



SD Sails Freeform Installation Guide

1. Unpacking

Ensuring the area under the structure is clean and free of any sharp objects, start by laying out a heavy duty tarpaulin, ideally bigger than the canopy itself. Lay the packaged canopy in the centre of the tarpaulin and carefully remove the packaging. Unroll the canopy completely in one direction and then the other, being careful not to allow the corner hardware to fall and damage the fabric.

2. Positioning

Ensuring the canopy is the correct way up (if webbing edge, the webbing is underneath; if cable edge, the shiny or textured side of the fabric is on top), rotate the canopy on the floor so the corner references align with the correct post/fixing references.

3. Hardware

Unpack the hardware and arrange as planned on the floor next to each corner of the canopy. If the canopy is cable edged, start by fitting the corner plates and bolting them down tightly through the pre-cut holes (for more detail, please see separate guides for each plate type). Extend the tensioning hardware to its longest length and fit to the corner ring/plate on the canopy.

4. Fitting

Using appropriate working at height equipment, connect the tensioning hardware to the highest post/fixing point first, and then an opposing corner to lift the canopy off the floor. Please note, great care must be taken at this point not to allow the canopy to drag on the floor or flap about in the wind in order to avoid damaging the fabric. Follow on connecting all the remaining corners so the canopy is completely suspended in the air with all the tensioning hardware still loose.

5. Tensioning

Using appropriate tools and working at height equipment, begin tensioning the corner hardware at the highest post/fixing point first by about 25% of its range. Tension the opposing corner by a similar amount, and then all the remaining corners. Repeat this process 2 or 3 times until all corners are fully tensioned to the same position and the canopy is taught, stable and crease free. The perimeter of the canopy, webbing or cable, should be very solid with minimal movement.

6. Locking off

It is vital that all threaded tensioners are locked off with the secondary locking nut firmly turned against the primary nut. Failure to do this may result in the tensioner slackening off over time, causing the canopy to be loose and potentially voiding the warranty. It is advised that the tensioners are checked periodically to ensure they remain properly locked off at all times.