

CHECK SIZE OF NEW TENT  
AGAINST OLD TENT BEFORE  
INSTALLING NEW TENT. ONCE  
THE NEW TENT IS INSTALLED, IT  
IS NOT RETURNABLE.





## Westfalia Pop-top Tent Replacement Instructions (1964-79 Buses and 1980-91 Vanagon Campers)

**Overview:** Watch our tent installation videos (for [staple-in](#) & [screw-in](#)) and [read our tech article](#) on GoWesty.com before you begin! Installation will take roughly 4-8 hours to complete unless you have done one previously. You will need a staple gun (staple in tent only/pre 1984), a Phillips screwdriver, two sawhorses, and several friends to help you lift the fiberglass top off the vehicle.

**Installation Note:** Step five instructs you to carefully compare your old tent to our reproduction. If you are not satisfied that our product is the correct size, STOP. Do not proceed with the installation until you have called GoWesty tech support.

1. Remove the tent from the body by removing all of the screws and aluminum strips. Take careful notice of exactly how the tent is fastened to the body by the aluminum strips, and make sure it is reinstalled in the same way. A digital camera can be very helpful.
2. Remove the fiberglass pop-top from the vehicle by unbolting the lifting gear from the fiberglass and unbolting the pivot hinges from the body. It helps to have long zip ties or rope to tie the lifting gear and hinges so they don't expand when you lift the top off the vehicle. You will need at least three people (four is better) to lift the top off the vehicle.
3. Place the top upside down on a pair of sawhorses. Be careful not to damage the skylight on Vanagon models.
4. Remove the tent from the top. On pre-1984 models, remove the tack strip with staples in place. Take note of exactly how the tent is fastened to the top by the tack strip or aluminum strip and make sure it is reinstalled in the same way. Again, a digital camera is a great help. You can reuse the old staples, but a pneumatic stapler with new staples is highly recommended. NOTE: While the old tack strip is also re-usable, we sell new tack strip and recommend using it over the old stuff.
5. Spread the old tent out on a flat surface and lay the new tent on top to make sure that the new tent is the correct type and size. **NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that the tent is right BEFORE you try to install it!** Double and triple check all the dimensions. Keep in mind that this is a textile product, and some stretching is to be expected. If you believe that the tent you have received is not the correct size, stop and immediately call GoWesty tech support. Once this tent is installed, it is not returnable. No exceptions!
6. Install the tent onto the fiberglass top with the following procedure: Make sure the zippers on the windows are on the *inside* of the tent. It is possible to install the tent inside out, so be careful. Locate the two long vertical seams on the large front panel of the tent. Find the middle point between them. This is your starting point. Work your way to each front corner from the center starting point with the appropriate fasteners for your particular year. The front should now be fastened. Move on to the rear skinny panel and install exactly the same way as the front panel, working from the center outward. Now that the front and rear panels are fastened, the long sides will settle into the appropriate spot on the fiberglass top. Once the sides are fastened in, it is time to get the pop-top back on the camper.
7. With plenty of help, put the top back onto the vehicle and install hardware for the lifting gear and hinges.
8. To install the tent to the body, it helps to prop the top partially open (but not all the way open). Using a piece of wood approximately 30" long, prop up the top. Install the tent to the body in exactly the same way you attached it to the top. To install the tent to the body we advise starting at the front and working from the center out to each corner, then move to the rear and install working from the center out to each corner. Once you have the front and rear installed, the sides should lay nicely in place. You may need to notch the plastic welting in the corners in order to make the turn smoothly. It may also be necessary to take up a little extra material in the corners. A little wrinkling in the corners is okay. It will straighten out over time.
9. Now it is time to pop the top all the way up and marvel at your handy work. Thank your friends with a cold beverage. Happy camping!

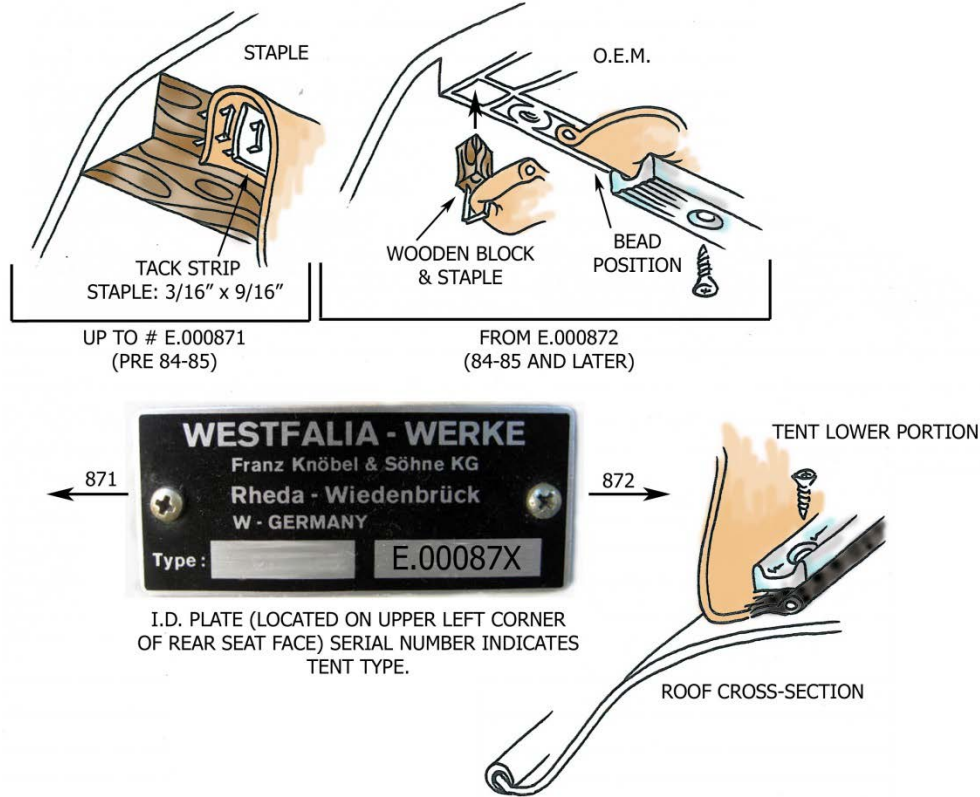
### GoWesty Camper Products

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### Tips & Tricks

- The edge bead will need to be installed in the channel of the aluminum track (save the small wooden blocks and staples from the corners, as these will be used again). See figures below for reference.

#### FIBERGLASS TOP / TENT CROSS SECTIONS



- When installing a staple in tent, a heat gun is highly recommended. Both the original and new tack strip can be brittle, and often times lowering the pressure of a pneumatic stapler doesn't suffice. Work in 1 ½ to 2 ft. sections, heating the strip until pliable, then stapling. Be cautious to not burn the tent fabric!

**Care instructions:** Never close your pop-top on a wet tent and leave it closed for a long period of time. If you put away the tent while wet, make sure to get to a place where the top can be popped and left to dry ASAP. If you have a natural fiber tent (cotton or cotton/hemp), please note that color fading is natural, but can be greatly reduced by keeping the top closed as much as possible. The less sun exposure, the longer the color will last. Applying water repellent every six months will greatly reduce the propensity for mold, and will make it much easier and quicker to dry your tent before closing the pop-top!