

# Wooden Tipis (Teepees)

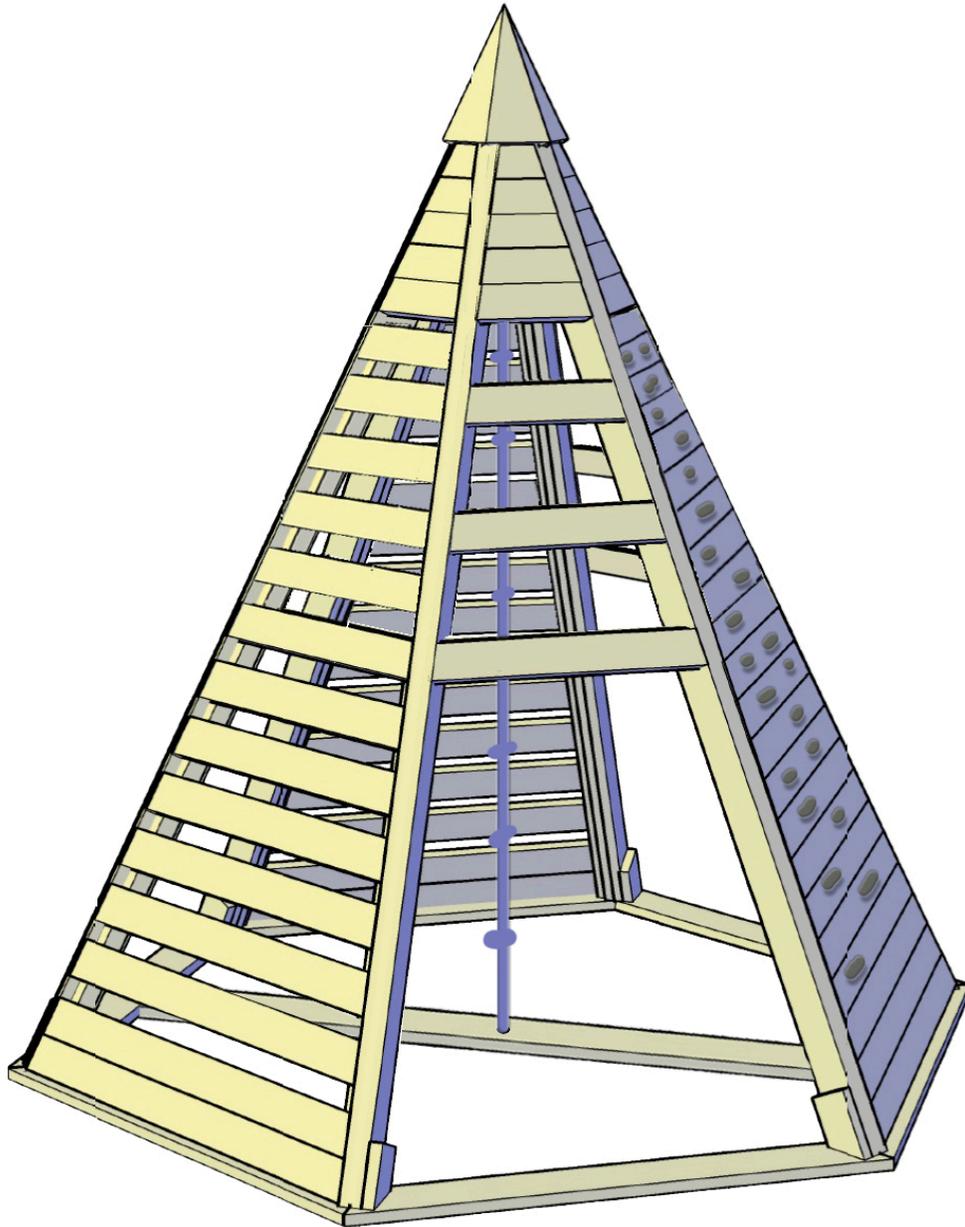
Installation Instructions. Part one for the 12' tipi,  
Part 2 for the 8' tipi

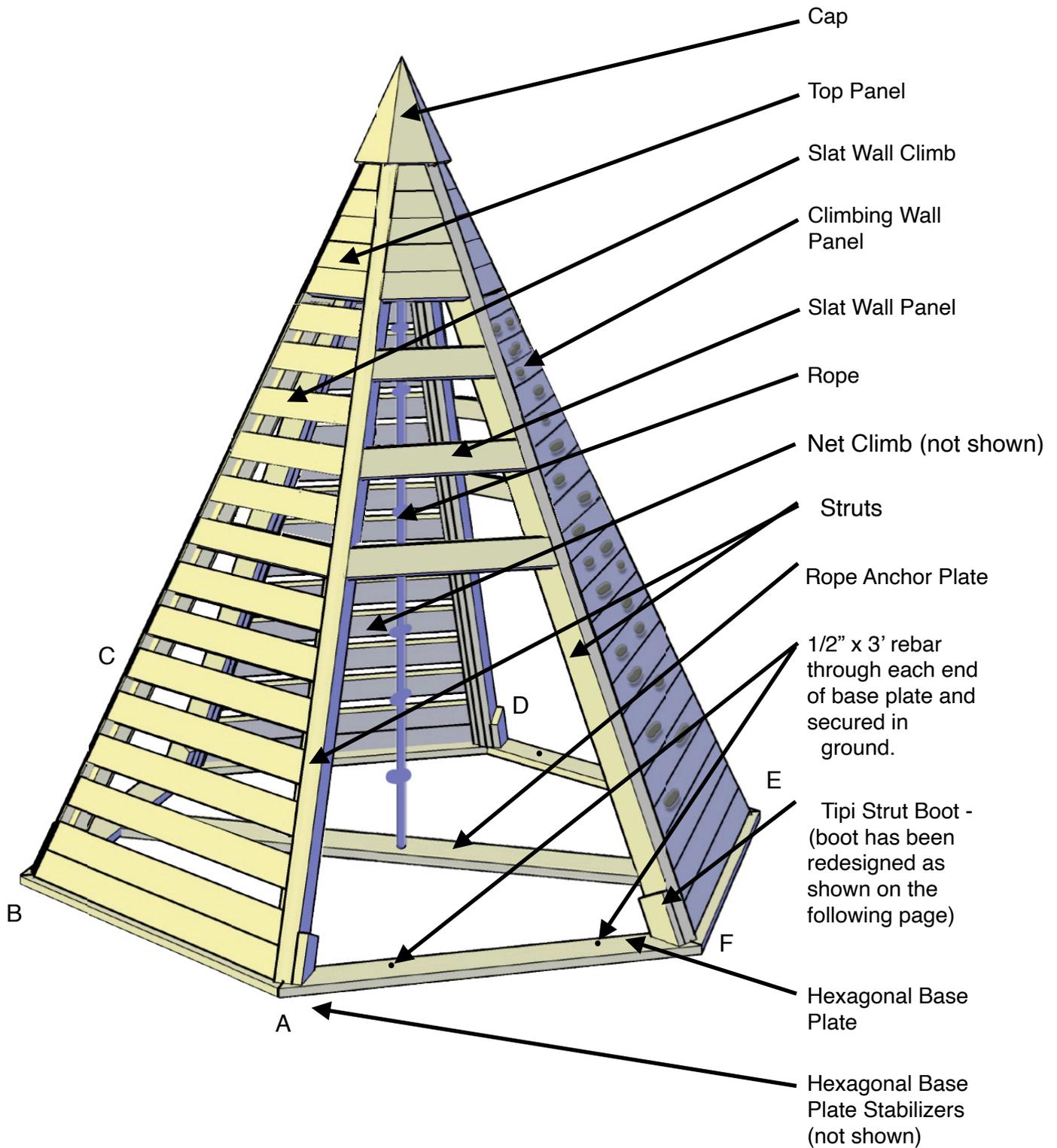


Part 1

## 12' Hexagonal Wooden Climbing Tipi

Installation Instructions





# 12' Hexagonal Wooden Climbing Tipi

## Installation Instructions

NOTES: Please check for any damage caused by the shipping company and take appropriate steps to file a claim, if needed.

\*Please call **Digsafe** and check for any underground utilities before digging anywhere.

### Materials needed

Driver / drill (torque driver bit provided in kit), Post hole shovel, spade shovel, level, tape measure, hand tamp, and seven (7) 50lb bags of fast-setting premixed concrete (not included). Concrete amount required may vary depending on how deep you can get the holes. Concrete amounts can be easily calculated at <http://www.quikrete.com/Calculator/Main.asp>.

### Instructions

1. Remove items from shipping pallet. You should find two (1) slat wall climb panel, (1) climbing wall panel, (1) net climb panel, (3) slat wall panels, (12) L-notched 4x6 strut halves, (6) hexagonal base plate boards, (6) base plate middle stabilizers, (6) tipi strut boots, (1) rope anchor plate with rope and hexagon hub attached, (1) cap, (12) pieces of rebar, and (1) package of hardware.

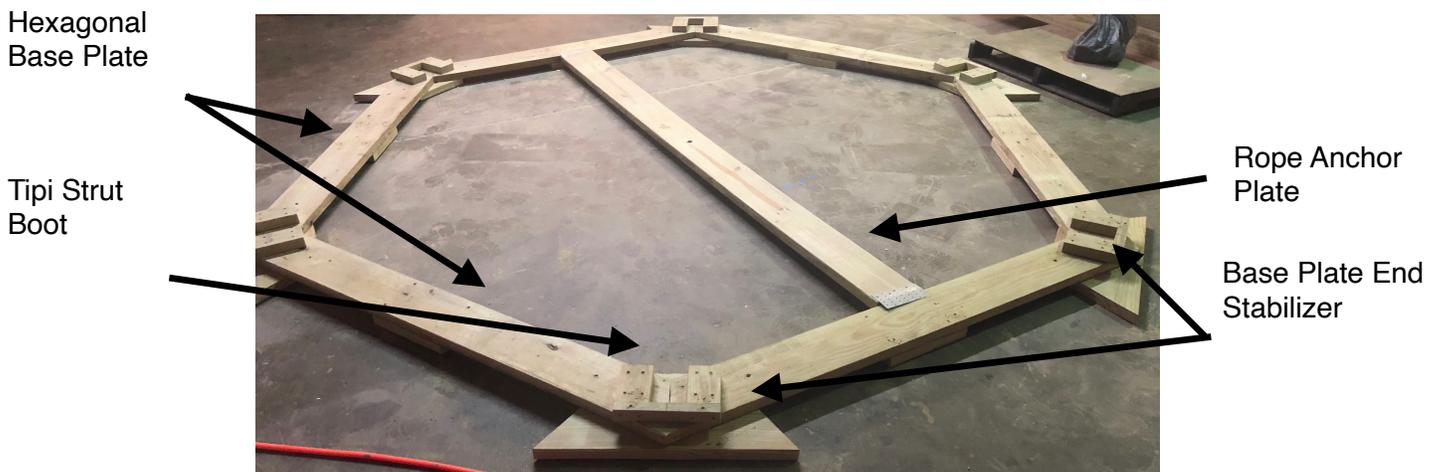
*\*Note:* Due to the size of this play element, the tipi cannot be shipped fully assembled. Triangular panels (one climbing wall panel, one net climb panel, one slab climb panel, and 3 common slat wall panels) are preassembled and lettered/numbered for your convenience, to be fastened to the struts from outside the Tipi. The struts are lettered A-F, and all other pieces correspond to that lettering system.

2. Locate where the tipi is going to be placed. Please keep in mind that, because of the climbing heights and standing surfaces above the ground, a fall zone extending 6' around the outside of the TiPi is required, and it should be at least 9" deep, preferably 12" deep. You'll find if you are digging a "hole" of this depth, it will need to be drained to daylight, or to a catch basin or dry well.

*\*Note:* Your other option is to make a 9-12" high retainer around the circumference of the fall zone, which would then allow water to drain out onto the surrounding ground. Either way, the line for the top of the fall zone material is marked on the struts, so please maintain this level as long as the Tipi is standing!

3. Prep the area. You will need to define an area that is a 12'-0" diameter circle for the Tipi, and then a concentric circle that is 24'-0" in diameter which is your total fall zone area. If you are not installing 12" high retainers around the circumference of this 24' diameter circle, excavate this large circle to a depth of 12" and make sure to install drainage under the FZ material. After you have your 24' diameter prepped, it's time to assembly the hexagon tipi baseplate.

*\*Note:* It's recommended that the hexagon base plate be assembled on a relatively level or flat surface, like the parking lot for example. Once it's assemble you'll bring it over as one piece (this will require a few people to carry) and lay it down in the area you excavated/prepped in step 3.



Hexagon Tipi Baseplate w/ Stabilizers and Boots for easy

4. Find all six of the hexagon baseplate boards, baseplate middle stabilizers, "U-shaped" boots, and the one rope anchor plate. Refer to diagram shown above.
5. Set the hexagonal base plates down in a hexagonal shape on your leveled ground surface. All boards are labeled on ends which correspond with the struts.
6. Place each base plate end stabilizer under each hexagonal base plate joint where marked and as shown above, then fasten the base plates to the end stabilizers.
7. Place each tipi strut boot on each hexagonal base plate where marked and as shown above, then fasten the strut boots to the base plate. Strut boots are labeled A, B, C, etc. corresponding to the letters on the base plates, which all correspond to the letters on the struts.
8. Place the rope anchor plate under the two base plate boards where marked and as shown above, then fasten the anchor plate to the base plates.

9. Carry the base plate assembly over to your prepped area and place down. Make sure the base plate assembly is sitting level and make any adjustments if needed.

10. Now we'll erect the three wall panels. Place each wall panel on the ground by its corresponding letter on the struts.

\*Note: Notice that the top of each strut has a cleat attached for easy fastening to the center hub.

11. Starting with the slat climb panel, attach the hexagonal hub to the cleats attached to the top of the struts, then lift the panel up and set the bottom of the struts into the strut boots and attach with 3" T25 screw through their points with the screws provided.

12. Standing on a latter, one person temporarily support the panel by holding up the bottom of the hub, while another person erects a panel on the opposite side, then fastens the top of the struts to the hub cleats, and the bottom of the strut to the base plate. The tipi is now temporarily supported until fully assembled.

13. Erect the third wall climb following the same steps above.

14. Attach the three common slat wall panels and the three top panels following the letters/numbers, and aligning with the predrilled holes. Attach with 3" T25 screws.

15. Attach top cap (which creates an even space around for venting), and attach with 3" screws into every other strut.

16. Secure tipi by hammering two pieces of rebar through each base plate into the ground.

17. Add fall zone material ~12" from the bottom plate of the tipi. You will cover the board with the hole with the rope going through it.

18. Enjoy your new 12' Wooden Tipi!

**NOTE:** so the wood does not dry out and become splintery, at least once, and ideally twice a year, fill a garden pump sprayer with child-friendly wood preservative (such as Thompson's Waterseal) and spray all wooden surfaces.

## Part 2

# 8' Octagonal Wooden Tipi

## Installation Instructions

NOTES: Please check for any damage caused by the shipping company, take pictures of the damage, inform us, and take appropriate steps to file a claim, if needed. If the damage is extensive, REFUSE the shipment!!! and then make notes of the driver's paperwork, sign it if necessary, and TAKE A PHOTO of it for your records.

### Materials needed

Driver / drill (torque driver bit provided in kit), tape measure, small sledge or framer's hammer, 5-6' of heavy-duty string, spray can of field marking paint (well shaken!), magic marker, 6' step ladder.

### Instructions

1. Move all pallets, or items from all the pallets, to the place where you want to erect the tipi.
2. When located properly, the struts for this octagonal tipi make a circle approximately 97" in diameter, so if you want to lay out this circle in your chosen location, it will help act as a guide during assembly.
3. To lay out the circle, locate the center point where you want it, and use the well-shaken can of paint to make a small mark at the center. Then drive one of the supplied 10" spikes into the ground at the center point.
4. Attach one end of the string to the spike, stretch it out and use your tape measure and magic marker to mark a point 47.5" one the string, then wrap that end tightly around the nozzle of the marking paint (shake the can up first, of course), then keep it taught while you walk a circle while pushing the nozzle slightly to one side so a small stream of paint comes out. You should now have a ~97" circle painted on the ground.
5. Remove the spike and string. Save the spike
6. Grab two of the long struts (there are 8 2x4s with foot plates attached to their bases, and an angle cut at the top) and the center hub (the a short chunk of 6x6 with pointed ends cut into an octagon).
7. Lay the hub on the ground at some point on the circle, and lay one 2x4 strut on one side, angled cut up by the hub, the other strut on the other side, same orientation.

- Adjust the angle of the struts so the cut angles match/lie flat on two opposite faces of the hub. Use the enclosed fasteners to attach the two struts to the hub.
8. You will need two people for the next step.
  9. Lift the triangle so the hub is in the air, and move the whole business so the hub is over the center of the circle. Adjust it so both legs are opposite each other on the circle. One person should hold it in position.
  10. Now fasten 2 other struts perpendicular to these first two, which should stabilize the tipi while you fasten the other struts to the hub.
  11. At this point, it's critical that all the struts/strut plates are sitting on top of the circle at about the same points. If they aren't, adjust them so they do.
  12. If you HAVEN'T purchased any walls, drive the 16 spikes all the way in through the foot plate holes. Pound spikes until the tops just hit the wood. DO NOT hammer these in too hard, or you will loosen the foot plate-to-strut attachment.
  13. Note: if you're installing on the grass, the foot plates will be "floating" above the hard ground, so step on them to flatten the grass before driving in the spikes.
  14. IF you purchased wall panels to be added, drive a SINGLE spike only HALFWAY down through ONE of each of the foot plate holes to temporarily hold everything in place so you can pull the spikes if needed to make minor adjustments so the triangular-shaped walls fit into place.
  15. Find your triangular-shaped wall pieces, decide which ones you want in which openings, and fasten in place using the fasteners supplied.
  16. Once all walls are in, add the remaining spikes in the other 8 foot plate holes. Go easy.
  17. Enjoy!!

**NOTE:** so the wood does not dry out and become splintery, at least once, and ideally twice a year, fill a garden pump sprayer with child-friendly wood preservative (such as Thompson's Waterseal) and spray all wooden surfaces.