

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SHADE STRUCTURE

Use the buttons below to navigate to maintenance or tutorials on removing and reinstalling the fabric on shade structures.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE ►

STANDARD CANOPY REMOVAL ►

GLIDE ELBOW REMOVAL ►

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SHADE CANOPY

THINGS TO AVOID

Always avoid dragging the fabric across surfaces, etc. Avoid sharp objects, bolts, snags, and other protrusions. Keep foliage, such as tree limbs, shrubbery, bushes, etc. trimmed back and away from fabric. Also avoid heat sources such as hot lights, torches, grilles, etc. under the fabric.

CLEANING THE FABRIC

The fabric itself is generally maintenance free with the exception of necessary removal due to weather or seasonal requirements. Residues such as tree sap, bird droppings, etc. may need to be removed. To clean the fabric, use water and mild soap. A soft mop or soft broom may also be used. Cleaners that do not contain hydrocarbons, solvents, bleach or ammonia may be used. Use of solvents, hydrocarbons, bleach, and ammonia type cleaners will void the fabric warranty. A pressure washer may be used if necessary using a wide-spray nozzle.

CABLES AND HARDWARE

It is recommended that the cables be replaced if corrosion is visible, or every 3 to 4 years whichever comes first. The cable ends must be wrapped with tape to secure any wires thus preventing the wires from tearing the fabric. Taping must be done when removing old cable as well as when installing new cable. Clamps should be replaced when the cable is replaced.

If the cable appears slack on a still day (no wind), immediately have the cable and clamps retightened by a qualified person. The cable must not be slack.

GLIDE ELBOWS

Lubricate glide elbows annually, and before operating. A waterproof grease is recommended such as a lithium based grease. This is available in a spray can with nozzle tube.

STORAGE

Fabric must be stored in clean dry place free from snags, sharp edges, etc. The storage area must be rodent free.

UNINSTALLING THE SHADE CANOPY

NECESSARY CARE

It is important to take necessary care when handling the fabric during removal and installation to prevent damage to the fabric as well as proper control of the fabric in a breeze or wind. The fabric is tough and engineered for use as a shade, but it can tear when or if pulled over a snag or sharp item; it can puncture from bolts or other protruding objects; and it can melt from things like cigarettes, matches, hot torch tips, sparks and the like. In addition, care must be exercised to avoid the fabric hooks after the fabric is unhooked from the elbow corners (and sides of the structure where there are intermediate supports).

PROPER AND SAFE

Based on the size of the canopy, several persons may be needed to properly and safely handle the fabric during the uninstalling process. You will need several commercial ladders or other means to work safely at heights such as scissor lifts, etc. It is advised that you pad the post side of the ladder and tie the ladder to the post. The pad is to protect the post finish. Also keep in mind that every 100 square feet of fabric (10' X 10') weighs approximately five pounds; a large canopy can get heavy fast. For proper control of the fabric, read below.

INSTALLATION IN REVERSE

Refer to the Installation Instructions page 3 (enclosed). Determine which style elbows (corners) are installed on your structure. Begin on page 3, at either Step 11 or Step 9 - depending on which style elbow is on your structure. In general, uninstalling the canopy means following these pages in reverse.

1. For shade structures with Standard Elbows, loosen the turnbuckle several turns in order to put enough slack in the cable to allow the fabric and cables to unhook from all the elbow hooks. Attach 3/8" ropes to each corner of the fabric and cable before unhooking to secure and properly control the fabric from ground level. If uninstalling in breezy or windy conditions, choose the windy side of the fabric and tie these corners to the posts with the ropes with enough slack to allow for unhooking the fabric from the structure. These ropes are to prevent the shade from flying away in the wind. Once the corners have been secured to the posts, unhook the fabric and cables from each corner.

On the side away from the wind, release the corners of the fabric and cable and have a person hold on to each rope. Fold the fabric back away from the hooks.

Now it will be necessary to remove the cable clamps to allow the cable to be free from the structure and the turnbuckle. If the cable ends are frayed, wrap them with tape. NOTE: It is usually not necessary nor is it recommended that the cable be removed from the canopy.

With a person on each rope, starting at the windy side, gently pull the canopy down in between the framework of the structure. The side away from the wind can be guided with the ropes toward the persons pulling the canopy down.

IMPORTANT HINT: It is important when reinstalling the canopy, that it is put back in its original orientation to the structure. Starting at the turnbuckle corner, the fabric and cable corners should be returned to their original positions.

2. For shade structures with Glide Elbows, remove the protective covers from the ends of the glide elbows. Then, using the proper wrench, turn the hex nuts on the end of the Glide Elbow to run the glide hooks to their top most position. Do not loosen the cable clamps, leave the cable intact. Attach 3/8" ropes to each corner of the fabric and cable before unhooking to secure and properly control the fabric from ground level. If uninstalling in breezy or windy conditions, choose the windy side of the fabric and tie these corners to the posts with the ropes with enough slack to allow for unhooking the fabric from the structure. These ropes are to prevent the shade from flying away in the wind. Once the corners have been secured to the posts, unhook the fabric and cables.

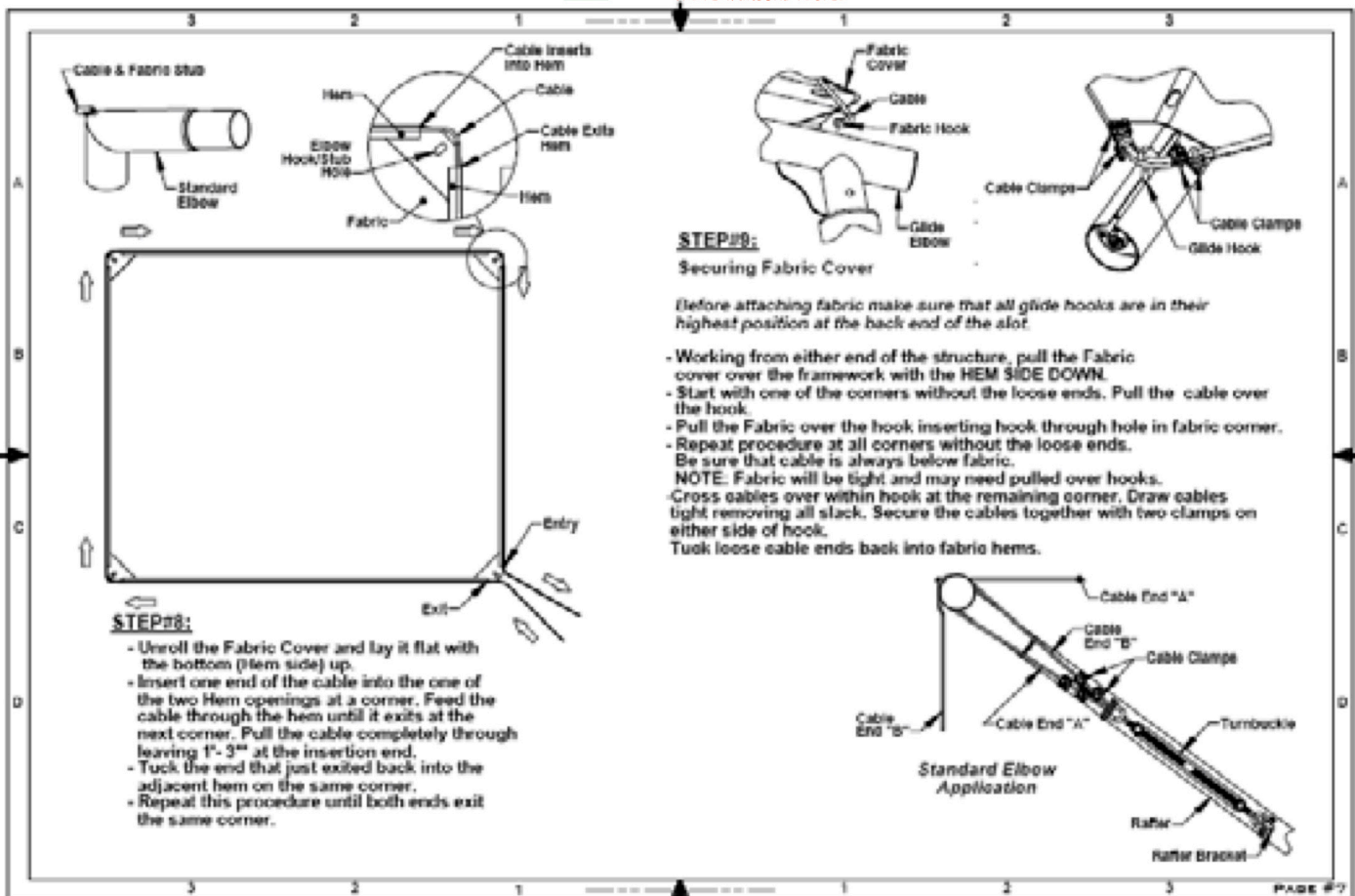
On the side away from the wind, release the corners of the fabric and cable and have a person hold on to each rope. Fold the fabric back away from the hooks.

It is a good idea to put the Glide Elbow protective covers back in their places. NOTE: With Glide Elbow installations it is not necessary to loosen or remove the cable clamps or remove the cable from the canopy. If the cable ends are frayed, wrap them with tape.

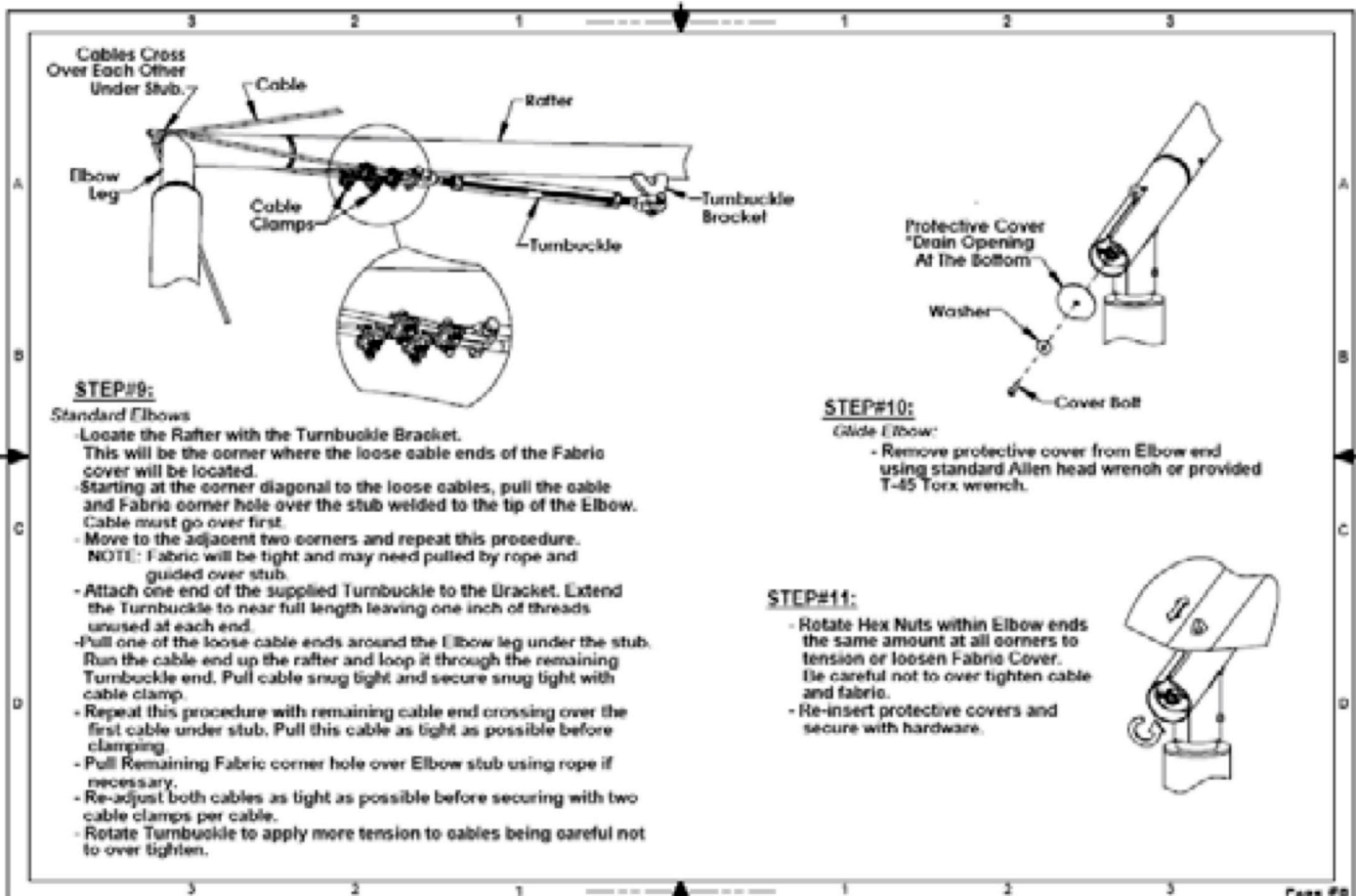
IMPORTANT HINT: When uninstalling the canopy, mark or identify the corner of origin in such a way that when reinstalling the canopy, it is put back in its original orientation to the structure. The fabric and cable corners should be returned to their original positions when reinstalling the canopy. The cable and fabric should tighten properly when the glide elbows are adjusted down into their tension positions.

REINSTALLING HINTS

Using the same rope technique, install from the windy side (if it is windy) making sure to secure these ropes to the posts. Then, throw the remaining corner ropes over the structure and gently pull the canopy into position. The cables and fabric corners can now be hooked on the hooks (and cable guides if so equipped). Next reinstall the clamps if applicable and tightened the cable with the turnbuckle or the Glide Elbows.



PAGE #7



PAGE #8

GLIDE ELBOW MECHANISM

Step-by-Step Instructions

Needed Supplies

- 2 individuals
- 2 ladders
- 1/4 hex key
- wrench or cordless drill

Fabric Removal

- STEP 1** Before removal, make sure the area where the fabric will land is clean.
- STEP 2** Mark one corner of the post and fabric with a corresponding letter or other marking so the shade goes back on correctly.
- STEP 3** Using the 1/4 hex key, loosen and remove the glide elbow cover plate.
- STEP 4** Activate the glide elbow using a socket wrench or a cordless drill. This action turns the threaded rod connection nut counter clockwise until the protrusion fabric hook moves to loosen the fabric enough to remove.
- STEP 5** Repeat on all corners.
- STEP 6** Lower the fabric and fold or roll it for proper storage.

Reinstall Fabric

- STEP 1** To reinstall fabric, unfold it and properly identify the marked corner with the corresponding column and position the fabric.
- STEP 2** Tie rope to two corners and throw the rope over the frame.
- STEP 3** Pull the rope to adequately raise the fabric back into place.
- STEP 4** Spread the fabric over the frame.
- STEP 5** Attach the fabric to the corner and remove the rope.
- STEP 6** Activate the glide elbow by turning the rod connection nut clockwise until semi tight.
- STEP 7** Replace the cover plate and be sure to position the horizontal drain slit at the bottom of the pipe.
- STEP 8** Tightly secure the hex nut.
- STEP 9** Repeat at each corner until the fabric is uniformly fitted back onto the frame.