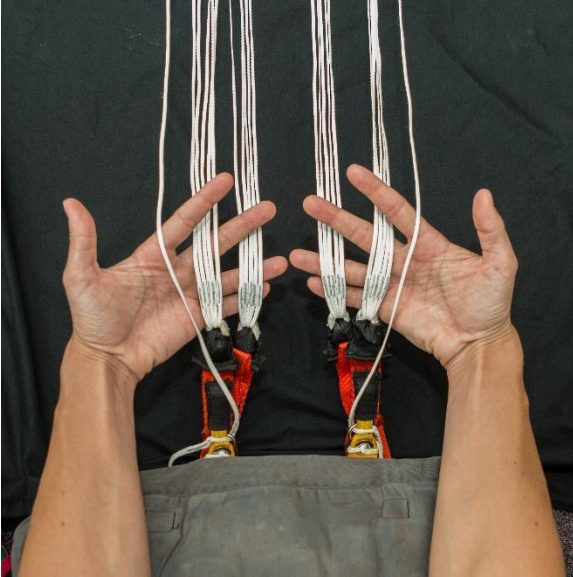




Packing Guide

by Performance Designs

This packing guide does not replace the complete owner's manual or proper instruction on how to pack a parachute. It is a general guide to the packing method we recommend, which will probably help your canopy open more consistently.



Before packing your canopy, do a full line continuity check and follow your harness container manufacturer's instructions for setting your brakes.

Pick up the lines like you see here in the photo. Use your fingers to separate the line groups, and steering line.

***Tip:** Using weight to keep your rig in place will make packing easier.



While holding the lines, walk towards the canopy and make sure there are no twists in the risers or lines.



Step to one side, outside of the lines, and place the lines over your shoulder.

Starting with the end cell nearest your leg, flake the leading edge (nose) of the canopy as shown. Pull out each cell and place them next to one another.

***Tip:** Keep the lines taut and maintain symmetry throughout the pack job.



Once you have counted all cells, take the entire nose in one hand and rear riser line groups in the other hand. Give the canopy a little shake right to left.

***Tip:** If you need to get some air out of the canopy, lay it flat against you. This also helps to separate the line groups and fabric, which will make flaking the canopy easier.



Place the nose between your knees, and hold it there while you flake the rest of the canopy.

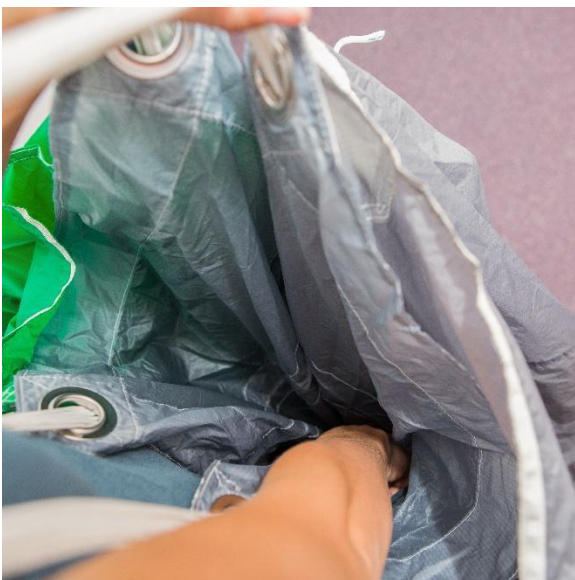


Flake the fabric between each line group, beginning with the A and B lines. Locate the A lines by finding the line tabs closest to your body. On most 9-cell canopies you should have five line tabs for each line group. On most 7-cells, you should have four. Put your hand between the A lines and the B lines to fold the fabric out to the side. Your fabric should be neatly folded to the outside and the lines should always remain in the center of the pack job. Repeat the same flaking process between the B and C lines. For the D line group, find the line tabs closest to the tail (not the steering lines, which are attached to the trailing edge). After flaking one side, repeat the same process on the other side.

***Tip:** One way to check if you have picked up the correct lines while flaking is to make sure they are going through the same slider grommet. If they don't, you've picked a line from the other side.



IMPORTANT: Check that none of the stabilizers are under any lines. If the stabilizers are not correctly lying outside of the suspension lines, canopy damage is likely.



Quarter the slider, by distributing the fabric equally front to back and side to side. Then push the fabric down in the center of the pack job, like you see in the photo.

***Tip:** Make sure the slider grommets are symmetrical and seated against the slider stops (that are sewn into the stabilizers).



Reach down and pull up the trailing edge (“tail”). Place the middle point of the tail just above the slider and hold it in place with one hand.

***Tip:** The warning label is placed directly in the center, with the center seam going down the middle of the warning label. This seam should be lined up with the lines.



With your free hand, make sure all cells of the nose are still neat, and that the slider is in line with the cells (i.e: not pulled out in front of the cells or pushed into the center of the pack job).



When rolling the tail, take care not to disturb the flakes. We recommend a few 1” rolls of the tail, and only what is needed to keep the fabric under control for folding and getting it into the deployment bag.



***Tip:** Rolling the tail excessively will not slow down the opening; in fact, it can have adverse effects. If you roll the tail excessively you can pull lines from the center of the pack job around to the sides, which may contribute to a line-over type malfunction and/or canopy damage.



Maintain even tension on the lines and use your free arm to support the canopy, while you lay the canopy down gently. Take care not to disturb the flakes and symmetry of the pack job.



Follow the container manufacturer's instructions on cocking your pilot chute.



Remove as much air from the canopy as possible, and dress the canopy to a width as close to the width of the deployment bag as you can.

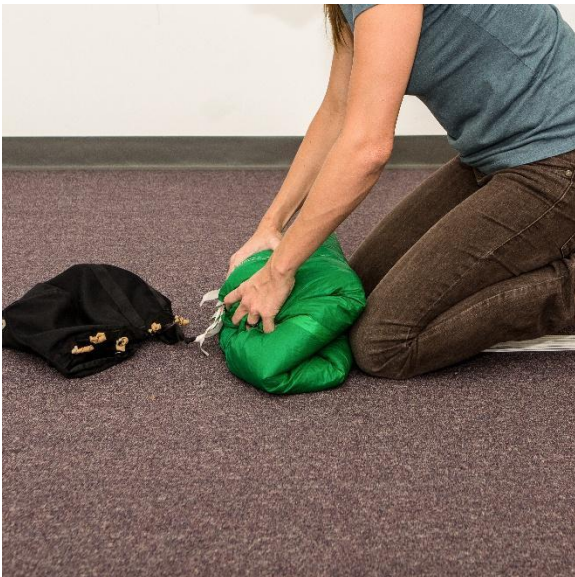
***Tip 1:** Use your knees to hold the slider/grommets in place, and use your forearms to remove air from the canopy (moving from the warning label up)

***Tip 2:** If you can avoid it do not lay on the canopy, as sweat can damage the fabric over time.



Make your first “S fold”, by bringing the tail end of the cocoon (the end with the warning label) towards the top of the canopy, in the shape of an S. The goal here is to fold the canopy into a shape that will easily fit into the deployment bag.

At this point, if the tail has come undone and your slider grommets are not firmly against the slider stops, you should go back and re-do those steps.

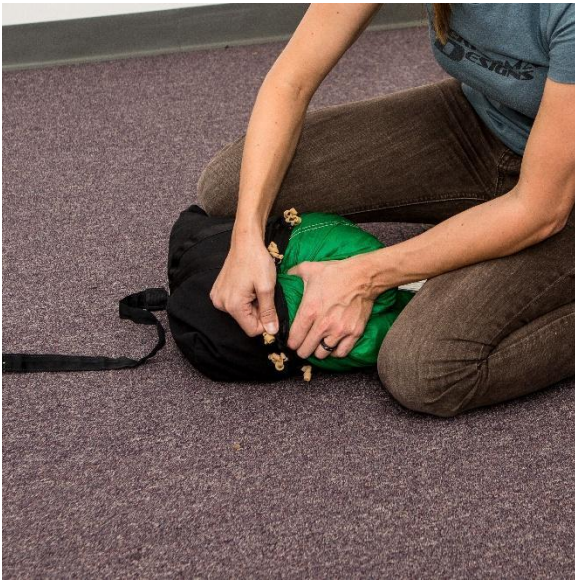


Make your second “S fold”, by lifting the top of the canopy and folding it towards you and then over itself again in the opposite direction.

***Tip:** With some smaller canopies you may prefer to make only one “S fold”. The important thing is that you maintain good control of the fabric throughout the entire process.



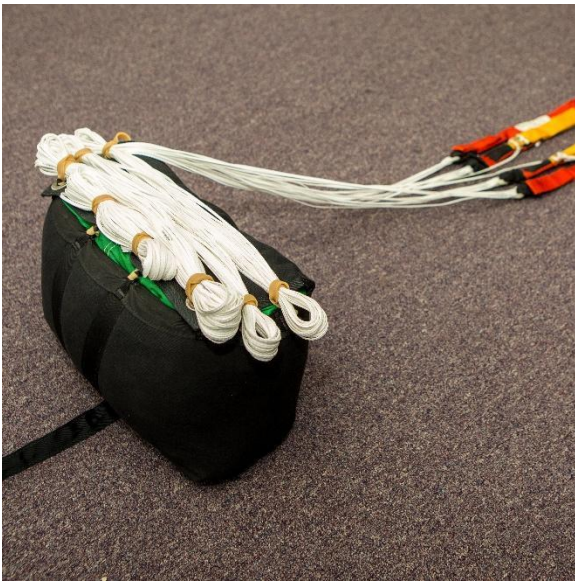
Pull the bag over one side of the folded canopy, and push the fabric firmly into the corner to fill the entire bag.



Pull the bag over the other side, while using your knees and hands to maintain control of the fabric.



Roll the bagged canopy towards the closing flap. Keep as much fabric inside the bag as possible and keep the lines neat.



Follow your container manufacturer's instructions for closing the bag. Line stow methods vary by container manufacturer.

When using large rubber bands, PD recommends **double wrapping all line stows**.

For more information regarding line stows, see our video: <http://bit.ly/LockingStowMyth>

For bags using locking stows, we recommend leaving between 12 and 18 inches excess line (between the last stow and the risers).

Remember, it takes practice to pack quickly and neatly. Every jumper develops their own system to make the job easier. Keep practicing, and you'll get there! =)