

QUICKSILVER 8.0 and 10.0 SET UP PROCEDURE

The following is a general overview for setting up your new QUICKSILVER 8.0 or 10.0 automotive tent camper. While this set up can be accomplished by an individual, we strongly recommend that you include another person in the set up process. Two sets of hands make the set up of the QUICKSILVER much easier and quicker than if you try to do it all by yourself.

Unhook the Camper From the Tow Vehicle:

Before unhooking the camper from your tow vehicle, be sure to set the jack stand in place by pulling the pin and swiveling the jack leg into place. The leg will “snap” into place and the pin will reinsert into the hole to secure it.

After the jack stand is in place, you can remove the small cotter pin which enables you to lift up the small lever lock on the trailer’s ball hitch coupler. Then, begin to crank the handle on the jack to raise the camper off of the ball. NOTE: the coupler will not be able to raise up off of the ball unless this lever is lifted. Once the hitch coupler is high enough to be clear of the ball, you can unhook the safety chains from the car hitch, as well as unhook the electrical/lighting plug from the tow vehicle.

Once the trailer has been jacked up higher than the ball and the safety chains have been removed and the light plug unhooked, you can then maneuver the camper into the desired position. Because the trailer is so light, it can be easily rolled into place at your camp site.

Utilizing the Stabilizer Jacks:

Once you have positioned the camper where you want it, the first thing you want to do is double check that there is going to be enough room for the bed bases to fold out without hitting any tree branches or other obstacles. Once you are sure that there is plenty of room for the camper to fold out, you can put down the stabilizer jacks.

The stabilizer jacks work by first pulling the jack leg towards the foot of the jack, which then allows the leg to swing down towards the ground. Simply pull the leg towards the foot and swing it down towards the ground. Then, by pushing the small handle on the back of the jack leg, you will release the leg to slide down towards the ground. After you have positioned each of the stabilizer jacks, locate the small steel rod (typically inside the small cabinet of your coach), which can be inserted into (and through) the holes in the jack leg to “crank” the jack one notch further, which tightens the jack onto the ground, further stabilizing the coach. NOTE: Be sure that the steel rod goes all the way through the jack leg (both sets of holes) before you crank the jack down an extra notch. This will prevent bending the steel on the jack and damaging it.

Once the stabilizer jacks have been set, you can begin setting up the camper.

Removing the Tonnau Cover:

Now you can begin to remove the tonnau cover by first unsnapping all of the snaps.

NOTE: be sure to use both hands to unsnap the snaps on the tonnau cover and tent. Position your fingers on either side of the snap before pulling or pushing. This will help prevent ripping the vinyl and promote longer life of the material. Once all of the snaps have been undone, you can lift the tonnau cover up and off of the bed base at the rear of the trailer (start at the rear, as it is permanently attached to the front). Once the material is free of the bunk base, you can begin to roll it, from the back of the camper towards the front. NOTE: We recommend folding the sides of the tonnau cover under the top before rolling, as it makes it easier to roll up. Once you have reached the front of the trailer with the rolled up tonnau cover, simply roll it a turn or two down the front of the camper towards the nylon straps with Velcro that you will find attached to the front of the camper. Wrap the nylon straps with Velcro around the rolled up tonnau cover and connect the Velcro strips to each other to secure it in place.

Preparing to Open the Tent Camper:

Next, remove the support poles from the from the black PVC tube located beneath the camper (on older models, the support poles are located on top of the bed bases). If you have trouble unscrewing the cap of the PVC tube, you will find that the steel rod used for the jacks can be easily inserted through the hole in the cap to get it started and unscrew it.

Place the support poles into the lower support brackets (not the brackets on the bed bases) located at the front and rear of the trailer. Line up the holes on the support poles with the brackets and insert the snap pins through the holes. NOTE: Make sure that the snap pins go entirely through the holes and clearly stick through the other side.

Once the support poles have been secured into the brackets located at the front and rear of the camper, you can now prepare to lift the bed bases into place.

NOTE: Make sure that no one is standing in the area where the bed bases are going to be swung over and down into place. We strongly recommend that two people are utilized to swing the bed bases into place. WARNING: Failure to make sure the area is clear where the bed base is going to swing into place and not having two people holding on to the bed base while lifting it up and positioning it into place may result in serious bodily injury to others.

Have each person stand at the center of the camper (where the two bed bases come together) and grab the sides of a bed base and prepare to lift it. Once you are both ready, carefully lift the bed base up and walk it towards the vertical position, being careful to hang on to the base so that it does not fall down on its own. Continue to hold on to the bed base while walking it past vertical and back down towards horizontal. Once the bed is in the horizontal position, lift up the support bars that are already attached to the brackets on the camper, and prepare to insert and secure them to the brackets located on the bottom of the bed base.

NOTE: By placing your shoulder under the bed base, you will find it easier to place the support poles into the brackets. Then, by placing your thumb under the support pole while it is in the bracket, you will find it easier to line up the holes on the support pole with the brackets so that you can insert the snap pins. Make sure that the snap pins go all the way through the support poles and brackets.

Opening the Tent:

Now that both bed bases have been opened up and secured with the support poles, it's time to prepare the tent to be lifted up into place. The first thing you want to do is pull the excess tent that is lying on top, out and over the sidewalls, so that it hangs to the side of the camper. Next, you need to reach into the camper and feel for the bimini poles (both sides) that are currently situated between the camper's sidewalls and pull them up a bit to make sure they are free from any obstructions that could hinder them being pulled up and out of the camper. You must do this, because during transit the bimini poles have a tendency to shift downwards in the camper and sometimes can become slightly bound up between the sidewalls of the camper. There are a few biminis that will go with each half of the tent, and you need to make sure they are loose and ready to be lifted up and out of the camper box. Once you are satisfied that the bimini poles are free from being "stuck" in the box of the camper and ready to be lifted up, you can grab the end of the tent and the biminis for the half of the camper you are about to lift up and begin to walk the tent up and out toward the bunk end. You will find that the bimini poles will flow up into place as you walk the tent towards the bunk end. Once you reach the bunk end secure just one snap on either corner of the bunk.

(NOTE: These instructions are for setting up the 8.0 and 10.0 models. See below for set up instructions on the 5.0 model.)

Typically in the 8.0 and 10.0 models, the tent will go up in the following order: the half that lifts up and out towards the rear of the camper first, followed by the half that lifts up towards the front of the camper second. And when putting the tent back into the camper, you want to reverse this by first closing the front half of the camper, followed by the rear half of the camper.

Next, go to the other half of the tent, and having double checked that the remaining bimini poles are free of the box and ready to be lifted up and into place, you can begin to walk that half of the tent up

and out towards that bunk end. You can pull the sides of the tent away from the bimini poles as you walk it up and out to make it a little easier to get into place. Again, when you reach the end of the bunk you will want to secure one snap at each of the corners of the tent first. NOTE: Again, be sure to use two hands to secure the snaps by placing fingers on either side of the snap and both thumbs on the snap when possible.

NOTE: If it seems you are having trouble getting the snaps on the tent to “reach” the snaps on the end of the bunk, simply reach up and pull down on the bimini pole and tent at the top of the end. This will provide the leeway you need to secure the snaps. Once you have secured the snaps on one end of the camper, go to the opposite end and secure those snaps. Again, if you need extra slack, reach up and pull the tent and end bimini pole down a bit towards the end of the bunk which will provide the necessary leeway to secure the snaps. Once the ends of the bunks are snapped, move to the sides of the camper and secure the snaps on either side of the camper. Finally, secure the sides of the bunk ends by folding them under the sides of the bunk, so that the Velcro firmly attaches. Then, further secure the sides of the bunks by attaching the bungee cords that are sewn into the hem of the tent sides (in the bunk area) to the corresponding eyelets located under the bunks sides. This will keep the bunk area secured and significantly cut down on any wind infiltration.

Once the exterior of the tent has been secured, go into the interior of the camper where you will find a center support bar on the floor with black plastic fittings on either end. This center support bar fits between the two center bimini poles, running from the front of the camper to the rear, and helps keep the tent taut and in position. The easiest way to secure it in place is to position one end of the pole just below the bimini pole and “roll” it onto the bimini pole. Then, attach the other end of the center support bar to the other bimini the same way. NOTE: The center support bar must be removed prior to attempting to close up the tent and fold it back into the camper. When removing the center support bar, use the same “roll” technique to “twist” one end of the center support bar off of the bimini pole, followed by twisting off the other end.

NOTE: Inside the tent, you will see that there are nylon straps with Velcro located above both bunk ends. These straps can be tightened or loosened for a better fit of the tent.

Setting Up the Kitchen Base:

Now that the tent is in place, you can prepare to set up the kitchen base cabinet. The top portion of the kitchen base cabinet is designed to lower onto the floor when in transit and will need to be lifted up and swung back over the lower portion where it will sit. To best accomplish this, you will want to place one hand on the back edge of the upper cabinet, with the other hand on the aluminum support bar that is attached to the sides of the kitchen base. As you lift the support bar, balance the cabinet with your other hand that is holding the rear edge of the cabinet. You will find that with your hands in these positions, that the top portion of the kitchen base cabinet can be easily be moved into place by tilting it slightly forward, allowing the rear of the top cabinet to “clear” the lower cabinet before going back and into place. Position your hands in these same places when you are getting ready to tear down the camper and preparing to lift the top cabinet and lower it onto the floor.

SUGGESTION: Take a few minutes to experiment with setting the top portion of the kitchen base cabinet on the ground and lifting it back up and into place – with one hand on the lift bar and one hand on the back edge of the countertop to balance it. It should take just a few attempts for you to become comfortable with this movement.

Using the Hand Pump Sink:

If you are going to be utilizing the hand-pump sink, you will need to hook up the plumbing lines between the faucet and the city water fill connection, or the faucet and the blue water tank if you are going to be dry camping. NOTE: If you are going to be dry camping, you will need to fill the blue water jug/tank prior to traveling and then hook it up to the faucet once you reach your destination.

Setting up the Dinette:

To set up the dinette, you will pick up the lightweight table and remove any cushions that are stored underneath it. Place the base cushions on the dinette bases and pull the dinette table legs out and into place, and place the table between the dinette bases. Place the upper dinette cushions in place attaching the Velcro straps to help keep them in place.

Hooking Up Water and Electric to the Camper:

On the off-door side of the camper you will find an electrical outlet to attach to a power source, as well as a city water fill to attach a hose to.

If you are dry camping and have a battery hook up, you will be able to operate the 12V lights inside the coach, as well as the 12V power outlet.

Also for dry campers, you can fill the blue water jug/tank and utilize the hand-pump sink to access that water supply.

Hooking up the 12V Lights/Fans:

You will find two 12V lights (or opt. light/fans) in the small interior cabinet. These lights plug into either of the round jacks located at the top of the sidewalls near where either bunk end begins. These lights “snap” onto the bimini poles and can be placed either on the side or the top of the bimini.

Hooking up the Privacy Drapes:

If you purchase the optional privacy drapes, they are very easy to attach. Simply hook the fabric loops over the bimini bar located where the bed bunk starts and attach the Velcro on each fabric strip.

Operating the Exterior Step:

To operate the exterior step, simply lift and pull the step out and away from the camper and into place. To put it back in the travel position, simply lift it up and push it back into place under the camper.

SETTING UP THE 5.0 Model TENT:

CAUTION: Because of the unique design of the 5.0, the large size of the tent and the fact that the tent opens two opposite ways – it is very important to keep a watchful eye on the tent and any undue stress that may occur if any of the three bimini poles should become slightly bound or caught in the tent when opening. If all three poles are free to move and the Velcro on the front bimini is loose, there should not be any problems. Read on for details.

When setting up the tent on the 5.0 model, here are some important considerations for you to remember. First, while this model only has one bunk end, the tent inside still opens up two ways when it comes to the bimini poles, and will take a little getting used to before you have it mastered.

Before you open up the bunk end completely, you must first open it up partially (not quite vertical), reach into the camper and grab a hold of the bimini poles and give them a tug to make sure that they are “free” from being “stuck” in the camper box. You must do this, because during transit the bimini poles have a tendency to shift downwards in the camper and sometimes can become slightly bound up between the sidewalls of the camper. By simply lifting the bimini poles up a bit to make sure they will rise out of the box with ease, you will ensure that there will be no undue stress on the tent or poles when putting the tent up. With the tent down, in the box, you will feel three bimini poles. The smallest bimini is going to come all the way out with the bunk end as it flips out toward the hitch. This bimini is attached to the bunk end of the tent with a small Velcro loop.

CAUTION: Before you open the bunk all the way – make sure that the Velcro on the tent which holds this smaller bimini in place is loosened and not too tight. If this Velcro is too tight, and/or the other bimini poles are slightly bound up in the camper box, it can put undue stress on the tent seam in this area when opening or closing the tent. To avoid this, simply loosen up the Velcro loop(s) holding that front, smaller bimini in place and make sure that you have enough slack in this area of the tent when opening. Once you have made sure the bimini poles are loose and ready to go up, and that the Velcro holding the smaller, front bimini is loose, then you can proceed and lift the bed base up to vertical and slowly walk it down toward the front of the camper - making sure that the tent is coming with the bunk end, and that the next bimini pole is going up and towards the front as well, and that there is plenty of slack in the tent. Then, when the the last bimini (which opens up towards the rear of the camper – door end) is free and has plenty of play within the tent, you can pull the rear end of the tent (door side) up and into place and attach a single snap on each corner. **NOTE:** If you feel significant resistance with the tent going up, exercise caution and make sure that the biminis are loose and that the tent is not catching on anything.

Once the rear of the tent is attached at the corners of the camper, go to the front of the camper again and pull the tent over the front bimini, attaching it in place by snapping the front corners of the tent.

Next, move into the inside of the camper, make sure that each of the biminis is basically in place and look for the two center support bars with black plastic fittings on either end. These center support bars fit between the bimini poles, running from the front of the camper to the rear, and helps keep the tent taut and in position. In the 5.0 model, there are two center support bars. The longer support bar goes over the bunk, while the short support bar goes between the two full size biminis over the dinette area. The easiest way to secure them in place is to position one end of the pole just below the bimini pole and “roll” it onto the bimini pole. Then, attach the other end of the center support bar to the other bimini the same way.

NOTE: The center support bars must be removed prior to attempting to close up the tent and fold it back into the camper. When removing the center support bars, use the same “roll” technique to “twist” one end of the center support bar off of the bimini pole, followed by twisting off the other end.

Once the tent is in place with the bimini poles and center support bars in place, you can then go around the tent and secure all of the snaps around the camper, as well as the velcro bunk sides and bungee straps under the bunk sides.