

INSTRUCTIONS: Tipi Back Yard Play Tent

This six-sided tipi is large enough for Row kids to really enjoy! Confident to jump into this, I made it in one long weekend, including picking up supplies. OK, add Monday evening!

NOTES:

- 6 - nine foot 1" x 2" x 8' pieces of pine. Round poles don't make this large, but 8' maffwork. We used 3/4" x 1.5" but a little larger is fine. Check out the Home Depot or any local Vista, Gilbert, AZ 85296.
- 1 - 9' x 12' canvas drop cloth
- waxed canvas or vinyl fabric for the tipi door side lining
- waxed canvas or vinyl fabric for the pole pockets
- very strong twine, leather cord or rope to tie poles at top. About a foot or two.
- Hand, clean, flat iron for cutting.
- Sewing machine, scissors, ruler, needle or similar, pen, pins, iron, etc.
- Basic, solid sewing skills

PREPARE POLES:

Drill each of the six poles at the one foot mark so you can thread four twine through all six and secure. I had to tie to securely tie all six together with the twine. No need for it to look perfect

MAKE THE PANELS:

Front Panels:

For the front 9' x 12' drop cloth. You will cut 5 triangles 36" wide at the bottom, 4" wide at the top with a height of 80".

Side Panels:

For the side 12' x 9' fabric. At the half width (18"), pin or tape and go up 80". At the 80" mark, measure to the left 2" and to the right 2" so you now have 4" width at the top.

You will now draw a line (I used my compass) from the left top mark to the left bottom mark to make the angled edge. Do the same on the right side. Cut out the first panel. Now use your template to cut the other four.

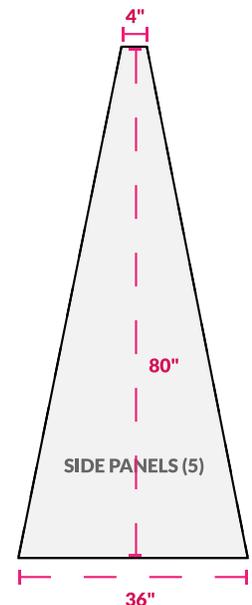
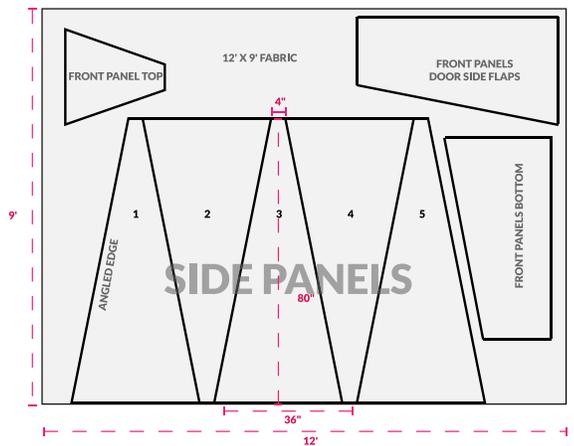
For the 4" top of each panel by folding and ironing under with folding. Then adding another row with two parallel rows of stitches. Two parallel rows will look better. Sew the bottoms together.

ASSEMBLY:

For the left or right side of the angled edge of one of the side panels. This will be the length of the pole pocket. The width is 5 1/2". Cut six of these, you can piece them together if needed.

Fold one pocket lengthwise wrong side together and pin this folded pocket (middle side out) to the RIGHT side to the angled edge of one panel. Pin together— 4" or so. Sew, stopping a couple inches from the bottom of the panel. By stopping here, we leave ourselves wiggle room for when we go back to the bottom edge later with a 1/2" seam allowance. Align the next panel to this, keeping the sewn in pocket against the edge, you will have panel-pocket-panel. Pin together. Sew again of the first stitching. Trim the long raw edges so it is a nice finish. Sew the four machine to a zigzag stitch edge wide but short. Sew along the raw edges, this encloses the raw edges so they are unlikely to fray. It will look more finished.

Repeat and you will have 5 panels sewn together making an open arc. You will "close up" the tipi into a circle when you put the panels on.



DIY PANEL:

One panel is made of 3 pieces; a top and two side door flaps. The top piece is 21" across the top, 21" across the bottom and is 20" tall. The two side door flaps will have a 5" top, 33" bottom, one perpendicular side and one angled side each. Each door flap will measure 12.5" across the top, 33" on each bottom and 58" on the angled sides. You will need a 1/2" overlap of the flaps to form the opening.

Just before you cut out the two door flaps, use these as a template to cut two lining door flaps. You will want the door flaps to be lined in some heavy fabric, as when they are pulled back they will be a fun surprise.

THE DOOR SIDE FLAPS:

First, attach the left door flap panel to the left lining, RIGHT sides together with a 1/2" seam up the straight (perpendicular) side. Sew up the first stitching. Next, sew the wrong sides together on the angled side. Pin the top, bottom and sides well. Repeat for the right side. Attach the left panel top, to the bottom edge of the top piece, right sides together, aligning the angled edges. Sew together the flap panel along the bottom edge of the top piece in the same manner. The two panels will overlap a couple of inches. Sew one more time. Now you have a nice 1/2" and zig zag stitch of the overlap. Do this seam up with a 1/2" seam.

THE PANELS:

Line up one angled side of the top piece to the side panels, RIGHT sides together. Stitch. Stitch again. Finish out raw edges to 1/2" and zig zag raw edges. Attach the final angled side of the top piece to the last side panels and stitch in between.

Just before the six panels are all together, sew 1/2" button holes in each panel, near the pockets. This will allow you to attach twine from the panels to the top where the 6 poles are tied together, so the canopy does not slide down. You may not need this, but it's a good insurance to prevent it from sliding!

At the bottom edge, finish the hem, but you will finish it out once you have the poles in place.

Slide the poles into the pockets and secure them.

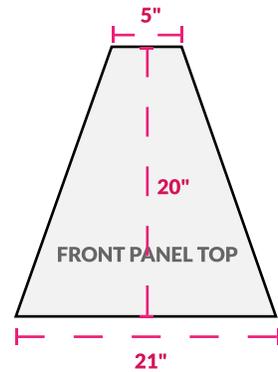
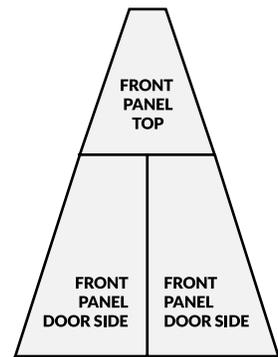
HEM:

Just before you finish the bottom edge, mark where you would like to finish out the hem. Use plenty of pins. Measure the hem from the poles, and laying each panel flat and smooth, carefully cut to finish it out.

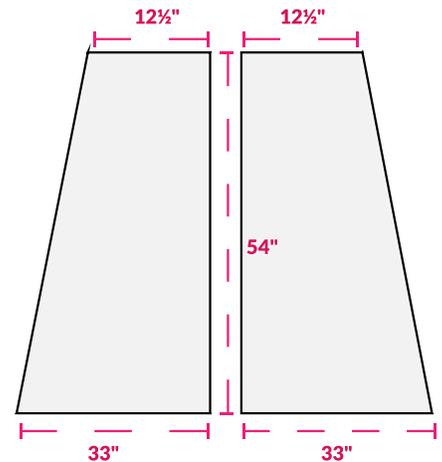
The bottom 1" unsewn area between the pockets and the panels gives you room to hem the pockets. To hem pockets and panels, turn under twice about 1/2" each edge on the top folded edge. Add another row of stitching on the bottom folded edge. Sew the final few inches of each pole pocket to the panels now and hemmed.

Slide the tent poles into the poles. Add your buttonholes, slide your twine or cord through and up to the top of the tent. When done, you are ready to go!

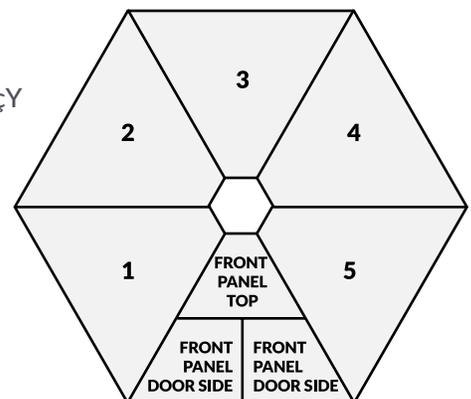
FRONT VIEW



FRONT PANELS DOOR SIDE FLAPS



TOP VIEW



INSTRUCTIONS: Tipi Backyard Play Tent Add-ons

TIPI TOTEMS AND FEATHERS

Take the top of the poles and glue sticks two ladders together. You can color the totems to make four tipi or how many you desire or use the version we provided. Using scissors, cut, hole punch and attach to twine, raffia or ribbon. We added beads and some real feathers. Hang them from the top of the poles!

2 PILLOWS

For the top of the tent, poles and lining

1 to 1-1/2 feet of cotton fabric

2 20" x 20" pillow forms

Two large buttons

Sewing machine, scissors, rule, needle or similar, pen, pins, iron, etc.

Basic, solid sewing skills

FRONT : Cut a solid front 21" x 21". This allows 1/2" seam allowance.

BACK: For **Panel A**: Cut one fabric 21" tall and about 16" wide. For **Panel B**: Cut one piece for the back of the 21" tall and 7" wide. You can play with the overlap widths on A and B to accommodate whatever fabric.

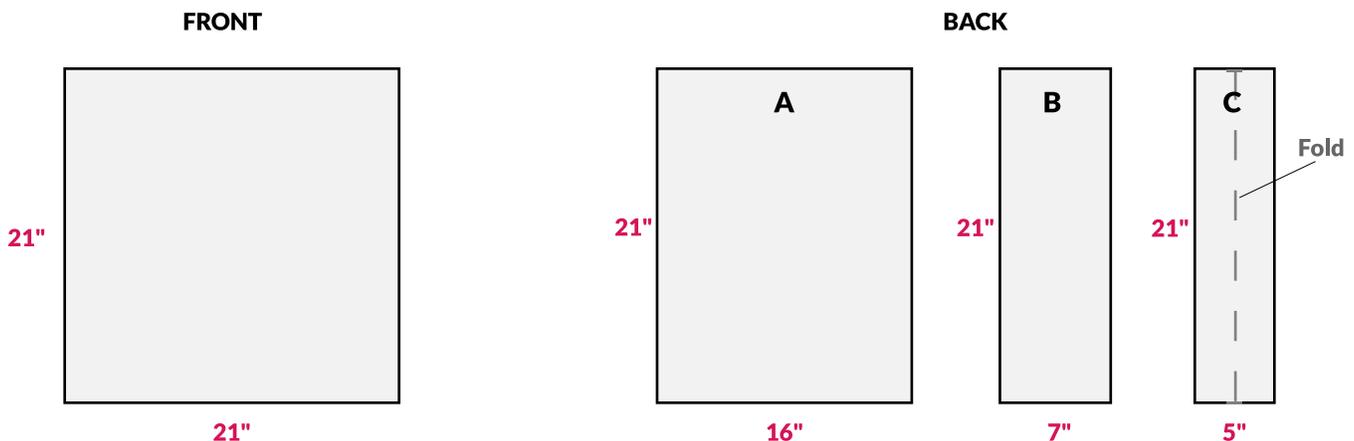
But a piece 21" tall and 5" wide. This is **Panel C**. Fold C in half length-wise and iron. Pin C to B on the 21" edge, **RIGHT** side together. Sew the seam selvage towards C. Zig zag the raw edge of C. With the right side of B facing up, and C folded back **WRONG** sides together, fully stitch a straight line across the seam ditch.

Join one 21" edge of A, fold under the raw edge. Fold and iron again. Stitch the 21" length, enclosing raw edges.

For **Panel A**, **RIGHT** side up and the hemmed edge of the just made on the left side look at it. Lay **Panel B** **RIGHT** side up, **RIGHT** side up and position left of A, but with an overlap, so they have the shape that is 21" x 21". (B/C will overlap A). Sew on top and bottom with pins at the overlap and baste top and bottom.

For **Panel C**, **RIGHT** side up. Lay **FRONT** on top, **RIGHT** sides together. This should make a 21" x 21" square. Pin all the way around and stitch all the way around. No need to leave an opening as you created an opening by overlapping B and C piece. Stitch again of the first stitching and trim corners. Fold the side out. As the **FRONT** panel, sew a large button hole. Sew a button directly across, on B panel.

Place the pillow form inside and button to close. The width of the overlap and button will keep it nicely closed!



Inspiration for this project came from:

<http://racheldenbow.blogspot.com/2010/01/teepee.html>

http://projectnursery.com/2014/08/diy-no-sew-teepee/#_a5y_p=3541584

<http://pinktoesandpowertools.com/2010/12/30/teepee-tutorial/>

<http://www.randomlyhappyblog.com/2015/12/nursery-kids-diy-super-easy-kids-teepee.html/>

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