



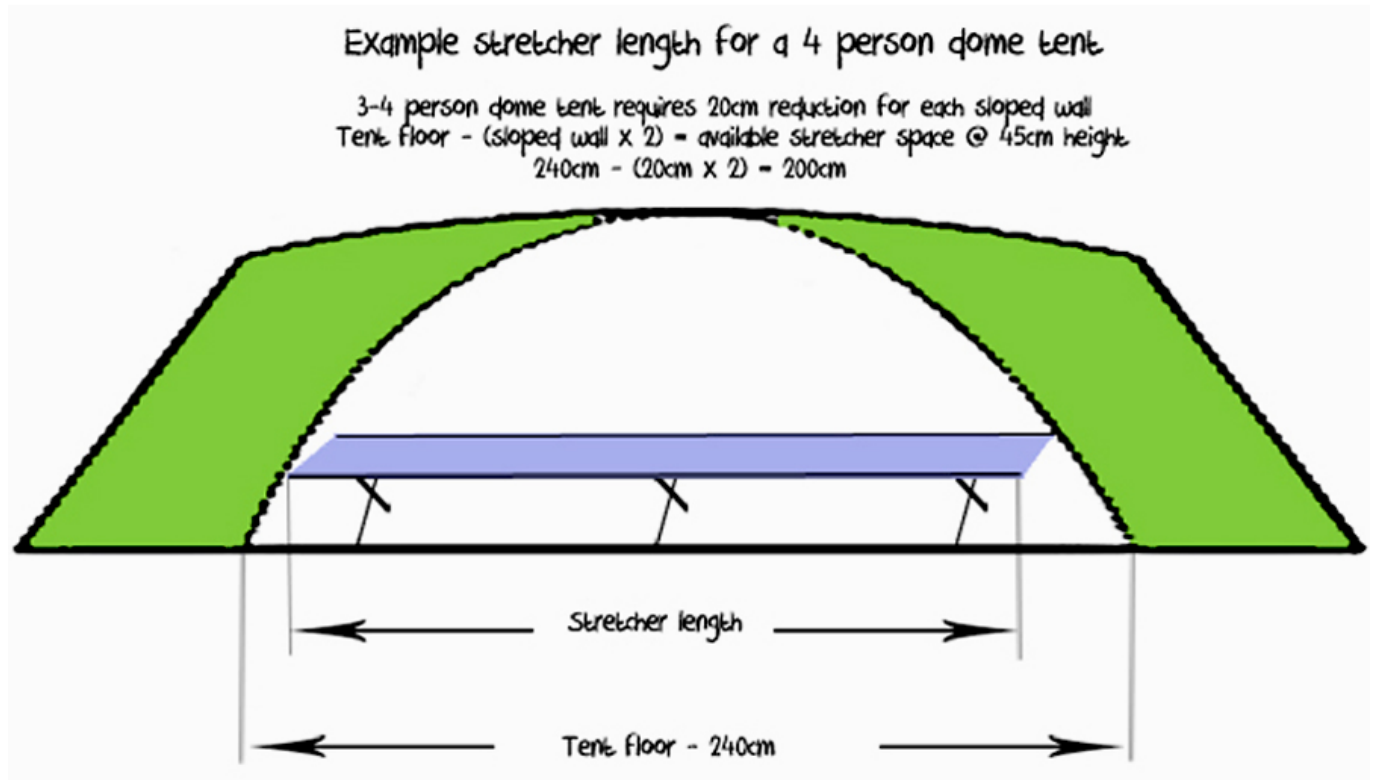
There are some clear benefits to using a stretcher in your tent.

It not only gets you up off the ground, something appreciated by older campers; it increases storage space.

Two king-sized mattresses in a 3-4 person tent leaves little room for your gear. But put a couple of stretchers in the tent, and you still have space underneath.

The only sticking point is that a stretcher and mattress of the same length and width, will not necessarily fit into the same tent.

The combination of stretcher height (45cm in my experiment) and a sloping tent wall meant that some measurements I took in our tent display reduced the space for a stretcher by up to 45cm.



## How do you find a stretcher and tent combination that will work?

Keeping in mind the flexible nature of a tent wall, I have come up with a guide based on an average stretcher height of 45cm lightly touching the interior walls.

To work out if your stretcher will fit in a tent you are researching, reduce the tent floor dimensions by these measurements for each sloped wall that your stretcher will be situated against.

## For Boxy Touring and Cabin-Style Tents: 15cm

Examples:

- Standard square **Black Wolf Turbo** Tents
- Coleman **Instant Up** Tents
- OZtrail **Fast Frame** Tents
- Zempire Pronto



## For 3-4 Person Dome Tents: 20cm

Examples:

- OZtrail **Tasman 4V Dome Tent**

## For the Sleeping Room/s on Family Camping and Touring Tents: 25-30cm

Examples:

- Black Wolf **Turbo Plus**
- Black Wolf **Turbo Twin**
- Coleman **Instant Up 10P Lighted Northstar Darkroom**
- Zempire **Evo TM V2**

## For Oztent RV Tents: 35cm

Examples:

- Oztent **RV Tents**

## For Tents with an Extended Back Wall: 45cm

Examples:

- Darche **Xtender 2.5**
- Darche **Safari 350**

These measurements are not a sure thing for every tent. But this will at least get you in the ballpark when shopping online.



## Protecting Your Tent Floor

We often get asked is if a stretcher will put holes in tent floors. Common sense says that the feet of a stretcher will be much harder on a tent floor than a mattress would be. This is because all the weight is concentrated to just a few square centimetres of space.

Whilst it is very dependant on the surface type on which your tent is pitched, you can minimise damage by using a **tarp** under your tent, and possibly even some **foam mats** inside for lighter weight floor fabrics.

Hopefully, this helps you to confidently select the gear you need to sleep comfortably on your next camping trip.

**What are some of your recommendations for making your tent a comfortable sleeping space?**