**Roof Tent Safety Guidelines**

As a driver with a roof tent installed, **you are responsible** for ensuring that you are being safe at all times.

It is important to **take safety seriously** when installing and using your tent, and to exercise caution at all times.

Always follow our three safety guidelines: **Choose, Install, Check...**

**1. Choose**

You must choose safe and appropriate roof bars, and an appropriate roof tent model, for your planned vehicle installation.

**Roof bars**

Make sure that your roof bars:

* Are made by a reputable manufacturer.
* Have been tested appropriately (e.g. TUV tested).
* Have been authorised for usage in conjunction with your vehicle.
* Have an adequate load limit for the roof tent model you are installing.
* Are oval shaped (sometimes referred to as 'aero' or 'wing' bars), rather than square.
* Have a 'through bar' design, i.e. where the bars extend over the roof bar roof, rather than stopping at the foot.

**Roof load limit**

Make sure the roof load limit of your vehicle is adequate for the weight of your roof tent model.

**2. Install**

You must install your roof tent and roof bars correctly and safely.

In particular, make sure you:

* Have installed your roof bars safely and securely as per the manufacturer's instructions.
* Follow the installation instructions for your specific roof tent model when installing your tent.
* Close your roof tent fully and securely before driving.

**3. Check**

You must perform regular checks on the installation of your roof tent and roof bars – **before every journey and every 100 miles** – and drive appropriately at all times.

In particular, make sure you:

* Regularly check that your roof bars are securely fixed to your vehicle as per the manufacturer's instructions and that none of the components are damaged.
* Regularly check that your tent is securely fixed to your roof bars and that none of the components are damaged.
* Drive at an appropriate speed, and never above the speed limit.
* Give due consideration to the change in your vehicle's drive behaviour when a roof tent is installed on your car, taking into account side-wind sensitivity and corner and breaking behaviour.
* Give due consideration to the change in your vehicle's height when a roof tent is installed on your car. The height of your vehicle can increase by up to 90cm (depending on your roof bars), so beware of low entrances and low-hanging branches.

If ever in doubt about the safety of your roof bar or roof tent installation, **seek the advice of a professional mechanic**.