull it loose from one side leaving an unsealed seam. Large cardboard boxes inside the tent may be helpful in keeping the floor to sidewall seams open.
2. Dilute the silicone sealant purchased from Warmlite® 50% with mineral thinner or spirits.
3. To dilute: fill a small, disposable bowl (such as a clean tuna can) 1/6 full with thinner, then squeeze silicone in until mixture fills 1/3 of can.
4. Mix well. The ingredients will take time to mix as thinner is a diluent, not a solvent.
 - Mixing more at a time is more difficult and may start curing before you finish using it.
 - Be careful to keep sealant off zippers and netting.
5. Do not put sealant on the seam joining end cone to the strip of netting at floor. The netting is for proper ventilation circulation.
6. The door zippers should be sealed over the stitches *on fabric side*, not on the zipper tape. *Note:* The inner door zip on the fixed end cone fabric has a single row of stitches. When sealing that fabric the zipper edge should be folded inward (opposite from the way it will be when zipped) and the stitches sealed on fabric side. Don't let the edge fold back and glue down as that edge forms a drain channel for any water that may get through the outer zip.
7. It is not necessary to seal stitches along zippers on vent cover, side windows, zipper on edge of door, or along edges of netting on windows or lower vent. These are all backed up with water blocking covers or drains.
8. Avoid getting sealant on zippers. If sealant gets on a zipper, wash silicone off with mineral thinner before it cures.
9. On first use in rain, carefully inspect seams for leaks, seal any leaks once tent is dry. Ensure any water is not from condensation first. For more information on condensation, see Warmlite.com.
10. Close sealant tube immediately after use. If used again later, remove the plug of cured sealant that may develop at/in the applicator tube. The longer the sealant tube is left open or the longer since last use, the bigger the plug will become.
11. Leftover silicone adhesive can be used to place patches, to recoat worn fabric, or to re-coat old or damaged seam seals.
12. On reinforcing patches, put sealant under the fabric edge as well as over the stitches.
13. If tent floor is too slippery for personal preference, dab spots of sealant on it for a grippier, nonslip surface.

Warmlite®

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