



Proper Care, Maintenance, and Safe Removal of the Shade Canopy

THINGS TO AVOID

Snow, Ice, and High Winds

Remove the canopy in winter conditions as ice and snow load are not covered by the warranty. Additionally, remove the canopy in winds in excess of Hurricane Force 1.

Sharp Objects

Avoid sharp objects, bolts, snags, and other protrusions including mounting hardware. Additionally, do not drag the fabric across surfaces, etc. Rather, roll or fold the fabric and carry it.

Obstructions

Keep foliage, such as tree limbs, shrubbery, bushes, etc., trimmed and away from the fabric at least 3' to 4'.

Sources of Heat

Avoid contact with heat sources such as hot lights, torches, and avoid using grills, etc. under the fabric.

CLEANING THE FABRIC

The fabric itself is generally maintenance free with the exception of necessary removal due toweather or seasonal requirements. The fabric does not harbor mildew or mold, but residues such as tree sap, leaves, bird droppings, dust, dirt, etc. may need to be removed.

To clean the fabric, use water and mild soap. A soft mop or soft broom may also be used. Cleaners that do not contain hydrocarbons, solvents, bleach or ammonia may be used. Use of solvents, hydrocarbons, bleach, and ammonia type cleaners will void the fabric warranty. A pressure washer may be used if necessary using a wide-spray nozzle.

CABLES AND HARDWARE

It is recommended that the cables be replaced if corrosion is visible or every 3 to 4 years, whichever comes first. The cable ends must be wrapped with tape to secure any wires to prevent the wires from tearing the fabric. Taping must be done when removing old cable as well as when installing new cable. Clamps should be replaced when the cable is replaced. If the cable appears slack on a still day (no wind), immediately have the cable and clamps retightened by a qualified person as the cable should not be slack.

GLIDE ELBOWS™

Lubricate Glide Elbows™ annually and before operating. A waterproof grease is recommended such as a lithium-based grease or anti-seize thread lubricant.



STORAGE

Fabric must be stored in a clean, dry place free from snags, sharp edges, etc. The storage area must be rodent-free. Wrap all hardware fittings with rags, etc. as they can damage the fabric.

UNINSTALLING THE SHADE CANOPY

Necessary Care

It is important to take necessary care when handling the fabric during removal and installation to prevent damage to the fabric as well as SAFE control of the fabric in a breeze or wind. The fabric is tough and engineered for use as a shade but it can tear or cut when or if pulled over a snag or sharp item. It can also puncture from bolts or other protruding objects and it can melt from things like cigarettes, matches, hot torch tips, sparks, and the like. In addition, care must be exercised to avoid the fabric hooks after the fabric is unhooked from the elbow corners and sides of the structure where there are intermediate supports. It is best to wrap any connected mounting hardware to prevent it from harming the fabric.

Proper and Safe Handling

Based on the size of the canopy, several persons may be needed to properly and safely handle the fabric during the uninstalling process. You will need several commercial ladders or other means to work safely at high heights. It is advised that you pad the post side of the ladder and tie the ladder to the post. The pad is to protect the post finish. Also, keep in mind that every 100 sq. ft. of fabric (10' x 10'') weighs approximately 5 lbs. For proper control of the fabric, read below. It is best to remove the fabric on a still day. *Do not attempt to remove the canopy in strong or gusty winds.*

Uninstalling

Refer to your installation instructions to determine which style elbows (corners) are installed on your structure. To uninstall the canopy, follow your installation structures in reverse. Do not attempt to remove the canopy in strong or gusty winds.

For Shade Structures with Standard Elbows

Loosen the turnbuckle several turns in order to put enough slack in the cable to allow the fabric and cables to unhook from all the elbow hooks. Attach ¾ or larger ropes to each corner of the fabric and cable before unhooking to secure and properly control the fabric from ground level. If uninstalling in breezy conditions, choose the windy side of the fabric and tie these corners to the posts with the ropes with enough slack to allow for unhooking the fabric from the structure. These ropes are to prevent the shade from flying away in the breeze and to help prevent injury to ground personnel. Once the corners have been secured to the posts, unhook the fabric and cables from each corner. On the side away from the wind, release the corners of the fabric and cable and have a person hold on to each rope. It may help to wrap the rope around a column to help hold it from getting caught in the wind. Fold the fabric back away from the hooks.

Now it will be necessary to remove the cable clamps to allow the cable to be free from the structure and the turnbuckle. If the cable ends are frayed, wrap them with tape.

NOTE: It is usually not necessary, nor is it recommended, that the cable be removed from the canopy. With a person on each rope, starting at the windy side, gently pull the canopy down in between the framework of the structure. The side away from the wind can be guided with the ropes toward the persons pulling the canopy down.

IMPORTANT HINT: It is important when reinstalling the canopy that it is put back in its original orientation to the structure. Starting at the turnbuckle corner, the fabric and cable corners should be returned to their original positions.

For Shade Structures with Glide Elbows™

Remove the protective covers from the ends of the Glide Elbows™. Then, using the proper wrench, turn the hex nuts on the end of the Glide Elbow™ to run the glide hooks to their top most position. Do not loosen the cable clamps, leave the cable intact. Attach ¾ "ropes to each corner of the fabric and cable before unhooking to secure and properly control the fabric from ground level. If uninstalling in breezy conditions, choose the windy side of the fabric and tie these corners to the posts with the ropes with enough slack to allow for unhooking the fabric from the structure. These ropes are to prevent the shade from flying away in the wind and to help prevent injury to ground personnel. Once the corners have been secured to the posts, unhook the fabric and cables. On the side away from the wind, release the corners of the fabric and cable and have a person hold on to each rope. Fold the fabric back away from the hooks. It is a good idea to put the Glide Elbow™ protective covers back in place.

NOTE: With Glide Elbow™ installations it is not necessary to loosen or remove the cable clamps nor to remove the cable from the canopy. If the cable ends are frayed, wrap them with tape.



IMPORTANT HINT: When uninstalling the canopy, mark or identify the corner of origin in such a way that when reinstalling the canopy, it is put back in its original orientation to the structure. The fabric and cable corners should be returned to their original positions when reinstalling the canopy. The cable and fabric should tighten properly when the Glide Elbows™ are adjusted down into their tension positions.

For Shade Sails Equipped with Fans

Loosen the adjustable threaded rod several turns in order to put enough slack in the cable to allow the shackle pin to be removed (do not remove the pins until the fabric corners have been secured with ropes). Attach 3/6" or larger ropes to each corner of the fabric and fan before unhooking to secure and properly control the fabric from ground level. If uninstalling in breezy conditions, choose the windy side of the fabric and tie these corners to the posts with the ropes with enough slack to allow for unhooking the shackle from the structure. These ropes are to prevent the shade from flying away in the breeze and to help prevent injury to ground personnel. Once the corners have been secured to the posts, unhook the shackles and lower the fabric and cables to the ground.

REINSTALLING HINTS

Using the same rope technique, install from the windy side (if it is breezy) making sure to secure these ropes to the posts. Then, throw the remaining corner ropes over the structure and gently pull the canopy into position. The cables and fabric corners can now be hooked on the hooks (and cable guides if so equipped). Next, reinstall the clamps if applicable and tightened the cable with the turnbuckle or the Glide Elbows™. Do not attempt to install the canopy in strong or gusty winds.

For visual references on how to uninstall the shape canopy, refer to the diagrams on the next three pages.











