

Info for buying a tent:

- **Links for advice:**
 - <http://outdoorswithdave.com/camping/buying-your-first-tent>
 - <http://www.wikihow.com/Choose-a-Tent>
- **Subtract 2 from the listed number of people on the tent.** If the tent says it is for 4 people, you can easily fit 2 adults and maybe 1 additional child. The number listed on the tent assumes someone is laying on every square inch of the tent floor. For example, if you need to sleep 3 in your tent, you probably want at least a "5-person" tent.
- **Always put your new tent up at home in the yard/garage before camping.** This way, you know how to put it up and that it has all the necessary parts. You don't want to have problems putting it up at the campsite in the dark.
- **Buy a cheap tarp to put under your tent.** This will help keep the floor of your tent dry and protect it from holes.
- **Tents usually come with stakes, but having some extra cheap tent stakes is a good idea.**
- Reasonable first tents:
 - **I recommend shopping at Academy before any other store. They have a bigger selection of reasonably-priced tents.**
 - *Dome Tents -- pretty easy to put up and reasonably priced*
 - 4-person dome tent, such as Coleman Sundome 4-person Dome Tent --- Walmart
 - Coleman costs a little more but is usually a little better weatherproof and still reasonably priced
 - Larger dome tents:
 - Ozark Trail 5-Person Dome Tent -- Walmart
 - May be lower quality, but is **very** reasonably priced
 - Coleman Rolling Meadows Dome Tent -- Academy
 - Magellan Outdoors Pecos Dome Tent
 - *Instant Cabin Tents -- bigger and easy to put up, but more expensive. Be sure it has a rain fly with it.*
 - Ozark Trail 6 Person Instant Cabin Tent-Walmart, Ozark Trail 6 Person instant Cabin Tent (not that big)- Walmart, Magellan Outdoors Swiftrise 6 Instant Cabin Tent-Academy
 - Not sure of quality, but have good ratings.
 - Lower-priced brands are Ozark Trail (WalMart) and Magellan (Academy). These may not hold up to really bad weather as well as more expensive tents, but are probably a good choice for a first tent.