

tips
consumer

Picture this:

You pack a knapsack of needed articles, pick up a sleeping bag and a friend and head off to the woods for a night of getting back to nature.

You get out in the woods, the ground is damp, the winds are howling and clouds begin moving in. You might wish you had brought a tent.

If you are thinking about buying a tent, there are a few things to remember:

First, you should allow 25 square feet of tent per person. However, this varies, depending upon the time you expect to spend in the tent and the sizes and ages of campers.

Next, you should chose the tent style you prefer.

Umbrella tents are compact, lightweight, easy to set up and relatively inexpensive. They usually have less interior space than other varieties.

Sideroom tents are good for large numbers of campers. They allow room for many people to sleep - and have some privacy.

Lodge and high wall tents offer almost total usable space. They cost more than other kinds but have straight walls, allowing more inside space. The lodge and high wall tents have a six-foot or greater center height, so the average person can walk around the entire tent without bending.

Pup tents are used for backpacking or scouting. These tents are portable, packable, lightweight and easy to assemble.

Generally, the weight of a tent purchased for backpacking should not exceed two and one half pounds a person. (For example, five pounds for a two-person tent, including poles and hardware.)

This information was furnished by NUPIRG.

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Q. Is sixty percent the usual price paid for textbooks around the country?

A. Definitely not! Most stores in the United States pay only 50 percent for books being used again. The University Bookstore is one of only a very few which pay 60 percent. And remember we pay cash.

Q. What about paperbacks? Does the same policy apply to them?

A. Yes. The University Bookstore does not penalize you on text paperbacks. If they are being used again, and if the bookstore needs them, they are still worth 60 percent of the publisher's current list price. The only exception is English paperbacks which are bought at wholesale prices.

Q. If the publisher's price has gone up since I bought my books, will I receive the benefit of that prices increase?

A. Yes. For instance, if you bought your book for \$9.00, and the publisher's list price is now \$10.00, you will get \$6.00, not \$5.40.

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