



# CARAVAN PORCH AWNING INSTRUCTIONS

Eclipse  
Solara



Congratulations on purchasing your new SunnCamp caravan awning. If looked after, your awning could give years of trouble free use and enjoyment. Please read these instructions before attempting to erect your awning and retain for future reference.

## INSURANCE

We highly recommend that your awning is insured against theft, storm or accidental damage.

## CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT - IMPORTANT

Before going away with your awning, ensure that you are familiar with the pitching of the awning and that all parts are present. You should familiarise yourself with the awning including any limitations the awning may have for your particular use. An awning that has been taken out of its original packaging cannot be exchanged. Try to practice setting up the awning before you go away, this will make your holiday more enjoyable.

## NOTES ON AWNING MATERIALS

Your awning is made from the best available materials. On first inspection you may find some slight variances in colour, thick threads, pigment stains and changes due to the weather and environment. These are all normal, will not affect the performance of the awning and are not faults or errors.

When a caravan awning is folded the window material may pick up impressions from zips, tape, seams, etc. This is quite normal and some of these impressions will disappear over time but some may remain. This is not a fault but a characteristic of an awning.

You may also experience, depending upon the weather and use, condensation in your awning. This should not be confused with leakage. To reduce the risks of condensation make sure that your awning has adequate ventilation.

## FIRST USE

Your caravan awning has had its main seams hot air taped to help prevent leakage. To maximise the awnings's weatherproofing a special sewing thread has been used on the remaining seams. Seam sealant should be applied to seams where the tape has been damaged, peeled away, or where the taping is broken because of tie points, suspension points, etc. Seam sealant is available from your SunnCamp stockist. When a new awning is used for the first time do not be surprised if there is seepage through the un-taped seams the first few times it becomes wet. When the special sewing thread becomes wet it will swell to close the holes caused by the sewing needle. It may be necessary to use a seam sealer on some seams. Seam sealer is available from you retailer.

## ERECTING YOUR AWNING

### PREPARATION

Sunncamp caravan awnings come complete with a special system for attaching the frame to the caravan. These are known as “Quick Fix” pads and require no permanent attachment of any parts to your caravan. This is the easiest and most convenient way of erecting your awning, they simply clamp onto a special profile that is pre-attached to all Sunncamp caravan awnings.

To save time on site, you may at this stage prefer to attach the pegging ladder straps to their anchor points on the awning. The Prestige and Cardinal have a Vario pegging system allowing the mudwall to be positioned on the inside or the outside of the awning. Decide upon your preferred choice and attach the pegging ladder straps accordingly.

### SITING YOUR CARAVAN

Choose a site that is as flat as possible. Avoid sites where the land may flood or that water will run down. DO NOT camp directly under trees but a hedge or wall may provide shelter against wind. AVOID areas with heavy pollution or where crop spraying may be in progress. Park and level your caravan and ensure that the ground is free of stones or other sharp objects. Check your awning rail for damage and sharp edges or burrs. These could seriously damage your awning if ignored.

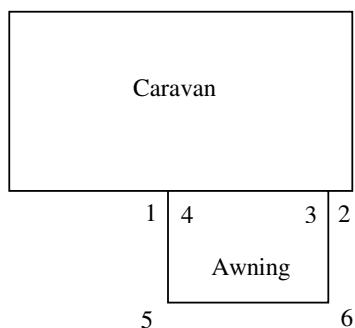
Unpack the awning canvas and place it at the end of your caravan closest to the caravan door (you can use a groundsheet or similar material to lay it on). Find the end of the beading, (the part that slides through the awning rail) ensuring that the awning is not inside out.

### ERECTION

1. Refer to the frame diagram supplied with the frame (see appendix 1) and assemble the telescopic parts of the frame (to their minimum length). Lay out the frame on the ground in front of the caravan in their approximate final positions. At this point DO NOT assemble any other parts of the frame.
2. **STOP:** Have you checked that your caravan’s awning rail is not damaged and does not have any sharp edges or burrs? Take out any removable panels from your awning to make it lighter. Pull the beading through the awning rail. It will be easier if one person pulls and another slides it into the awning rail. The awning should be positioned with both sides equal distance from the ground. Pull the beading NOT the canvas. Slide the “Quick Fix brackets onto the profile at this point and position them at either end of the profile (in the corners of the roof). The Quick Fix brackets pads can be repositioned at a later stage.
3. Lay out the frame in front of your caravan as per the diagram. Under the canvas assemble the front of the frame (parts 6, 7, 10, 1). The telescopic parts should not be extended too far and the front canopy poles should not be attached. Raise the front frame so that the brackets locate through the holes in the front corners of the awning and at the same time locate the hook on the end of rafter poles in the Quick Fix brackets and the other ends attach to the front brackets. Tension the roof frame.
4. Go outside the porch and locate the stub canopy poles into the front awning brackets. Locate the front canopy pole (11) onto the hooks on the stub canopy poles. Tension the canopy.
5. Go back inside the porch and clamp tensioning poles (8) to the rafters and tension. One of the poles should be located as close to the caravan as possible and the other at the bend in the roof rafter.
6. Raise the front legs. The bottom of the awning (not the mud wall) should be about 8 cm from the ground.
7. Attach the rear legs to the roof rafter and adjust tension.

8. Ensure that all panels are zipped into awning and that zips are fully closed.
9. Tension all roof poles so that all creases disappear from the roof section checking that the Quick Fix bracket pads are in the correct position. DO NOT OVERSTRESS THE CANVAS.
10. Adjust the height of the front legs so that the canvas can be pulled to within 8 cm of the ground.
11. If you have not already done so, attach the pegging ladder straps to their anchor points. The Eclipse & Solara have a Vario pegging system allowing the mud wall to be positioned on the inside or the outside of the awning. Decide upon your preferred choice and attach the pegging ladder straps accordingly.
12. Peg the awning in the following sequence.
  - a) Close all doors and zips and peg the following points in the number sequence.

a)



- b) Peg in line with the seams inserting the peg at 45° and stretch the canvas making sure that tension is applied between points 1 and 5, 2 and 6 and 5 and 6. The flap at the rear of the awning should be pegged against the caravan.
- c) Cross peg all doorways to remove tension from zip.
- d) Peg rest of awning. The canvas should always be taut with no creases and the pegs should be positioned in as straight a line as possible on each side.

10. When finished, the awning should be taut on the frame with no "flapping" canvas. It will probably be necessary to adjust the frame during and after pegging to ensure maximum tension. It may be necessary to practice pegging your awning several times before a satisfactory result is obtained.

11. Pull the draught skirt through the rail at the bottom of your caravan.

12. Attach the curtains to the curtain rail above each window.

13. The Eclipse & Solara are pre-fitted with attachments to take the optional *Storm Mate* kit. We highly recommend this method of securing your awning. Storm Mate kits are available as a dealer supplied option. Insert the side release buckle into the attachment on the awning. Attach the other end to the spring and then peg the spring to the ground. Alternatively you can use the same attachments to connect guylines (not supplied).

**EXTREME CAUTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN ERECTING YOUR AWNING IN WINDY CONDITIONS. IF NECESSARY PEG THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE AWNING BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO ERECT THE FRAME. DO NOT TRY TO SET UP OR TAKE YOUR AWNING DOWN ON YOUR OWN, GET SOMEBODY TO HELP YOU.**

To dismantle your awning, reverse the above instructions. Fold the walls onto the roof and then fold until it fits the storage bag, rolling the canvas for the last stage. Remember to remove the curtains and Storm Mate straps before folding the awning.

PLEASE TAKE EXTREME CARE WHEN TAKING DOWN YOUR AWNING IN WINDY CONDITIONS.

## GUYING - *STORM MATE*



Your awning must be guyed for protection against unexpected inclement weather. All Sunncamp awnings are supplied with built in awning tie down points. These can be used with the optional "Storm Mate" tie down straps available from your dealer. We do not recommend the use of other awning tie down kits that go over the top of the awning, as they can wear the coating from the roof fabrics.

**ALWAYS** remove the Storm Mate straps from the awning before taking down and always store separately.

## PEGS

General purpose pegs are supplied with this awning and are suitable in many instances. There are many types of pegs available and it is up to you to choose the correct peg for the job. Your Sunncamp dealer will be able to give you advice.

## VARIO PEGGING SYSTEM

The Prestige and Cardinal have a Vario pegging system allowing the mudwall to be positioned on the inside or the outside of the awning. Decide upon your preferred choice and attach the pegging ladder straps accordingly.

## CURTAINS

These should be clipped on the curtain track and retained by the curtain tape. Always remove the curtains from the awning when packing away. Never pack the curtains in direct contact with the awning material as colour may leak out of the curtains.

## CARE OF YOUR AWNING

### CANVAS

During use try to keep your awning as clean as possible. Remove all deposits and objects as soon as possible. Leaving any substance or object in contact with the fabric may leave a stain. **NEVER** clean your awning with anything other than pure warm water and a soft brush. **NEVER** use detergents, petrol, turps, etc. or any cleaning agent.

The canvas should always be packed away and stored completely dry. Never pack the curtains, Storm Mate kit or frame in direct contact with the awning canvas. If you have to take your awning down wet then, at the first possible opportunity, dry your awning. **DO NOT LEAVE IT PACKED WET.** Damp storage will cause mildew and other damage. Dry all awnings within 24 hours. Store in a clean dry, well ventilated place.

Zips should be treated with care. Always use two hands to open and close. Candle wax will loosen a stiff zip. **DO NOT FORCE A ZIP UNDER TENSION**, release the cause of the tension and try again.

When erecting or dismantling place a plastic groundsheet or carpet on the ground to protect from sharp objects and dirt.

Do not pitch under trees or use aerosols in or around your awning. Tree sap and aerosols can adversely affect the performance of your awning.

## FRAME

Take care not to put excess strain on your frame. When erecting or dismantling, make sure that you do not over-extend any spring links. Should this happen your Sunncamp dealer will be able to supply replacements. Retain your awning frame diagram so that you can identify parts when spares are required.

During storage, a light coating of petroleum jelly will help protect the frame. Remove any excess before pitching the awning. Store in a clean, dry place.

## EXTENDED USE

If you intend to leave your awning erected for an extended period then it is important that the awning is well ventilated. Large amounts of condensation can form in awnings left erected which in extreme cases can cause mildew to form on the inside of the awning. Only good ventilation can stop this from occurring. Mildew is not covered under your warranty.

## **FIRE PRECAUTIONS - REMEMBER, YOUR AWNING CAN BURN. CAMP SAFETY - FOLLOW THESE COMMONSENSE RULES**

- When siting, ensure a minimum distance of 6 metres between awnings.
- Do not place cooking, heating or lighting appliances near the side or the roof.
- Always observe the safety instructions for the appliances.
- Keep exits clear
- Make sure that you learn the fire arrangements on the site.
- Never allow children to play near lighted appliances.

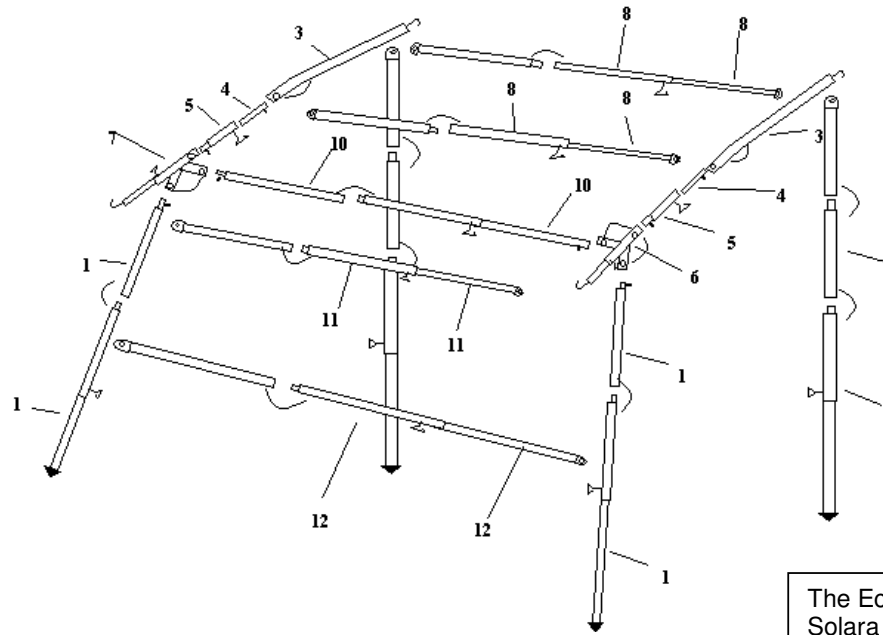
## WARRANTY

Our products are covered by a one year warranty. Your Sunncamp awning is guaranteed against faulty materials and workmanship and any defects relating to this will be repaired free of charge. The following situations are not covered by the warranty:

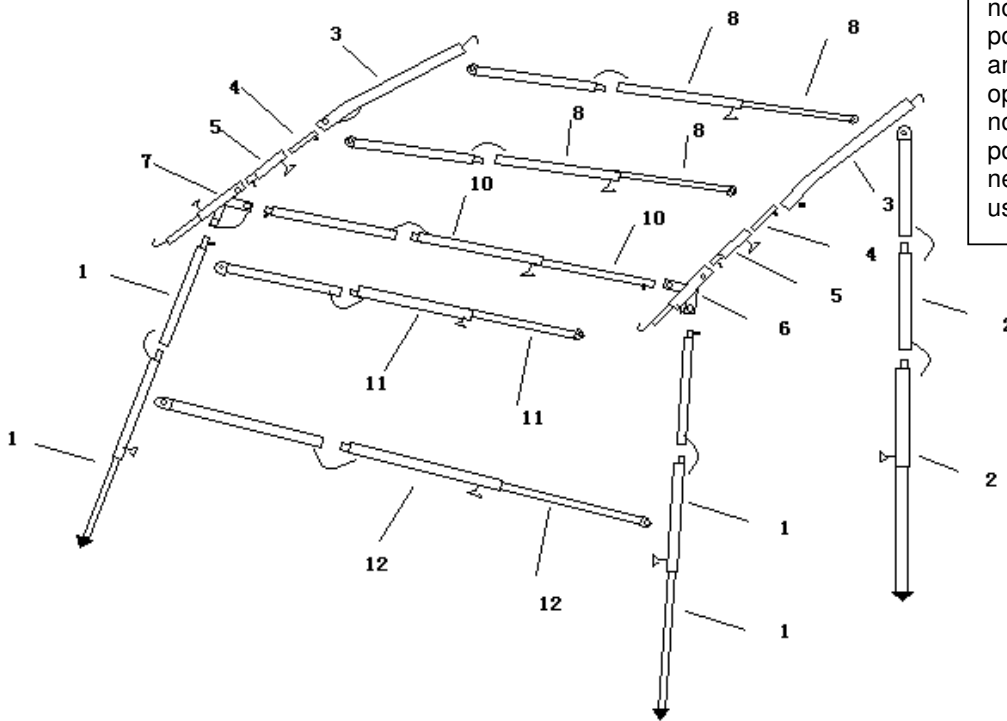
- Damage due to misuse.
- Excessive tensioning
- Awnings used for permanent or commercial use.
- Storm/weather damage of any type.
- Condensation
- Colour changes due to environmental circumstances.
- Slight colour differences between panels and light points in coated materials.
- Pegging points, rubbers, pegs.
- Zips which are working parts
- Mildew
- Marking of the window material

Please refer to your supplying dealer for all warranty details. If you need to return your awning please ensure that it is clean and dry. If an awning is returned dirty or wet we will not be able to work on it and it will be returned un-repaired.

Please remember that when a new awning is used for the first time do not be surprised if there is seepage through the un-taped seams the first few times it becomes wet. When the sewing thread becomes wet it will swell to close the holes caused by the sewing needle. It may be necessary to use a seam sealer on some seams.



SOLARA



The Eclipse and Solara are supplied with only one no. 8 pole and without the no.11 and no.12 poles. All of these are available as optional extras. The no. 8 and no 11 poles should only be necessary for winter use in snow.

**SunnCamp** is the camping division of Sunnflair Limited  
Chelmsford CM3 5XJ Great Britain

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